



Board Agenda Item #	Agenda #III I
Date:	October 12, 2017
To:	Magnolia Board of Directors
From:	Umit Yapanel, MPS Board Secretary
Staff Lead:	Umit Yapanel, MPS Board Secretary
RE:	Board Director Renewals

MEMO FROM DR. UMIT YAPANEL:

Dear Fellow & Dedicated Board Members,

It is my distinct pleasure to submit this memo as the report out of Oct 2nd nominating committee meeting.

We discussed two items, first item was the creation of advisory committee in order to support our executive board as well as get more community leaders involved in Magnolia. We have discussed this item for two meetings and some revisions are already done. However, we wanted to take this item to the full board as a discussion item (pending President Dr. Sherkhonov's permission) for our upcoming meeting so that the rest of the board has the chance to provide feedback. With this feedback, it will become an action item for our November regular meeting. Mr Ismael Soto is the lead C-level staff on this agenda item.

Second item was the renewal applications for the two seats that were up for renewal in October 2017. The terms for Umit Yapanel and Nguyen (Win) Huynh are expiring in October 2017. Nominating committee has reached out to them and solicited a renewal application along with an updated resume, both of which are attached to this email. Again (pending President Dr. Sherkhonov's permission), we would like to add this agenda item as the first action item into the upcoming October regular meeting for the full board to act on in. We had a discussion of renewal applications in the regular nominating committee meeting and all committee members were positive in recommending a renewal of the both board members.

Mr Huynh comes with an incredibly strong facilities & finance background and has been instrumental in obtaining a very favorable deal for our recently closed bond. He is willing to continue serving Magnolia community focusing on improved academic outcomes. His application and resume is attached.

Dr Yapanel comes with 13 years of charter school experience and a strong dedication to Magnolia Community and has served as President (~4 years) and currently serving as the Board Secretary. His personal passion is to ensure that as much as possible of the resources are spent in the classrooms to deliver a great education to Magnolia's students. He also plans to focus on succession planning & development for our leadership in the next term if appointed as a board member again. His renewal application & updated resume is attached.

Please find related documents attached.



Magnolia Public Schools Board Recruitment Application

DATE: October 1st, 2017

This “board recruitment application” is intended to identify individuals interested in serving on the board of Magnolia Public Schools. Appointments to the board are made by the Magnolia Public Schools - Nominating Committee.

1. Name (Attach your Resume and Bio)

Umit Yapanel, PhD (Resume attached)

2. Statement of Intent

Please describe the specific expertise and experience, as well as personal attributes, that you bring to the board, including service on any other governing boards.

It has been great pleasure to have served on the Magnolia Board for the past 5 years, first as president and now as the secretary of the Board. It was a rough 5 years with a lot of attacks from multiple aspects that threatened the existence of the organization. With teamwork, collaboration and a collection of extremely dedicated board members, we could overcome the initial difficulties the organization has faced.

However, our work is not done. We still need to work hard to ensure that our schools are stable financially, academically and can house in long-term high capacity facilities to serve the needs of our future students and communities we reside in.

To this end, I believe my passion for Magnolia’s vision and dedication to the organization will be of great value moving forward. I bring a collective 14 years of charter school experience. I worked almost every aspect of charter schools from a founding board member to the president of the Board. I helped establish a successful K-12 charter school in Colorado from 2003 to 2011. The school has been recently named most challenging high school of Colorado and serves around 900 low-income and ethnically diverse student body. After joining Magnolia board in 2012, I am working to oversee operations of the organization. My experience and skills in financial oversight, academics oversight and unique facilities exposure helped guide the organization in the right direction. Moreover, my science and high-tech background was helpful in keeping the focus of the organization in STEM. I am proud to say, I was one of the board members pushing for the ARTS component improving our curriculum as a STEAM network of schools.

How will you contribute to the board's ability to monitor the school's academic, operational, and fiscal policies and practices?

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

As a seasoned board member, my experience in overseeing large non-profit organizations will be helpful in continued monitoring of the Magnolia's operations in many aspects. I am willing to put in the time/effort to ensure that Magnolia delivers the best possible education to its students by utilizing available resources as efficiently as possible. In the past, execution/leadership issues were common but the Board could not sufficiently respond to the lack of acceptable execution/leadership skills due to some other priorities. However, I believe now is a good time to focus on laser sharp execution to ensure that all resources are spent responsibly and with a focus of delivering a great product to our students. We also need to consider leadership growth for Magnolia to ensure a continued supply of great leaders for the organization.

My personal passion is to ensure that most of the resources are spent in the classrooms to deliver a great education to our students, so in this aspect, I am not a fan of a large central office. That's why I moved to serve on the academic committee to ensure just this goal. I also serve on the nomination/governance committee to ensure that the skill-set of the board is as complete as possible to provide a flawless oversight.

3. Attach two references with contact information

Reference 1 (Professional)

Name: Prof. John H L Hansen

Organization: University of Texas at Dallas

Position: Former Chair, Department of Electrical Engineering and Director of Center for Robust Speech Systems (CRSS)

Phone: 972-883-2910, john.hansen@utdallas.edu

Relation: My PhD Adviser

Reference 2 (Professional)

Name: Dr. Trausti Kristjansson

Organization: Invensense, Inc (Now at Amazon Lab 126)

Position: Manager of Audio Algorithms

Phone (Email): trausti.kristjansson@gmail.com

Relation: Former manager at Invensense, Inc

UMIT YAPANEL

Sunnyvale, CA 94085



Residency: US Citizen

OBJECTIVE

Looking for a senior position where I can use my accumulated knowledge of speech processing and machine learning to build consumer-oriented products for which speech is the main media of communication regardless of the environment in which the products are utilized.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Machine Learning, Speech/Signal Processing, Cloud-based ASR, Robust Speech Recognition/Parameterization, Speech Coding/Compression, Speaker Diarization, Speaker Normalization, Acoustic Modeling, Beamforming, Speech Enhancement, Child Speech Analysis and Processing, Language Identification.

EDUCATION

- **2000-2004** **Ph.D.** in Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering
University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
Thesis Advisor: Prof. John H. L. Hansen
Thesis Title: *“Acoustic Modeling and Speaker Normalization Strategies with Application to Robust In-vehicle Speech Recognition and Dialect Classification”*
- **2000-2002** **M.S.** in Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering,
University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
Continued to PhD in the same department
- **1998-2000** **M.S.** in Electronics Engineering, Communications Branch,
Bogazici University, Istanbul, TURKEY
Thesis Advisor: Prof. Levent M. Arslan
Thesis Title: *“Garbage Modeling Techniques for a Turkish Keyword Spotting System”*
- **1997-1998** English Preparatory Class, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey
- **1993-1997** **B.Eng.** in Electronics and Communications Engineering,
Istanbul Technical University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **10/16-Present** **LENA Research Foundation, Senior Machine Learning Lead (Consulting)**
Project: Automated analysis of in-home audio recordings of children by using latest machine learning technologies.

- **09/14-06/16** **Invensense, Inc., Senior Audio Algorithm Developer**
 Project: Founding team member of the audio group, worked on cutting-edge and low-resource speech and music detection algorithms, characterized low-resource speech coding algorithms for ASR.
- **10/10-09/14** **Audience, Inc., Senior ASR Algorithm Developer**
 Project: Development of ASR related algorithms for noise-robust ASR for mobile environments. ASR characterization of a noise-suppression chip developed for mobile phones
- **02/10-09/10** **Director of New Development**
Accord Institute for Education Research
 Project: Managed financing efforts for new campus purchases and facility improvements for Accord charter schools.
- **01/10-05/10** **Adjunct Faculty, Dept of Electrical, Computer, and Energy Eng.**
University of Colorado at Boulder
Project: Teaching ECEN46332 Introduction to Digital Filters class to senior as well as a few graduate students.
- **03/09-06/09** **Consultant, TUBITAK-UEKAE**
Project: Developed a GMM-based language identification (LID) system for UEKAE (National Institute of Electronics and Cryptology of Turkey) on OGI Multilanguage Telephone Corpus. Also helping to improve the performance of UEKAE's ASR Engine by integrating PMVDR noise-robust features and BISN speaker normalization both of which were developed during his PhD thesis research. Current LID system he developed is performing better than all GMM-based systems reported in the LID literature on the same database.
- **02/05-02/09** **LENA Research Foundation, (previously INFOTURE, INC.)**
Speech Technology Engineer
Project: Responsible for the software development of an assessment tool used to monitor and assess the language development of children ages 0-4 years. The project involved establishing the speech recognition framework within the company as well as creating new algorithms to handle child speech recognition and automatic language assessment (an area in which nobody has substantial expertise yet), adult speech analysis and recognition, speaker segmentation, speaker identification, speech compression, speech enhancement and other issues related to robust speech processing. The product will be very helpful in detecting delays in speech development of infants and young children and will allow for early intervention for maximum benefit to disadvantaged children. Developed C and MATLAB code implementations, PERL scripts, and helped with a lot of testing tasks.
- **05/03-08/03** **Paid Internship at IBM, TJ Watson Research Center**
 Embedded Speech Recognition Group
Project: *Development of computationally efficient on-the-fly speaker normalization algorithms for the embedded speech engine.*
- **05/02-09/02** **Paid Internship at IBM, TJ Watson Research Center**
 Embedded Speech Recognition Group
Project: *Development of MVDR-based feature extraction schemes for robust speech recognition in car environments.*

- **08/00-12/04** **Research Assistant, Center for Spoken Language Research**
University of Colorado, Boulder
Projects: *Model adaptation, robust parameterization and speaker normalization for robust speech recognition in adverse noisy conditions with emphasis on in-vehicle speech recognition; member of the CSLR team that participated in DARPA/NRL SPINE I & II tasks and Eurospeech-01 Aurora task*
- **08/99-08/00** **Researcher, Speech Technology Group**
National Institute of Electronics and Cryptology (UEKAE)
The National Scientific and Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)
Project: *Robust keyword spotting over the telephone network for Turkish*
- **09/98-08/99** **Researcher, Electromagnetic Compatibility Group**
National Institute of Electronics and Cryptology (UEKAE)
The National Scientific and Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)
Project: *Signal processing applications for EMC/TEMPEST tests*
- **09/97-09/98** **Researcher, Faculty of Naval Engineering**
Istanbul Technical University
Project: *Software development for the computation of radar cross section (RCS) of a stealth naval vessel*
- **12/97-09/98** **Research and Teaching Assistant,**
Dept. of Electronics and Communication Eng., Istanbul Technical University
Project: *Problem sessions for Electromagnetic Theory courses*

RELATED COURSEWORK

- Information Theory and Coding
- Theory and Applications of Digital Filters
- Speech Recognition and Synthesis
- Digital Image Processing
- Principles of Digital Communications
- Mathematical Statistics
- Machine Vision
- Digital Signal Processing

COMPUTER/LANGUAGE SKILLS

Operating Systems: Unix, Linux, AIX, Windows

Programming: C, Python, C-shell, Perl, Basic, Fortran

Packages: Tensorflow, MXNet, Sphinx ASR Engine, Sonic ASR Engine, HTK ASR Engine, Festival, MATLAB, LaTeX, MS-Office, LabWindows/CVI

Languages: Turkish (Native), English (Fluent)

THESES/PROJECTS

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| PhD Research | "Model Adaptation, Robust MVDR-based Features and Speaker Normalization Techniques for Robust Speech Recognition," (Ph.D. research), Univ. of Colo., Boulder |
| M.S. Thesis | "Keyword Modeling Techniques for a Turkish Keyword Spotting System," Bogazici University (BU), 2000 |
| B.S. Thesis | "Design and Computerized Analysis of Microwave Filters Using Coupled Micro-strip Lines," Istanbul Technical University, 1997 |

PATENTS

"System and Method for Detection and Analysis of Speech," filed 23-01-2008, Jeffrey A. Richards, Terrance D. Paul, Dongxin Xu, Sharmistha Gray, Umit Yapanel, Jill S. Gilkerson

"System and Method for Expressive Language, Developmental Disorder, and Emotion Assessment," assigned 07-30-2009, Jeffrey A. Richards, Terrance D. Paul, Dongxin Xu, Sharmistha Gray, Umit Yapanel, Jill S. Gilkerson

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

"CU-MOVE: Advanced In-Vehicle Speech Systems for Route Navigation," J.H.L. Hansen, X.X. Zhang, M. Akbacak, **U.H. Yapanel**, B.Pellom, W. Ward, P. Angkititrakul, Chapter 2 in DSP for In-Vehicle and Mobile Systems, Kluwer Publishers, 2004

Journal

"Audible TV is associated with decreased adult words, infant vocalizations, and conversational turns: A population based study," D. A. Christakis, J. Gilkerson, J. A. Richards, F. J. Zimmerman, M. M. Garrison, D. Xu, S. Gray, **U. Yapanel**, Accepted to Archives of *Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*, Nov. 2008.

"Teaching By Listening: The Importance of Adult-Child Conversations to Language Development," F. Zimmerman, J. Gilkerson, J. Richards, D. Christakis, D. Xu, S. Gray, and **U. Yapanel**, *Pediatrics*, Accepted to American Academy of Pediatrics, Nov. 2008.

"Identification of Autism in Early Childhood by Automated Vocal Analysis," D.K. Oller, P. Niyogi, S. Gray, J. Richards, J. Gilkerson, D. Xu, **U. Yapanel**, S. F. Warren, Submitted to *Nature*, February 2009.

"What Automated Vocal Analysis Reveals about the Language Learning Environment of Young Children with Autism," S. F. Warren, J. Gilkerson, J. A. Richards, D. K. Oller, D. Xu, **U. Yapanel**, submitted to *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, January 2009.

"Towards an Intelligent Acoustic Front-End for Automatic Speech Recognition: Built-In Speaker Normalization (BISN)," **U. Yapanel** and John H.L. Hansen, Special issue on Intelligent Audio, Speech, and Music Processing Applications, *EURASIP Journal on Audio, Speech, and Music Processing* Volume 2008 (2008), Article ID 148967.

"A New Perceptually-Motivated MVDR-Based Acoustic Front-End (PMVDR) for Robust Automatic Speech Recognition," **U. Yapanel** and John H.L. Hansen, *Speech Communications*, Volume 50, 2008, pp 142-152.

"Robust Feature Extraction for Continuous Speech Recognition Using the MVDR Spectrum Estimation Method," S. Dharanipragada, **U. Yapanel**, and B. D. Rao, *IEEE Trans. On Speech and Audio Processing* Volume:15, issue 1, pp 224-234, January 2007.

Conference

"Speaker Normalization for GMM-based Language Identification", U. H. Yapanel, Y. Z. Isik, M. U. Dogan, Submitted to ICASSP'10.

"TV displaces talk: The relationship between TV exposure and family interaction," D. A. Christakis, J. Gilkerson, J. A. Richards, F. J. Zimmerman, M. M. Garrison, D. Xu, S. Gray, **U. Yapanel**, Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, April 2009.

"Signal processing for young child speech language development," D. Xu, **U. Yapanel**, S. Gray, J. Gilkerson, J. Richards, J. Hansen, The 1st Workshop on Child, Computer, and Interaction, Chania, Crete, Greece, October 2008.

"Towards and Intelligent Acoustic Front-End for Automatic Speech Recognition: Built-In Speaker Normalization (BISN)," **U. Yapanel** and J. H. L. Hansen, ICASSP'05, Philadelphia, USA.

"Dialect Analysis and Modeling for Automatic Classification," J.H.L. Hansen, **U. Yapanel**, Rongqing Huang and Ayako Ikeno, ICSLP'04, Jeju Island, KOREA.

"CU-Move: Advances in In-Vehicle Speech Systems for Route Navigation," J.H.L. Hansen, X. Zhang, M. Akbacak, **U. Yapanel**, IEEE Workshop in DSP in Mobile and Vehic. Sys., Nagoya, Japan, April 4-5, 2003

"A New Perspective on Feature Extraction for Robust In-Vehicle Speech Recognition," **U. Yapanel** and J.H.L. Hansen, EUROSPEECH'03, Geneva, SWITZERLAND.

"Perceptual MVDR-Based Cepstral Coefficients (PMCCs) for High Accuracy Speech Recognition", **U. Yapanel**, S. Dharanipragada, and J.H.L. Hansen, EUROSPEECH'03, Geneva, SWITZERLAND.

"Perceptual MVDR-Based Cepstral Coefficients (PMCCs) for Robust Speech Recognition", **U. Yapanel** and S. Dharanipragada, ICASSP'03, Hong Kong.

"High Performance Digit Recognition in Real Car Environments," **U. Yapanel**, X. Zhang, and J.H.L. Hansen, ICSLP'02, Denver, USA.

"Use of Wide Band MFCC and Wide Band RCC's for Robust Speaker Identification (Turkish)," M. Selvi, **U. Yapanel**, F. Gurgen, Reg. Signal Proc. Conf., June 2002, DENIZLI-TURKEY.

"Robust Speech Recognition in Noise: An Evaluation using the SPINE Corpus," J.H.L. Hansen, R. Sarikaya, **U. Yapanel**, B. Pellom, Eurospeech 2001, DENMARK.

"'CU-Move': Analysis & Corpus Development for Interactive In-Vehicle Speech Systems," J.H.L. Hansen, P. Angkitittrakul, J. Plucienkowski, S. Gallant, **U. Yapanel**, Eurospeech 2001, DENMARK.

"Robust Digit Recognition in Noise: An Evaluation using the AURORA Corpus," **U. Yapanel**, J.H.L. Hansen, R. Sarikaya, B. Pellom, Eurospeech 2001, DENMARK.

"Keyword modeling Techniques for a Turkish Keyword Spotting System (Turkish)," **U. Yapanel**, M.U. Dogan, L.M. Arslan, Reg. Signal Proc. Conf., April 2001, Gazi Magosa-CYPRUS.

"New Techniques of Correlation Search for Tempest Tests", **U. Yapanel** et al., Regional Conf. on Military Communications, Oct. 2001, Warsaw, POLAND.

"Use of Adaptive Filters in Correlation Analysis (Turkish)," **U. Yapanel**, I. Olcer, Reg. Signal Proc. Conf., June 2000, ANTALYA-TURKEY.

"Information Extraction from VDUs (Turkish)," **U. Yapanel**, I. Olcer, E. Koksaldi, Reg. Signal Proc. Conf., June 2000, ANTALYA-TURKEY.

"Correlation Analysis with Computers: Towards Tests with no Operator (Turkish)," **U. Yapanel**, Reg. Signal Proc. Conf., June 2000, ANTALYA-TURKEY.

"On the Use of Monte Carlo Simulation Method in the Prediction of the RCSs of Stealth Designed Warships (Turkish)," **U. Yapanel**, S. Can, Tech. Conf. of Naval Engineering, Dec., 1999, Istanbul-TURKEY.

"Signal Processing Applications for Information Extraction from the VDUs," **U. Yapanel** et al., Regional Conf. on Military Communications, Oct 1999, Warsaw, POLAND.

Professional Magazine

"Antennas and their applications (Turkish)," **U. Yapanel**, B. Turetken, *Electric-Electronic Mag.*, Vol: 11, Jan 2000.

"Speech Processing Applications for Turkish Language (Turkish)," **U. Yapanel**, L. M. Arslan, *Electric-Electronic Magazine*, Vol:8, Sep 1999.

"Electromagnetic Compatibility (Turkish)," N. Ari, **U. Yapanel**, *Electric-Electronic Mag.*, Vol:6, May 1999.

ACHIEVEMENTS/HONORS

Project Achievement Award of Keyword Spotting, Audience, Inc, 2013

Magnolia Public Schools, Board Secretary, 2016-Present

Magnolia Public Schools, Board President, 2012-2016

Lotus School for Excellence, Board President, 2007-2012

Lotus School for Excellence, Board Secretary, 2005-2007

Reviewer for the ICASSP'08, Las Vegas, NV.

Reviewer for the ICASSP'09, Taipei, Taiwan.

Reviewer for the Automatic Speech Recognition and Understanding (ASRU) workshop, 2007 Japan.

Reviewer for the Electronics and Communication Journal (ETRI), Korea, 2003-Present

IEEE Member, 2000-Present

ISCA Member, 2001-Present

Full Research Assistantship, Univ. of Colorado at Boulder, 2000-2004

Passed the ECE Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam, Univ. of Colorado at Boulder, May 2003
Passed the ECE Ph.D. Preliminary Exam, Univ. of Colorado at Boulder, Jan 2001
Project Completion Achievement Award, UEKAE-TUBITAK, 1999
Second Best Graduating Student of the Faculty, Istanbul Tech. Univ., 1997
Second Best Graduating Student, High School, Balikesir-TURKEY, 1993

REFERENCES

Prof. John H. L. Hansen, Chair, Department of Electrical Engineering and Director of Center for Robust Speech Systems (CRSS), University of Texas at Dallas, john.hansen@utdallas.edu, (972-883-2910)

Dr. Trausti Kristjansson, Manager of Audio Algorithms, InvenSense, Inc, trausti.kristjansson@gmail.com

Dr. Dongxin Xu, (Former) Manager of Software & Engineering, LENA Foundation, dongxin.xu@gmail.com

Prof. Levent M. Arslan, Bogazici University, arslanle@boun.edu.tr



Magnolia Public Schools Board Recruitment Application

DATE: October 1, 2017

This “board recruitment application” is intended to identify individuals interested in serving on the board of Magnolia Public Schools. Appointments to the board are made by the Magnolia Public Schools - Nominating Committee.

1. Name (Attach your Resume and Bio)

Nguyen (Win) A. Huynh – resume attached

2. Statement of Intent

Please describe the specific expertise and experience, as well as personal attributes, that you bring to the board, including service on any other governing boards.

It has been my pleasure to serve on the Board of Magnolia Schools since March 2015. In addition to general member duties, I have served on the Facilities and Personnel Committees. Going forward, I am slotted to serve on the Facilities / Audit and Personnel Committees and will act as alternate on Finance Committee. Serving as Trustee for the last 2.5 years has been incredibly rewarding and humbling and I hope to be of further service to the Magnolia community if appointed to the Board for another term.

My specific experience in debt capital markets, investor relations, facilities finance, marketing, team building, due diligence, financial statement analysis and project feasibility analysis are discrete skills that have been brought to bear in my prior Trustee term and I believe these same skills can be leveraged for Magnolia in the upcoming term. In particular, I believe this Trustee skill set provided real value to Magnolia in the form of customized covenants and improved pricing during the successful closing of the \$25 million Series 2017 AB bonds.

On a personal level, my mentality is team first and I have a deep respect for the experience, values and opinions of all members of the Magnolia community. I believe the way forward is to listen to all viewpoints, work in collaborative manner to identify and align priorities and to execute with laser focus.

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

How will you contribute to the board's ability to monitor the school's academic, operational, and fiscal policies and practices?

As a board member, I will make the utmost effort to ensure that resources, financial and otherwise, are utilized in an efficient and strategic manner to ensure Magnolia deliver the best educational experience possible to its students through the crafting and passage of sound policy. On the personnel front, my focus would be on the recruitment and development of Magnolia's teachers and administrators.

Other areas where I have policy interest include: marketing to parents and students, collaboration with business community, creating a unique and rewarding Magnolia culture and identification of data and metrics to assist in the Board's policy decisions. Thank you.

3. Attach two references with contact information

Reference 1

Name: Ellen Lee

Organization: Gaynor School, NY, NY

Position: CFO

Phone: 917-544-5290

Relation: professional reference

Reference 2

Name: Carlo Mantica

Organization: SPACES – on-demand parking app

Position: President and COO

Phone: 917-498-1026

Relation: professional reference

Nguyen (Win) A. Huynh

EXPERIENCE

GATES Capital Corporation 2002-present
Executive Vice President – Debt Capital Markets / Facilities Finance New York, NY

- Close financing deals by earning client trust and buy-in of proposed financing strategies. Plan and develop active deal pipeline as lead relationship manager with an emphasis on charter schools, not for profits, project finance, real estate developers, multi-family housing and middle market manufacturing companies.
- Identify, devise, structure, market and close complex financial transactions (public and private) including construction, new money, restructure and swap transactions. Oversee financial statement, feasibility analysis, credit review and due diligence of financial transaction through all phases including approval, management, execution and closing. Ability to provide credible strategic viewpoints to management and clients.
- Leverage strong networking skills and established reputation among clients, lending partners and peers to source and secure deal opportunities. Consistent, successful negotiator on behalf of clients and the firm. Superlative public speaking and writing skills with entrepreneurial spirit.
- Expertise in structural enhancements including senior / subordinate structures, senior / residual cash flow structures, letters of credit, bond insurance, liquidity facilities, new market tax credits, low income housing tax credits and Federal Home Loan Bank programs and other governmental grant / loan programs.
- Shared responsibility for the sale, re-pricing, remarketing and oversight of the firm's \$750 million variable rate bond portfolio. Developed and maintained relationships with buy-side money market investors, rating agency credit analysts, and bond trustees.

Goldman, Sachs & Company 2000-2002
Associate – Public Finance Department, Infrastructure Group New York, NY

- Structured and executed financings for airport, toll road, healthcare, and higher education clients. Performed cash flow, financial statement and financial modeling to support debt issuance, ratings review and loan payments.

New York City Water Finance Authority 1998-2000
Analyst New York, NY

- Re-designed, tested, and implemented a comprehensive financial model that tracks outstanding debt, manages a \$600 million commercial paper program, and anticipates capital needs. Support bond issuance.

EDUCATION

Harvard University 1996-1998
Master of Public Policy, International Trade and Finance Concentration Cambridge, MA
Thesis Advisor: Jay Walder, CEO of Motivate / Citi Bikes and former CEO of NYC MTA

University of California at Berkeley 1991-1996
Bachelor of Arts, Political Economy, Honors Berkeley, CA

- Financed education by working as a bartender/server for 30-40 hours a week for 3 years
- Study abroad in full immersion program at Institut d'Etudes Politique, Lyon, France.

OTHER

- Trustee, Magnolia Public Charter Schools, Los Angeles, CA – STEAM focused school system with 3,700 students on ten campuses; experience with charter renewal, charter school facility needs, capital sources including tax exempt bonds, NMTCs and acquisition / leaseback structures.
- Registered Securities Agent - Series 7, Series 3, and Series 63 qualified
- Co-owner, independent coffee shop, nominated NYC's best coffeehouse, 2004-2006



Board Agenda Item #	Agenda # II A
Date:	October 4, 2017
To:	Nominating/Governance Committee
From:	Caprice Young, Ed.D., CEO & Superintendent
Staff Lead:	Ismael Soto, Interim Chief External Officer
RE:	Approval of the Resolution for the Creation of the MPS Advisory Committee

Proposed Board Recommendation

I move that the Governance/Nominating Committee recommend that the full board approves the resolution for the creation of the Magnolia Public Schools - Advisory Committee.

Background

The formation of an Advisory Committee was recommended by the Magnolia Public Schools – Board of Directors and by the Nominating Committee of the same. To recap, the advisory committee will serve as an extension of the MPS Board of Directors with experts in key areas such as STEAM academics, development, operations, facilities and construction, community engagement, athletics, and other concerns that may arise.

Staff created a proposal for such committee which was discussed at length during the September 6, 2017 Governance/Nominating committee meeting. The following items were revised based on the feedback staff received during the meeting.

Revisions Include:

1. Regarding “The MPS Advisory Committee Is Formed To” items:
 - a. Added to Advocate section: “In addition, provide marketing and branding expertise.”
 - b. Added to Consult section: “The Advisory Committee will communicate with the

Magnolia Public Schools Board of Directors via the Advisory Committee chairperson during regular MPS board meetings.”

2. Regarding “Term of Office” items:
 - a. Revised: Previously was a three-year term length, now reads two-year.
 - b. Added: An advisory Committee member can terminate their term at any time.

3. Regarding “Membership” items:
 - a. Revised: Previously was a minimum of 10 members, now reads minimum of 5 members.

4. Regarding “Officers” items:
 - a. Added: “and will serve a minimum of a two-year term. In the case the chairperson cannot attend a meeting, the chairperson will appoint a fellow Advisory Committee member to sit in their place.”

Budget Implications

- No budget implications at this time.

How Does This Action Relate/Affect/Benefit All MSAs?

The Advisory Committee is formed to most importantly *advocate* for all MSA’s. They will be the champions in building the communities necessary to support the growth and success of all MPS schools, which includes sharing knowledge and relationships they have gained over years of experience and networking. It is these networks that can open possibilities to ignite the passions of MSA students. Additionally, the Advisory Committee will *invest* by becoming stakeholders in the academic and financial success of all MPS schools.

Moreover, the Advisory Committee will *consult* by providing valuable counsel to the MPS Board of Directors, executive team, and CEO including input into MPS strategic planning. Having Advisory Committee members with expert understanding of specific education

disciplines within Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and or Math will be of great value to MPS.

Lastly, the Advisory Committee will *fund* by helping to bring community partnerships and financial resources to MPS. The Advisory Committee will also share their expertise and experience in specific areas to key members of the MPS executive team and Board of Directors to make informed decisions for all MSA schools.

Name of Staff Originator:

Ismael Soto - Interim Chief External Officer

Exhibits (attachments):

Revised Advisory Committee Description

Resolution

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

for Magnolia Public Schools

Mission Statement:

Magnolia Public Schools (MPS) provides a college preparatory educational program emphasizing Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) in a safe environment that cultivates respect for self and others.

The MPS Advisory Committee Is Formed To:

- **Advocate** – Be champions in building the communities necessary to support the growth and success of MPS which includes sharing knowledge and relationships. In addition, provide marketing and branding expertise.
- **Invest** – Become stakeholders in the academic and financial success of MPS.
- **Consult** – Provide valuable counsel to the board, executive team, and CEO of MPS including input into MPS strategic planning. The Advisory Committee will communicate with the Magnolia Public Schools Board of Directors via the Advisory Committee chairperson during regular MPS board meetings.
- **Fund** – Assist in bringing community partnerships and financial resources to MPS.

Membership:

There is a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of twenty (20) members of the Advisory Committee.

Selection:

The Board of Directors approves Advisory Committee members. The Advisory Committee will be primarily made up of community leaders, especially those who may become new board of director's candidates. MPS Advisory Committee also includes former board members who may want a reduced commitment but who still are willing to provide expertise and support. This is a non-decision making body and therefore the Conflict of Interest (COI) laws do not apply.

MPS seeks members with expertise from areas the MPS Board of Directors can draw from related to:

- STEAM academics (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics)
- Development
- Operations
- Facilities and Construction
- Community Engagement
- Athletics
- And other concerns that may arise.

Term of Office:

Advisory Committee members may be appointed to up to two two-year terms and may rejoin the Advisory Committee after taking a year off. Members can be considered for a role in the MPS Board of Directors. An Advisory Committee member can terminate their term at any time.

Member Responsibilities:

Each committee member is expected to:

- a) Attend two meetings a year;
- b) Actively participate in the functioning of the committee as his or her time allows;
- c) Allow his or her name and bio to be featured in Magnolia Schools materials as a supporter;
- d) Be available for individual consultations to the CEO, MPS executive team, and the MPS Board of Directors.

Officers:

The MPS Board of Directors, with input from MPS CEO, will appoint a chairperson of the committee. The chairperson will preside at all meetings of the advisory committee and will serve a minimum of a two-year term. In the case the chairperson cannot attend a meeting, the chairperson will appoint a fellow Advisory Committee member to sit in their place.

Meetings:

The advisory committee will hold two meetings a year, usually in the Fall and Spring.



RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Resolution #20171012-1

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is in the best interest of Magnolia Educational and Research Foundation (MERF) that the Advisory Committee be created to operate in support the full board;

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of twenty (20) members.

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee members possess the necessary skill to understand the duties and functions of the Advisory Committee;

WHEREAS, the committee shall be composed of the members nominated by the majority of the MERF Board, which shall be selected during a public meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The Board of Magnolia Educational and Research Foundation (MERF) approve the creation of the Advisory Committee;

PASSED AND ACCEPTED THIS 12th DAY OF OCTOBER 2017.

Magnolia Educational and Research Foundation a California non-profit corporation.

Umit Yapanel, Secretary of the Board

Date