

## Maplebrook Home & School

### General Meeting Minutes of Thursday, August 21, 2025, 7:00 PM Central Time - Hybrid

#### Present

##### Attendance Online:

1. Marjorie Goodman
2. Abigail Bustamante
3. Lauren Molloy
4. Other Zoom attendees (registered parents)

##### In-person attendees:

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Kristen Zesch                   | 24. Erica Skelly                       |
| 2. Julie Hennessy                  | 25. Kyle Skelly                        |
| 3. Ellen Hanson (Vice President 2) | 26. Kourtney Vaccaro                   |
| 4. Katie Kiss-Zurad                | 27. Katya Skoda                        |
| 5. Jamie Calandriello              | 28. Brenna Rock                        |
| 6. Anne Marie Fetter               | 29. Amy O'Shea                         |
| 7. Iulian Lescic                   | 30. Jen Dotson                         |
| 8. Katie Hadden                    | 31. Kristen Mitzel                     |
| 9. Marti Hurvitz                   | 32. Jean Gentile                       |
| 10. Elise Kim                      | 33. Amaya Sisa                         |
| 11. Theodora Kanjama               | 34. Bev Sanchez                        |
| 12. Corey Diederich                | 35. Kristen Murphy                     |
| 13. Erin Morton                    | 36. Diane Macrowski                    |
| 14. Lisa Hogren                    | 37. Stephanie Zobac                    |
| 15. Jamila Husein                  | 38. Andrew Zobac                       |
| 16. Moni Gunja                     | 39. Stefanie Manfredo (Communications) |
| 17. Caitlin Josephs                | 40. Nadia Sheehan (Vice President)     |
| 18. Mallory McDermott              | 41. Nicole Arient (President)          |
| 19. Erin Dyson                     | 42. Yulia Levadnaya (Treasurer)        |
| 20. Jen Para                       | 43. Blythe Munoz (Nominations)         |
| 21. Indre Pranckevicius            | 44. Araceli Ordaz                      |
| 22. Meghan Horsman                 |  |
| 23. Alexandria Luppi               |  |

#### Welcome

The meeting was called to order and began at 7:02 PM Central Time.

#### Principal's Report (Principal Ordaz)

Principal Ordaz presented her monthly report, which included:

- Welcome Back to a brand new year !
- Gratitude for H&S Partnership
- Theme and Focus for this year

- Who/What is new this year
- Art/PE New staff
- New Curriculum

Principal Ordaz welcomed returning and new families to the school year, emphasizing the theme "Their Future, Our Commitment," which highlights the importance of the Home and School partnership. Principal Ordaz discussed the staff's commitment to students' success and the active involvement of families in the school community. Next she highlighted new additions to the faculty with both bringing fresh perspectives and enthusiasm. The school is also implementing a new curriculum called Interreading, which integrates reading, writing, and vocabulary, and continues to focus on social-emotional learning to foster a sense of belonging among students. Ms. Sanchez also emphasized her excitement for the new curriculum, which she assisted in the implementation of. Principal Ordaz discussed the importance of reviewing the weekly Friday bulletin and encouraged families to contact her for clarification. She also highlighted various volunteer opportunities available at the school, including roles such as LC coordinator, greeters, and recess monitors.

### **Minute Approvals (Ms. Arient)**

The May 2025 minutes were approved by an initial motion by Ms. Morton, seconded by Ms. Calandriello.

### **Committee Chair Approvals (Ms. Arient)**

Ms. Arient introduced new chairs for literacy programs, the ice cream social, and communications, and explained a reorganization of the school's leadership structure to enhance efficiency and communication.

A motion to approve the 2025-2026 school year chairs was made by Ms. Munoz and seconded by Ms. Pranckevicius.

### **President's Report (Ms. Arient)**

Ms. Arient presented her report, which included:

- Several reorganization updates
- Recent events and new events that are planned for the year
- Introduced the Maplebrook Elementary teacher representatives

Ms. Arient announced several new community events including a fall adult social trivia night, a family game night with free bingo and board games, a wildcat dance for grades 3-5, a steam fair without judging, and a breakfast buddies program offering grab-and-go breakfast with students. Ms. Arient introduced Ms. Sanchez who expressed gratitude for last year's Amazon wish list

donations to the teachers' lounge, which provided much-needed items like a toaster and tea maker.

### **Treasurer's Report (Ms. Levadnaya)**

Ms. Levadnaya presented her report, which included:

- Update on 2024-2025 Audit and Report
- New policies for 2025-2026
- 2025-2026 Budget Review (Approval)

Ms. Levadnaya reported that the previous year's audit had been completed and submitted to the District, with no negative feedback received so far. Ms. Levadnaya announced several financial changes, including a switch to BMO Bank and QuickBooks Online, and implemented new policies limiting debit card access to herself and the President. She emphasized transparency and encouraged parents to review all transactions and reports, promising to answer any questions. The group reviewed three treasurer reports covering the past three months, and the updated budget was presented, which had been shared on social media and linked in the presentation, highlighting cash contributions for teacher appreciation and emphasizing the need to support staff.

A motion to approve the May 2025, June 2025, and July 2025 Treasurer Reports was made by Ms. Dotson and seconded by Ms. O'Shea. A motion to approve the 2025-2026 school year budget was made by Ms. Horsman and seconded by Ms. Calandriello.

### **Vice President 1's Report – Fundraising (Ms. Sheehan)**

Ms. Sheehan presented her report, which included:

- Updates on the Ice Cream Social
- Fall Adult Social
- Trivia Night

Ms. Sheehan provided updates on upcoming fundraising events, including the ice cream social and a new adult trivia night at Bottoms Up. She encouraged pre-orders for the ice cream social and mentioned that forms would be distributed soon.

### **Vice President 2's Report - Culture (Ms. Hanson)**

Ms. Hanson presented her report, which included:

- Teddy Bear Picnic and Popsicles recap
- Looking ahead: Greeter, Literacy Programs, WatchDog/ Recess Mogs
- New initiatives: Breakfast Buddies, Family Game Night, Wildcat Dance (grades 3-5), STEAM Fair

Ms. Hanson introduced herself as the executive committee liaison for cultural events and emphasized the importance of community involvement in the Home and School organization. She highlighted recent successful events like the kindergarten kickoff, including a Teddy Bear picnic and T-shirt distribution, and announced upcoming initiatives such as family game night, a winter dance, a STEM fair, and a breakfast program. Ms. Hanson encouraged new members to participate and provided a Google form for volunteers to express their interests. Ms. Para also provided an LC update.

### **Communications Report - Culture (Ms. Manfredo)**

Ms. Manfredo presented her report, which included:

- Communication channels overview/how to stay connected to H&S
- DirectorySpot
- Yearbook
- Spirit Wear

Ms. Manfredo introduced herself as the new communications coordinator, highlighting her role in promoting homeschool events and improving communication through newsletters, social media, and other channels. She emphasized her priority of "closing the loop" by sharing the outcomes of fundraising efforts with the community.

Ms. Manfredo discussed various communication channels used by the school, including the weekly Wiley Wag newsletter, social media platforms, and monthly newsletters. She emphasized the importance of engaging with social media posts to improve visibility and shared updates on the DirectorySpot app, yearbook ordering, and new spirit wear options. Ms. Manfredo also mentioned that the school website is currently undergoing updates and will be more accessible once completed.

### **Membership & Nominations Reports (Ms. Munoz)**

Ms. Munoz presented her report, which included:

- Updates on open chair positions and committees.

Ms. Munoz introduced herself and discussed the transition to a committee-based structure for organizing large events, aiming to distribute responsibilities and encourage more participation. She highlighted the success of past events like Fun Fest and emphasized the importance of volunteer involvement. Ms. Munoz also announced the retirement of certain roles and the introduction of new events, while ensuring transparency about changes. She encouraged new members to participate at any level they are comfortable with and provided contact information for further inquiries.

**Adjournment (Ms. Arient)**

Ms. Arient closed the meeting with upcoming events such as the Ice Cream Social on September 5th and the next meeting is scheduled for September 18th, with both in-person and online options available.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Dotson and seconded by Ms. Calandriello. The motion was passed and the meeting ended at 7:53 PM Central Time.