



Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday January 29, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Location

This meeting will be held via remote participation.

Meeting is being held via remote participation.

Trustees Present

Andrea Grych (remote), Darren Rose (remote), Evan Przyborowski (remote), James Carter (remote), Maura Webster (remote), Stephan Richter (remote)

Trustees Absent

Bela Gorman, Dwayne Stanley, Jessica Bowen, Mary Swartz

Ex Officio Members Present

Lisa Mobley (remote), Sara Snow (remote)

Non Voting Members Present

Lisa Mobley (remote), Sara Snow (remote)

Guests Present

Marcy Eckel (remote), Mike Nawrocki (remote), Xin Sun (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Maura Webster called a meeting of the board of trustees of Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School to order on Thursday Jan 29, 2026 at 6:02 PM.

B. Record Attendance

II. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

There were no requests for public comment.

III. Consent Agenda

A. Financial Statements

There are no financial statements to review at this time. The Committee will take time to get acquainted with the new Finance Director and review the financials together. Financial Statements will be presented at the February Board meeting.

The Chair welcomed AMSA's new Finance Director, Xin Sun.

IV. Votes

A. Approve BOT Meeting Minutes from December 9, 2025

Stephan Richter made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 12-09-25.

James Carter seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Evan Przyborowski	Abstain
Dwayne Stanley	Absent
Maura Webster	Aye
Bela Gorman	Absent
Jessica Bowen	Absent
Andrea Grych	Aye
James Carter	Aye
Stephan Richter	Aye
Darren Rose	Aye
Mary Swartz	Absent

V. Updates

A. Faculty Representative Update - No Report this Month

The Faculty Representative was not in attendance.

B. Parent Representative Update (Dwayne Stanley representing parents until PTO nomination of parent rep)

Dwyane was not in attendance, but he did provide the Chair with an update that there had been no communications from parents or information to share with the Board.

C. Executive Director Report

Please refer to the attached ED Report (slides) for January.

Dr. Lisa Mobley reported that AMSA has been named to the Platinum Level of the AP Honor Roll for the second consecutive year. This designation recognizes schools that expand student access to Advanced Placement coursework and exams. AMSA advanced from Gold Level in 2023 to Platinum in 2024 and maintained Platinum status in 2025 while improving its standing within that tier. Dr. Mobley emphasized that this recognition reflects the school's continued commitment to equity and access by ensuring that all students have opportunities to engage in rigorous coursework and demonstrate college readiness.

Mr. Mike Nawrocki presented the remainder of the academic report, including non-statewide assessment data and internal progress indicators.

Mr. Nawrocki shared a January 20 snapshot of internal academic performance data showing that 22% of students (212 students) had at least one failing grade at that point in Quarter 2. He noted that this percentage is lower than the same mid-quarter period in prior years and historically declines by the end of the quarter as missing work is completed and grades are finalized. Historically, the final quarterly number of students with at least one failing grade falls within the 80–90 student range.

Board members asked clarifying questions about how mid-quarter data compares to finalized quarterly report card data and how staff monitor progress between reporting periods. Mr. Nawrocki explained that the reported figures represent year-to-date internal performance data, combining finalized Quarter 1 grades with current Quarter 2 progress indicators.

The data was disaggregated by student groups, including students with IEPs and 504 plans (approximately 200 students total) and by demographic subgroups. The board reviewed subgroup performance to better understand patterns of need between MCAS administrations. The school uses the Panorama Education platform to analyze non-statewide academic, attendance, and discipline data at a detailed level.

Mr. Nawrocki explained that Panorama applies a nationally used “on-track” indicator system with color-coded status levels (green, yellow, red) and integrates data from PowerSchool and other internal systems. Current internal data shows higher rates of “critical” status (at least one failing grade) among Latino students (30%) and Black students (26%) compared to the overall student population (22%).

Board members discussed subgroup size and statistical reliability. It was noted that Black students represent approximately 3% of enrollment (fewer than 30 students), meaning that small changes in individual performance significantly affect percentages. Latino students represent approximately 17% of enrollment, making those trends more statistically stable and a greater equity concern. Board members asked what targeted supports are in place for these student groups and how progress will be monitored over time using interim internal data.

Quarter 1 finalized data showed 84 students with one or more failing grades. Grade 8 represented the largest portion, with 33 students, approximately 40% of all students with failing marks. Mr. Nawrocki explained that mid-quarter snapshots typically show higher numbers of struggling students (approximately 185 during Quarter 2), which historically decline by quarter end.

Board members discussed the upward trend in failure rates from grades 6 through 8 and noted that this pattern differs from expectations. Questions were raised about contributing factors, including executive functioning skills, workload demands, and transition planning. It was noted that only about 20% of Grade 8 students receive formal support services, prompting discussion about whether additional executive functioning instruction and structured supports may be needed. Administration also noted that some disengagement occurs among students planning to leave for other high schools, including technical programs.

Mr. Nawrocki described the Student Support Team (SST) process, which uses internal non-statewide data to proactively identify students who are struggling academically, behaviorally, socially, or emotionally, including students not on formal plans. After Quarter 1, SST schedules meetings with identified students and families to implement early interventions. Board members asked how students are flagged, what interventions are most effective, and how outcomes are tracked.

The Academic Support Center program was reviewed as a preventative alternative to traditional summer school for middle school students. Currently, 34 students are enrolled, with approximately 85% demonstrating measurable benefit. The program operates with small class sizes (maximum of 11 students) and focused executive functioning and organization support. Staff supporting the program have access to Panorama, PowerSchool, and classroom platforms to coordinate missing work and monitor progress. Board members asked about expansion capacity and selection criteria.

Administration noted the need to review and strengthen the Directed Study curriculum, particularly in Grade 8, to ensure consistent executive functioning instruction. Dr. Mobley proposed a curriculum review and revision cycle, followed by outcome monitoring using internal performance data. Board members supported this plan and requested follow-up reporting.

The SST also develops temporary Tier 1 accommodation plans to test targeted interventions using a data-driven approach. Board members asked how these short-term plans are evaluated and how successful strategies are scaled.

Board members discussed summer learning loss and the impact of extended breaks on retention. Possible structured summer check-ins and targeted skill reinforcement for struggling students were discussed. A prior one-year summer grant program was noted as beneficial, particularly for incoming Grade 6 students.

Administration reported that academic probation policies have been expanded from athletics to include clubs and extracurricular activities. Students with two failing grades on report cards are temporarily removed from participation until the next quarter. Board members discussed both accountability benefits and potential motivational tradeoffs. Teachers have reported increased student use of academic help supports since implementation.

Mr. Nawrocki reported that administration and department chairs are revising family communication protocols to ensure consistent outreach regarding struggling students. A standardized communication framework is being developed for newsletters and teacher outreach. Board members asked how implementation fidelity will be monitored and documented.

Dr. Mobley also informed the board that Fair Funding Week begins February 2, 2026. The Charter Association is highlighting a \$687 per-pupil facilities funding gap between districts and charter schools. For AMSA's enrollment, this represents more than half a million dollars annually. Board members discussed advocacy steps and were encouraged to contact legislators regarding charter facilities funding equity.

D. Fundraising Update

Marcy reported she has been working with the alumni and Guidance to develop a new alumni engagement program that has replaced the 'Back to the Future' event, featuring an alumni panel connecting with faculty. The hour-long program received positive feedback, with the Alumni board very interested in actively participating with AMSA and offering ideas for mentoring opportunities.

the DECA business presentation competition at Nichols College, twelve AMSA students made it past the first round to go to the state, which will be in March in Boston. Four judges from Rockland Trust (potential business partner) will evaluate student mock presentations next week. Of the twelve students, possibly nine students will actually end up participating at the state level.

AMSA had a three-year \$35,000 grant from the Cummings Foundation that ended last year. AMSA attempted to reapply for another grant but received a letter saying AMSA was not invited to the formal application process this year. Marcy received an email from the Cummings Foundation over the holiday break asking if they could visit AMSA. Marcy explained that our grant had ended and we would not be able to continue the summer engineering program. Marcy was told that they did not mean to reject our application and said we should apply and we did! AMSA requested \$45,000 (up from the previous amount of \$35,000) to grow their engineering summer program, specifically adding transportation and food for participants. The program is three weeks of camp. One week is for rising 9th graders and two weeks for rising 11th and 12th graders.

Marcy has applied for a grant from the Main Street Bank, focusing on the \$77,000 that is spent each year to provide financial assistance to eligible students for transportation, books, uniforms, athletic fee, club fees, etc. They want to learn more about AMSA, which is encouraging.

They are working more with the Charter Association, attending more meetings, and trying to engage more with our community. We hope to invite representatives Meghan Kilcoyne and Kate Hogan to visit AMSA in March.

Fundraising is planning their first women's only golf tournament on May 20, 2026.

She met with the Athletic Director to talk about how they might do some successful fundraising around athletics that could potentially benefit everybody at the school. She is thinking that focusing on capital projects and bricks and mortar fundraising may resonate more with families.

VI. Chair Business

A. Discuss Strategic Planning Meeting Agenda

Maura is working on finding an off-site location for the annual strategic planning meeting on Saturday, March 14, 2026. The focus is going to be on Reset and Impact. This will be a great time to establish norms as a board, and to discuss how to have the greatest impact and successful outcomes.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Development - No report this month. Development will meet later in January.

B. Finance

James Carter reported that the Finance Committee took a look at their meeting calendar, identifying the most critical topics they should be focusing on. They want to establish groundwork that will assist the transition from working with Liana to Sunny.

They talked about tuition and how they will approach the budgeting process. They hope to make a first pass at the tuition projection for fiscal year 2027, which is one of the first steps in the budget development process.

C. Governance

Governance continues to review and discuss edits to the bylaws. They will be ready to share the first round with the board with the expectation that the board will review and provide feedback. He expects to present the revisions to the full board in March or April, discuss the changes, take questions, and then take any feedback back to the Committee and then return with a second look and a motion to approve the amended bylaws.

The Committee is thinking about ways that the board can do business as a board better together.

D. Education

The Education Committee met in January and held a community AI meeting. Stephan is not presenting what was discussed because he wanted to give everyone in attendance the chance to review his notes first. He is planning to present at the February meeting with the goal to have the meeting minutes serve as a resource and body of feedback for the administration and school to use when considering AI policy.

VIII. Review Action Items

A. Action Items from Previous Meetings

- Address the AI feedback at the next Education Committee meeting.
- Discuss the reading issue topic in the Education Committee meeting.
- Discuss a structure for submitting committee/representative reports 72 hours in advance of future board meetings in Governance.

Maura said it would be beneficial to all board members to see reports ahead of time. This will allow board members to be better prepared and come with informed questions. She would like to implement this before the board gets together at the March 26 meeting. The

committee chairs, as well as the parent rep and faculty rep, will submit their reports 72 hours in advance. These reports will be part of the consent agenda.

It is also important that members have read the minutes from the previous meeting so they are prepared to vote to approve.

B. New Action Items

- Governance will present the first round of bylaw changes to the full board in March or April
- Education will present the community AI meeting summary at the February meeting
- All committee chairs and reps will submit reports 72 hours in advance of board meetings
- The ED report will include Q2 numbers to assist board in monitoring academic progress
- Form the contract negotiating team prior to summer

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Darren Rose made a motion to adjourn.

Andrea Grych seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Dwayne Stanley	Absent
Bela Gorman	Absent
Jessica Bowen	Absent
Andrea Grych	Aye
James Carter	Aye
Mary Swartz	Absent
Stephan Richter	Aye
Maura Webster	Aye
Darren Rose	Aye
Evan Przyborowski	Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Snow

Documents used during the meeting

- January 29, 2026 ED Report.pdf