

APPROVED



Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday September 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM

This meeting will be held in-person. (AMSA Upper School Conference Room, 199 Forest Street)

Trustees Present

Bela Gorman, Darren Rose, Dwayne Stanley, Evan Przyborowski, Gregory Theos, James Carter, Maura Webster

Trustees Absent

Christine Tridente Fahey, Sheila Kelly

Ex Officio Members Present

Lisa Mobley

Non Voting Members Present

Lisa Mobley

Guests Present

Liana McLaren, Marcy Eckel, Mike Finkle, Mike Nawrocki

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 Sep 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

B. Record Attendance

Greg Theos will take the meeting minutes.

II. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

There were no requests for public comment.

III. Consent Agenda Items

A. Construction Budget Updates

Consent agenda items were reviewed and no further discussion is necessary.

IV. Votes

A. Approve BOT Meeting Minutes from the August 29, 2024

Darren Rose made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 08-29-24.

Bela Gorman seconded the motion.

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

V. Updates

A. Fundraising Update

Marcy Eckel reported that the Lower School Fun Run is upcoming, which raised \$20K last year. The Bourbon Raffle is still running. Volunteers are needed for the planning committee. The Fundraising Committee is aiming for one event per month (with the exception of July). They are applying for grants from the Mass Cultural Council. The bricks for the new building have been delivered.

B. Parent Representative Update

Parent Rep Dwayne Stanley reported that things are off to a good start. There have been parent questions about a free lunch program. Lisa Mobley explained that there are many requirements to qualify for a federal free lunch grant, which might interfere with other things on campus. No major updates for the PTO.

C. Faculty Representative Update

Faculty Rep Greg Theos reported that it has been smooth sailing. The faculty are interested in fundraising.

D. Executive Director Report

See attached ED report.

The Executive Director reported that the school has been looking at data for how students are getting into top colleges/universities. The data does appear at a glance to suggest former AMSA classes had higher acceptance rates to top schools. It is suggested that lower acceptance rates might be affected by students applying to more schools overall post-COVID. It is also noted that admission slots are decaling and application rates are increasing. Looking at AMSA's average GPA and SAT scores, averages have not been on a downward trajectory over time. AMSA students are applying to a much broader set of schools than they used to., focusing on research schools. Colleges care a great deal about their yield rate, the number of accepted students who actually attend. The rate of AMSA students enrolling in a 4 year college/university has gone down vs. previous year, but this might be anomalous. Greg Theos commented that the college admissions process involves tradeoffs in what AMSA wants to focus on a sa school .. Lisa Mobley added that AMSA could do more work to highlight their research courses, including potentially coming to agreements with colleges to offer credit based on courses taken at AMSA.

A parent reached out with concerns about students crossing Forest Street. In 2912m the city of Marlborough approved AMSA as a school zone, there was disagreement about who would pay for the signage and the endeavor died. AMSA is nevertheless installing a sidewalk to help students reach Forest Street. AMSA is currently reaching out to revive plans to make the surrounding area a school zone and to both install signage and reduce speed limits on Forest STreet. A new sign will be installed at the school's new entrance.

VI. Chair Business

A. Cultivation of Prospective Board Members AND Board Engagement

Bela Gorman has made a spreadsheet to help board members attend school events. There will be a meeting in Governance in January to discuss strategies for recruiting new board members.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Development

An initial meeting of the year was held to brainstorm ideas for fundraising and communicating with potential committee members.

B. Finance

The Finance Committee has met and discussed consent agenda/construction budget items. Construction is going well. Contingency money can potentially be used to further improve AMSA facilities. The committee is planning to begin reviewing and revising its policies at their next meeting.

C. Governance

The Governance Committee did not meet last month.

D. Education

The Education Committee did not meet last month.

VIII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

James Carter made a motion to to adjourn.

Dwayne Stanley seconded the motion.

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gregory Theos

Documents used during the meeting

- 7.31.24 Contingency Draw Down Tracking.pdf
- 9.13.24 Req Tracking and Invoices as of 7.31.24.pdf
- ED Report 9-26-24 (1).pdf
- AMSA Scool Zone Graphic.pdf