



Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday July 30, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Location

This meeting held via remote participation.

Trustees Present

Andrea Grych (remote), Bela Gorman (remote), Darren Rose (remote), Dwayne Stanley (remote), James Carter (remote), Maura Webster (remote)

Trustees Absent

Stephan Richter

Guests Present

Andrew Wienen (remote), Gregory Theos (remote), Sara Snow (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 Jul 30, 2026 at 6:04 PM.

Andrew and Greg were appointed as board members at the June annual meeting, but are listed as guests because their Commissioner approval is pending (but imminent).

B. Record Attendance

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approve Meeting Minutes from June 11, 2026

Dwayne Stanley made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Annual Meeting on 06-11-26.

Andrea Grych seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Darren Rose	Aye
Bela Gorman	Aye
Maura Webster	Aye
James Carter	Aye
Stephan Richter	Absent
Dwayne Stanley	Aye
Andrea Grych	Aye

It was decided that approval of past meeting minutes will remain on the consent agenda.

Board members can request to pull out any topic for discussion. If no topic is pulled out for discussion, then one vote will approve the minutes along with the consent agenda items. If there is one or more separate votes required, then the person taking the minutes will create separate votes in BoardOnTrack.

III. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

No Public comment requested.

IV. Board Votes

A. Updated Restraint Policy

Lisa presented the update to the 2026-2027 Handbook. The only change to the handbook was a compliance matter regarding the addition of language around exclusion to the restraint policy. The wording came from legal. An example of exclusion is putting a child in a seclusion room and closing the door and walking away. We do not use exclusion at AMSA, but we were required to include it as part of the restraint policy in the handbook.

Bela noted that the policy states that the ED will develop exclusion procedures and asked if Lisa had developed or was planning to develop procedures. Lisa said she would if AMSA was to use exclusion. However, training staff in restraint is already part of our special education manual and we are compliant. AMSA does not have to develop anything new around exclusion because AMSA does not exclude kids.

Darren Rose made a motion to approve the update to the restraint policy.

Dwayne Stanley seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Andrea Grych Aye
Maura Webster Aye
Stephan Richter Absent
Bela Gorman Aye
James Carter Aye
Darren Rose Aye
Dwayne Stanley Aye

B. 2025-2026 Annual Report (and ED Update)

Lisa presented the ED Update and the highlights of the 2025-2026 Annual Report.

Mission and Strategic Focus

- Celebration of knowledge and academic excellence
- Structured multi-year curriculum model (grades 6-12)
- Core values: Integrity, Excellence, Community
- Leadership development through academics, athletics, and service

Key Accomplishments

- Division IV State Champion - Softball
- Massachusetts Science Teacher of the Year
- ELL Director selected as WIDA presenter
- 6 National Merit Commended Scholars
- Strong growth in Math League and Science Bowl performance

Academic Performance Highlights (2025)

- AMSA performs better than 93% of MA middle/high schools
- DESE classification: Substantial progress toward improvement targets
- Grade 10 ELA: 73% met/exceeded (State: 51%)
- Grade 10 Math: 90% met/exceeded (State: 45%)
- Grade 10 Science: 74% met/exceeded (State: 46%)

High Needs Success (2025)

- ELA: 49% met/exceeded (State: 27%)
- Math: 54% met/exceeded (State: 20%)
- Math SGP: 87
- 91.2% completed advanced coursework

College and Career Success

- 100% of seniors completed advanced coursework in 2+ subject areas
- 100% CPR certified

- 84% attend higher education (vs 57.7% state)
- MyCAP expansion into lower school
- Regional Career Fair expanded with community partners

Student Support Expansion

- General Education Academic Support Center launched
- Expanded Orton-Gillingham reading intervention
- Peer Academic Coaching Center (PACC) expanded
- Math Intervention and tiered supports strengthened
- New Student Support and Family Liaison position added

Recruitment and Retention

- Waitlist remains strong: 500-700 students
- Retention rate: 93.8%
- Multilingual outreach expanded
- Financial assistance increased for families
- Focus areas: ELL retention and disability recruitment

Financial and Organizational Health

- FY27 Budget: \$20 .1M revenue
- Net projected income: \$103K
- Enrollment steady at 966
- Capital Plan: \$484K improvements
- Charter renewed through 2030 with no conditions

Looking Ahead

- Expand reading intervention capacity
- Launch ELL mentorship and early warning systems
- Strengthen family engagement
- Increase outreach to underserved populations
- Continue focus on student belonging and achievement

Mike and Amanda, in collaboration with the Director of Counseling and the Director of Student Services will identify students who are struggling sooner and provide academic support. A second teacher is being trained in the Wilson program to help students who come to AMSA as non-readers.

They are building up the special education department and moving away from special education teachers doing para work.

Maura asked about family engagement and is wondering if the Charter organizations are talking about this? Lisa said that regional districts struggle with family engagement.

Towns from many distances have a hard time with nighttime events especially. Sport attendance is pretty good, but events are not always well attended.

Andrew called attention to a typo on page one. It should read that AMSA opened in 2005. Maura called for a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Annual Report with typo corrected.

Dwayne Stanley made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 annual report as amended.

Darren Rose seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

James Carter	Aye
Andrea Grych	Aye
Maura Webster	Aye
Darren Rose	Aye
Dwayne Stanley	Aye
Stephan Richter	Absent
Bela Gorman	Aye

We had a few unfortunate departures at the end of the school year. Dr. Mortimer is leaving AMSA for a significantly easier commute. We made a new Chemistry hire today! Liz Morena (History) and Chris Dugan (Counseling) both moved to traditional public schools. Rachel Caudil (Latin) relocated due to her husband's military relocation to the West Coast. Nelly Carasco (Counseling) relocated to Texas.

We still need a girls JV soccer coach.

V. Updates

A. Fundraising Update

Development Update from Marcy Eckel (presented by Lisa):

- The Development Committee met on June 18 to review current fundraising initiatives, discuss upcoming priorities, and support ongoing development efforts. We also thanked Evan for his service and notified the committee that Andrea will take the helm for the 26/27 school year.
- 7th Annual AMSA Golf Tournament: We currently have 102 golfers registered, with a goal of 112 players. The tournament will be held on Tuesday, August 11, at Cyprian Keyes Golf Club. We're excited about our raffle offerings this year, thanks to the outstanding efforts of Mary Jo Nawrocki and Cindy Zomar, who have secured a terrific selection of prizes.
- Grant Funding: We recently received an \$8,500 grant from Moderna to support AMSA programs. We are also actively pursuing several additional grant opportunities this summer to expand funding for the school.

B.

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

Dwyane continues to offer himself as the parent liaison until the PTO finds a candidate for the parent representative.

Andrew said he knows a parent who is interested in serving in this role. Lisa said both she and Marcy have met him and are excited to engage with him.

ACTION: Maura will reach out to the PTO to encourage their efforts to find a candidate and pass this on to Governance. She will mention Andrew's candidate to the PTO.

C. Faculty Representative Update

Greg said it has been a quiet summer, but he did have one comment from a teacher who was asking about the discrepancy between how teachers are compensated for subbing vs directed study, which is a stipend role. Greg said he thought it would be good to get it on the board's radar before contract negotiations begin.

Maura welcomed Greg's return to the Board.

VI. Chair Business

A. BoT Committee Calendar 2026-2027

The 2026-2027 BOT Meeting Calendar needs confirmation from the Committee Chairs. Darren suggested that the Chairs be given a short window to consider their meeting dates and then confirm them with Sara.

ACTION: Maura asked that Chairs confirm their meeting dates by the end of next week.

ACTION: The meeting calendar is on the June 11 agenda, but Sara will post the BOT Meeting Calendar in the July 30 agenda as well.

Bela observed that the month of August on the BOT meeting calendar did not have any meetings posted. August is often a month that is subject to vacation plans, and no meetings had been scheduled. However, Bela said it was important for the Finance Committee to meet in August. Lisa and Bela will plan to discuss possible meeting dates.

B. Committee Charters

Darren reminded the board that the newly amended bylaws call for committees to develop charters. This is a great opportunity for committees to describe the kind of rules, procedures, and details of committee work that the board may prefer not to have in the bylaws because putting them in a charter means that changes can be made whenever necessary without having to go through an official amendment process.

Darren said Governance will create some standards so the committees will be able to follow the same format. Since Governance did not meet in July, they will be working on the charter standards to guide committees with developing their charter. For now, he suggests that committees take the time to think about what they may want in their charter.

Note: There is no need to submit consent an agenda committee meeting summary report when a committee does not meet.

C. Discuss how to align board member terms to the recently amended bylaws

All current members were appointed under the former bylaws, with 3-year terms. There are some members who present an issue with their terms with the amended bylaws, specifically those members whose term is ending in June 2028. Darren used Andrea as an example and suggests that Andrea continue to serve through 2028 and then be elected to a 1-year term through 2029 and then begin her next term in the new 2-year cycle.

Darren and Andrew were voted at the June annual meeting, prior to the bylaws being approved. Darren suggested that since it was so recent that we could ask DESE if we can simply have a new vote to correct the terms to reflect the new 2-year cycle, bringing the revised end date to June 30, 2028. Darren will then be able to serve another 1-year term and Andrew will be able to serve a second 2-year term.

Options to discuss with DESE:

1. Revise all term end dates to line up with new bylaws.
2. Just revise the term end-date for Darren and Andrew (since the vote was just in June) and the rest of the 3-year terms expire and then add a 1-year term to catch up to 4.
3. Darren and Andrew resign and then appoint them to a 2-year term.

ACTION: Sara call Alyssa Hopkins (DESE) for guidance.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Development

Lisa already presented Marcy's Fundraising Report. Andrea, the newly appointed Development Committee Chair said she had nothing further to add to Marcy's report.

B. Finance

The Finance Committee did not meet in June or July and there is no report.

C.

Governance

The Governance Committee did not meet in July and there is no report.

D. Education

Stephan is not in attendance and there were no notes to report.

VIII. Review Action Items

A. Action Items from Previous Meetings

Reminder for Board members to complete their Financial Disclosure and COI training/summary. Check your emails from the state and complete what is necessary.

The Financial Disclosure is to be completed every year for the previous year.

The Conflict-of-Interest Training is completed every two years.

The Acknowledgement of the Conflict-of-Interest Summary is completed every year.

Negotiating Committee: Nothing to be done yet.

B. New Action Items

ACTION: Maura will reach out to the PTO to encourage their efforts to find a candidate and pass this on to Governance. She will mention Andrew's candidate to the PTO officers.

ACTION: Maura asked that Chairs confirm their meeting dates by the end of next week.

ACTION: The meeting calendar is on the June 11 agenda, but Sara will post the BOT Meeting Calendar in the July 30 agenda as well.

ACTION: Sara will call Alyssa Hopkins (DESE) for guidance regarding term end dates.

ACTION: Sara will send board members their compliance documents status.

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Dwayne Stanley made a motion to adjourn.

Andrea Grych seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

James Carter Aye

Bela Gorman Aye

Stephan Richter Absent

Roll Call

Andrea Grych Aye

Darren Rose Aye

Dwayne Stanley Aye

Maura Webster Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Snow

Documents used during the meeting

- 7-30-26 Dev-Fundraising Update.pdf
- 7-30-26 Updated AMSA Restraint Policy.pdf
- 7-30-26 ED Update and 2026 Annual Report.pdf
- AMSA 2025-26 Annual Report.pdf
- BOT Meeting Calendar 2026-2027 8-04-26.pdf
- BOT_Meeting_Calendar_DRAFT_2026-2027.pdf