

APPROVED



## Magnolia Public Schools

### Minutes

#### Regular Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Thursday May 22, 2025 at 5:30 PM

**Location**

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

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**Board Members:**

Mr. Mekan Muhammedov, Chair

Ms. Sandra Covarrubias, Vice-Chair

Dr. Umit Yapanel

Dr. Salih Dikbas

Ms. Diane Gonzalez

**Student Board Member:**

Naim Bayraktar

**CEO & Superintendent:**

Mr. Alfredo Rubalcava

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**Directors Present**

D. Gonzalez, M. Muhammedov, S. Dikbas (remote), U. Yapanel

**Directors Absent**

S. Covarrubias

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**Guests Present**

J. Lara

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## **I. Opening Items**

### **A. Call the Meeting to Order**

M. Muhammedov called a meeting of the board of directors of Magnolia Public Schools to order on Thursday May 22, 2025 at 6:13 PM.

### **B. Pledge of Allegiance**

Board, staff and guests conducted the pledge of allegiance lead by N. Bayraktar, MPS Student Board Member.

### **C. Record Attendance and Guests**

Refer to attendance information recorded above.

### **D. Approval of Agenda**

M. Muhammedov made a motion to amend the agenda and remove Action Items VB and VE.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

VB: Approval of Board Resolution to Delegate Authority to CEO for Organizational Restructuring Decisions for MPS Network

VE: Approval of Change Order with Pro-Craft for the Magnolia Science Academy-5 Project

F. Del Carpio, Chief People Officer, and P. Ontiveros, General Counsel & Director of Facilities reported on the removal of these items.

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

#### **Roll Call**

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| S. Dikbas      | Aye    |
| U. Yapanel     | Aye    |
| M. Muhammedov  | Aye    |
| D. Gonzalez    | Aye    |
| S. Covarrubias | Absent |

### **E. Public Comments**

M. Craig, Principal at Magnolia Science Academy-San Diego, made a public comment regarding soccer championship win.

### **F. Announcements - CEO & Superintendent, Board, Student Board Member**

G. Serce, Chief Academic Officer, announced the college acceptance data across MPS.

N. Bayraktar, Student Board Member, announced his college acceptance and choice and would be majoring in molecular and cell biology.

A. Rubalcava, CEO & Superintendent, congratulated the Student Board Member and the work he has done at his school and at the Board level. He announced that Fiona Ma, State Treasurer of California, visited Magnolia Science Academy(MSA)-1 and 5 and met with staff to review data. Additionally, she spoke to 11th grade juniors regarding financial literacy and resources the state has to offer, and spoke to 12th grade seniors about the importance of college. Lastly, A. Rubalcava announced the various graduations and promotions occurring across MPS and encouraged those to attend and celebrate the students.

M. Muhammedov, Board Chair, announced that he visited MSA-Santa Ana and spoke to the Robotics Team who won the National Title. He congratulated the students.

#### **G. Approval of Minutes from MPS Regular Board Meeting - April 10, 2025**

D. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 04-10-25.

U. Yapanel seconded the motion.

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

##### **Roll Call**

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| S. Covarrubias | Absent |
| U. Yapanel     | Aye    |
| D. Gonzalez    | Aye    |
| M. Muhammedov  | Aye    |
| S. Dikbas      | Aye    |

#### **H. Approval of Minutes from MPS Special Board Meeting - May 6, 2025**

D. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 05-06-25.

U. Yapanel seconded the motion.

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

##### **Roll Call**

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| S. Dikbas      | Aye    |
| U. Yapanel     | Aye    |
| S. Covarrubias | Absent |
| M. Muhammedov  | Aye    |
| D. Gonzalez    | Aye    |

## **II. Closed Session**

### **A. Public Announcement of Closed Session**

M. Muhammedov, Board Chair, announced that the Board will be going into closed session to discuss public employee discipline/dismissal release and public employee performance evaluation for CEO & Superintendent.

**B. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal Release (§ 54957)**

Item was discussed in Closed Session.

**C. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (§ 54957) - Title: CEO & Superintendent**

Item was discussed in Closed Session.

**D. Report Out of Closed Session**

M. Muhammedov announced in Open Session at 9:03pm that the Board discussed public employee discipline/dismissal release and directed staff to take action. Also discussed CEO & Superintendent Performance Evaluation and took no action.

**III. Consent Items**

**A. Approval of 2025-26 CTC Form CL-500 Declaration of Need (Emergency Permits)**

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the Commission on Teaching Credential ("CTC") Form CL500 Declaration of Need for all MPS schools in the counties of Los Angeles, San Diego, and Orange for the 2025-26 school year.

M. Muhammedov seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| M. Muhammedov  | Aye    |
| U. Yapanel     | Aye    |
| D. Gonzalez    | Aye    |
| S. Dikbas      | Aye    |
| S. Covarrubias | Absent |

**IV. Information/Discussion Items**

**A. Glows, Grows & Priorities Presentations**

E. Rizzuto, Principal at Magnolia Science Academy (MSA)-4, and J. Choe, Principal at MSA-6, presented their school site's Glows, Grows and Priorities presentations. Board Members thanked the Principals and staff for their continued work and updates.

**B. 2024-25 MPS Educational Partners Survey Results & Reflections and Public Feedback to Inform LCAP**

D. Yilmaz, Chief Accountability Officer, reviewed Educational Partners survey reflections and what was learned from them. He reported on the participation rates by the students, parents and staff as well as areas of improvement. He also reported on the responses to the open ended questions. F. Del Carpio, Chief People Officer, reported on the staff

responses and announced that MPS is now 'Great Place to Work' certified. She also reported on the areas of focus. M. Wittek, Director of Student Services, went over the student responses and planning for next year. B. Olivares, Chief Impact Officer, reported on the parent responses and growth in the communication with families. Questions from the Board were addressed by staff.

### C. Enrollment Update

D. Gonzalez made a motion to move straight to Action Items due to time.

U. Yapanel seconded the motion.

Due to the time before quorum is lost, the Board was recommended to move straight to Action Items. If timing permits, they will revisit the Enrollment Update and Facilities Project Updates.

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

#### Roll Call

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| S. Dikbas      | Aye    |
| M. Muhammedov  | Aye    |
| D. Gonzalez    | Aye    |
| U. Yapanel     | Aye    |
| S. Covarrubias | Absent |

Enrollment Update was not discussed in this meeting due to time.

### D. Updates on Facilities Projects

Updates on Facilities Projects was not discussed in this meeting due to time.

## V. Action Items

### A. Approval of Board Resolution for Restructuring of Position(s) Across MPS Network for the 2025-26 School Year

F. Del Carpio, Chief People Officer, reported on the strategic evolution and approval of resolution to restructure academic and operational positions across the MPS network. She discussed the organizational charts by school site and the Home Office which reflect updated academic staffing models that are a direct step towards the codification of the instructional model and financial priorities. She went over the discussions and planning cycles held throughout the prior months and which were centered around enrollment projections, academic prioritization, budget planning and collaborative staffing models. She stated that they worked collaboratively with the Finance Department to ensure MPS is upholding balanced budgets across the school sites.

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the resolution for restructuring position(s) across the MPS network to strengthen educational programs, support student achievement, and ensure strategic alignment as we enter the 2025–26 school year.

M. Muhammedov seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| S. Covarrubias | Absent |
| M. Muhammedov  | Aye    |
| D. Gonzalez    | Aye    |
| U. Yapanel     | Aye    |
| S. Dikbas      | Aye    |

**B. Approval of Board Resolution to Delegate Authority to CEO for Organizational Restructuring Decisions for MPS Network**

This item was removed during the approval of agenda.

**C. Approval of Addendum to the Strategic Services Agreement with MGT Impact Solutions, LLC**

E. Acar, Deputy Superintendent, discussed the addendum from MGT which is intended to extend MGT's current agreement to include strategic planning services with the co-development of MPS's 5-year strategic plan. He reported that MGT has submitted a new proposal to facilitate the development of the 2030 strategic plan which builds upon the foundational work already completed and leverages MGT's prior experience supporting MPS initiatives. He reported on the timeline which next phase will start mid-May and detailed the phases.

M. Muhammedov made a motion to approve an addendum to the existing Master Services Agreement with MGT Impact Solutions, LLC to support the development of Magnolia Public Schools 2030 Strategic Plan.

U. Yapanel seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| M. Muhammedov  | Aye    |
| S. Covarrubias | Absent |
| S. Dikbas      | Aye    |
| U. Yapanel     | Aye    |
| D. Gonzalez    | Aye    |

**D. Approval of Contract with Local Roofs for the Magnolia Science Academy-1 Middle School Roof Replacement Project**

M. Sahin, Facilities Project Manager, reported that Magnolia Science Academy(MSA)-1 would require a much needed roof replacement at the middle school campus. The current roof is aging and experiences constant leaks and shows signs of progressive deterioration disrupting classrooms and posing safety risks to students and staff. Board Members questions were addressed by staff.

M. Muhammedov made a motion to approve the selection of Local Roofs LLC to replace the roof at the Magnolia Science Academy-1 Middle School campus located at 18238 Sherman Way, Reseda, CA 91335 (the "Project") for a total fee of \$729,660.23 (inclusive of an allowance of \$228,447.68). Additionally, MPS staff recommends including a 10%

contingency of \$72,966.02 to address unforeseen expenses that may arise during the project, bringing the total project authorization to \$802,626.25. MPS staff further requests authorization to negotiate and execute a professional services contract with Local Roofs LLC in a form deemed appropriate and in the best interests of MPS.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| S. Covarrubias | Absent |
| S. Dikbas      | Aye    |
| D. Gonzalez    | Aye    |
| U. Yapanel     | Aye    |
| M. Muhammedov  | Aye    |

**E. Approval of Change Order with Pro-Craft for the Magnolia Science Academy-5 Project**

This item was removed during the approval of agenda.

**VI. 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 9:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
M. Muhammedov