Magnolia Public Schools

Nominating/Governance Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday November 19, 2026 at 6:00 PM PST

Location

Home Office: 250 E. 1st Street, Suite 1500, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Access to the Board/Committee Meeting

Teleconferencing locations are provided at each Magnolia Science Academy school site:

- Magnolia Science Academy-1 (18238 Sherman Way, Reseda, CA 91335)
- Magnolia Science Academy-2 (17125 Victory Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91406)
- Magnolia Science Academy-3 (1254 E Helmick St, Carson, CA 90746)
- Magnolia Science Academy-4 (11330 W Graham Place, Los Angeles, CA 90064)
- Magnolia Science Academy-5 (7111 Winnetka Ave, Winnetka, CA 91306)
- Magnolia Science Academy-6 (745 S. Wilton Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90005)
- Magnolia Science Academy-7 (18355 Roscoe Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91325)
- Magnolia Science Academy-8 (6411 Orchard Ave, Bell, CA 90201)
- Magnolia Science Academy-Santa Ana (2840 W 1st Street, Santa Ana, CA 92703)
- Magnolia Science Academy-San Diego (6525 Estrella Ave, San Diego, CA 92120)
- Magnolia Science Academy-Orange County Anaheim (412 W. Carl Karcher Way, Anaheim, CA 92801)

Any interested parties or community members from remote locations may attend the meeting at any Magnolia Science Academy school, or the addresses where Board Members are joining from.

Dialing information for this meeting is included below:
Dial in: 1-669-444-9171
Meeting ID: 978 5606 4990 - **Passcode:** 021250

Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/97856064990?pwd=MHhBZCtGT0xEMlZpNEZQZVJ3RDBPZz09

Accessibility
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and upon request, Magnolia Public Schools may furnish reasonable auxiliary aids and services to qualified individuals with disabilities. Members of the public who need special accommodations or translation are strongly encouraged to contact Magnolia Public Schools at least 24 hours in advance of the Board meeting so assistance can be assured. Please contact MPS Home Office at 213-628-3634 or email board@magnoliapublicschools.org with such requests.

Any public records relating to an agenda item for an open session which are distributed to all, or a majority of all, of the Board Members shall be available for public inspection.

Public Comment Procedures
Magnolia Public Schools greatly values public comment during Board meetings. For members of the public who would like to speak, please fill out the Public Speaker Form which can be accessed at magnoliapublicschools.org, there will also be speaker cards to be filled out prior to the beginning of the meeting. By law, the Board is only allowed to discuss or take action on items listed on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to MPS staff or add the issue to a future board meeting date for discussion. Public speakers are limited to three (3) minutes and speakers with interpreters up to six (6) minutes.

Please note that the agenda presenting times for when that item will be discussed, or taken action on, is subject to change on the day of the Board meeting to accommodate public speaker times indicated above.

For any questions regarding this meeting please email board@magnoliapublicschools.org or call (213) 628-3634.

Nominating/Governance Committee Members:
Dr. Umit Yapanel, Chair
Ms. Sandra Covarrubias
Dr. Salih Dikbas
Mr. Mekan Muhammedov, Alternate Member

CEO and Superintendent:
Mr. Alfredo Rubalcava

Agenda

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
I.	**Opening Items**			**6:00 PM**
	Opening Items			
	A. Call the Meeting to Order			1 m
	B. Record Attendance and Guests			1 m
	C. Approval of Agenda	Vote		1 m
	D. Public Comments			5 m
	E. Approval of Minutes from Regular MPS Nominating/Governance Committee Meeting - September 11, 2025	Approve Minutes		1 m
II.	**Recommended Action Items**			**6:09 PM**
	A. Approval Recommendation for Board Membership	Vote	MPS Nominating/Governance Committee	10 m
	Discussion and Recommendation: Board Membership Candidate – Mr. Semsettin "Sam" Kilic			
III.	**Closing Items**			**6:19 PM**
	A. Adjourn Meeting			1 m

Coversheet

Approval of Minutes from Regular MPS Nominating/Governance Committee Meeting - September 11, 2025

Section: I. Opening Items
Item: E. Approval of Minutes from Regular MPS Nominating/Governance Committee Meeting - September 11, 2025
Purpose: Approve Minutes
Submitted by:
Related Material:
Minutes for Nominating/Governance Committee Meeting on September 11, 2025

APPROVED

Magnolia Public Schools

Minutes

Nominating/Governance Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday September 11, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Location
Home Office: 250 E. 1st Street, Suite 1500, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Nominating/Governance Committee Members:
Dr. Umit Yapanel, Chair
Ms. Sandra Covarrubias
Dr. Salih Dikbas
Mr. Mekan Muhammedov (alternate)

Student Board Member:
Ms. Sofia Perez

CEO and Superintendent:
Mr. Alfredo Rubalcava

Committee Members Present
M. Muhammedov, S. Dikbas, U. Yapanel

Committee Members Absent
None

Guests Present

J. Lara

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

U. Yapanel called a meeting of the Nominating/Governance Committee of Magnolia Public Schools to order on Thursday Sep 11, 2025 at 5:34 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

Refer to the attendance information recorded above.

C. Approval of Agenda

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
M. Muhammedov seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

U. Yapanel	Aye
S. Dikbas	Aye
M. Muhammedov	Aye

D. Public Comments

No public comments were made at this time.

E. Approval of Minutes from Regular MPS Nominating/Governance Committee Meeting - November 17, 2022

M. Muhammedov made a motion to approve the minutes from Nominating/Governance Committee Meeting on 11-17-22.
U. Yapanel seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

U. Yapanel	Aye
S. Dikbas	Aye
M. Muhammedov	Aye

II. Recommended Action Items

A. Approval Recommendation for Board Membership

Discussion was held for the consideration of Mr. Serdar Orazov to the MPS Board of Directors. The Committee discussed S. Orazov has institutional knowledge of Magnolia Public School (MPS) as he served in the organization in different capacities such as serving as a staff in the Finance Department, a MPS Board Member from 2015-2020, and

the former Chief Financial Officer from 2020-2021. Qualifications were mentioned which the Committee acknowledged that his experience will benefit financial planning, capital construction projects and expansion. S. Budhraja, Chief Financial Officer, and A. Rubalcava, CEO & Superintendent, commented on the value of the candidate's expertise and familiarity with the mission, vision and core values of MPS. Committee Members questions were addressed by S. Orazov and added that he is familiar with the responsibilities and requirements needed to serve on the Board.
U. Yapanel made a motion to recommend to the full Board of Directors the approval of candidate for Board Membership at the October Regular Board Meeting.
M. Muhammedov seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
U. Yapanel	Aye
M. Muhammedov	Aye
S. Dikbas	Aye

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
U. Yapanel

Coversheet

Approval Recommendation for Board Membership

Section: II. Recommended Action Items
Item: A. Approval Recommendation for Board Membership
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material:
Approval of Board Candidate to the MPS Board of Directors - Shemsettin “Sam” Kilic.pdf

Agenda Item:	II.A. Action Item
Date:	November 19, 2026
To:	Magnolia Educational & Research Foundation dba Magnolia Public Schools ("**MPS**") Nominating/Governance Committee (the "**Committee**")
From:	Alfredo Rubalcava, CEO & Superintendent
Staff Lead(s):	MPS Nominating/Governance Committee Dr. Umit Yapanel, Chair of Nominating/Governance Committee
RE:	Approval of Board Candidate to the MPS Board of Directors - Shemsettin "Sam" Kilic

Action Proposed for Board Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Nominating/Governance Committee approve the recommendation of Shemsettin "Sam" Kilic for membership on the MPS Board of Directors and forward the recommendation to the full Board for consideration and approval at its December 2026 Regular Board Meeting.

Purpose:

The MPS Board of Directors seeks to strengthen its capacity by identifying candidates with experience in finance, education, philanthropy, community engagement, and related professional fields. Mr. Shemsettin "Sam" Kilic brings experience in nonprofit board service, engineering, real estate, operational management, and community outreach.

Efforts to identify additional qualified Board candidates are ongoing. In the meantime, the Nominating/Governance Committee will review and discuss the qualifications of the current candidate and consider whether to recommend him for appointment to the MPS Board of Directors.

Background:

Mr. Kilic is a business and community leader with experience in nonprofit governance, educational volunteering, engineering, real estate, and project management. He currently serves on the Board of the Sequoia Education Foundation, which is planning to open a K–12 charter school in Fresno in 2027. He previously served on the Board of the Pacifica Institute, supporting organizational planning and community outreach.

His professional background includes service as a Senior RAN Engineer at AT&T (2001–2018), where he coordinated network planning and technical teams, as well as real estate brokerage work since 2016 involving residential and commercial properties. His earlier project-management experience includes oversight of major engineering and construction initiatives. He holds an MBA from National University and a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Middle East Technical University, and is a California Professional Engineer and licensed real estate broker.

Exhibits:

- Resume of Shemsettin "Sam" Kilic

SEMSETTIN “SAM” KILIC, PE

Laguna Niguel, California | 714-866-8183 | samkilic5@gmail.com

CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATE

BOARD PROFILE

Business, nonprofit, and community leader with experience in board planning, educational volunteering, scholarship committee service, civic outreach, financial and operational management, and complex project oversight. MBA-trained California Professional Engineer and real estate broker bringing STEAM expertise, facilities insight, and a commitment to educational opportunity to Magnolia Public Schools.

GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Board Member | Sequoia Education Foundation, Fresno, California | Current

Serve on the board of an education foundation planning to open a K–12 charter school in Fresno in 2027.

Former Board Member | Pacifica Institute | Dates not specified

- Contributed to organizational planning and community outreach as a board member of a nonprofit promoting intercultural understanding, tolerance, and diversity.

Community Public Relations, Outreach & Advocacy Leadership | 2003–2016

- Participated in national steering committee leadership and coordinated civic advocacy initiatives involving community organizations and public officials.
- Represented community interests in meetings with members of Congress, state officials, and elected representatives; helped connect community groups, entrepreneurs, and government resources.
- Organized delegations, public-facing events, and outreach efforts to strengthen engagement and dialogue.

California Turkish American Chamber of Commerce | Community & Trade Initiatives | 2009–2013

- Organized trade missions, conventions, and cross-cultural events; developed partnerships and helped secure event sponsorships and funding.

EDUCATION AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

National Scholarship Committee Member | AT&T

- Served on AT&T’s nationwide scholarship committee; reviewed student applications and participated in selecting scholarship recipients through a collaborative evaluation process.

Volunteer Turkish Language Teacher | Pacifica Institute Weekend School

- Taught Turkish language to children ages 7–15 in a weekend school program.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AND OVERSIGHT

Real Estate Broker | Kilic Realty Inc., subsequently Mulberry Real Estate Inc. | 2016–Present

- Managed residential and commercial real estate transactions involving multifamily, warehouse, retail, and office properties; negotiated contracts and coordinated stakeholders through closing.
- Experience relevant to facilities evaluation, property transactions, negotiations, and operational risk.

Senior RAN Engineer | AT&T, Southern California | 2001–2018

- Directed and coordinated network planning, performance improvement, and cross-functional technical work across five Southern California counties.
- Managed a major network equipment transition involving more than 40 RF engineers; prepared management-level performance reports and mentored engineering staff.
- Prepared requests for proposals, negotiated vendor scopes and costs, and awarded contracts ranging from $50,000 to $200,000.

Project Manager | Cargill, Istanbul | 1997–1999

- Oversaw a $5 million portion of a $90 million industrial construction project; managed five engineers and more than 50 contractors.
- Managed bidding and contracting and worked with public officials on environmental, health, safety, and regulatory approvals.

Project Manager | Ministry of Defense, Ankara | 1991–1995

- Managed a $165 million command, control, and communications project; supervised engineering personnel and evaluated contract changes.

Additional experience: Senior RF Engineer, Vodafone (1999–2000); Senior Project Engineer, Dow Chemical (1995–1996); Electrical Engineer, State Hydraulic Works (1990–1991) and EMTA Corp. (1989–1990).

EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS

MBA | National University, San Diego, 2001

B.S., Electrical Engineering | Middle East Technical University, Ankara, 1990

Data Science Certificate | University of California, Irvine, 2020

California Professional Engineer (PE) • Six Sigma Green Belt • California Real Estate Broker

RECOGNITION AND SERVICE

U.S. President’s Volunteer Service Award (2011 and 2012) • AT&T Best Performance Engineer Award • AT&T APCA volunteer projects