APPROVED

Magnolia Public Schools

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting & MPS Board Retreat

Date and Time
Saturday August 15, 2026 at 10:30 AM

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

Board Members:
Mr. Mekan Muhammedov, Chair
Ms. Sandra Covarrubias, Vice-Chair
Dr. Umit Yapanel
Dr. Salih Dikbas
Ms. Diane Gonzalez
Mr. Serdar Orazov

Student Board Member:
Ms. Ilemi Cordoba

CEO & Superintendent:
Mr. Alfredo Rubalcava

Directors Present
D. Gonzalez, M. Muhammedov, S. Covarrubias, S. Orazov, U. Yapanel

Directors Absent
S. Dikbas

Directors who left before the meeting adjourned
S. Orazov

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 Saturday Aug 15, 2026 at 10:40 AM.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Board members, staff, and guests.

C. Record Attendance and Guests

Refer to the attendance information recorded above. Student Board Member, I. Cordoba was present.

D. Approval of Agenda

M. Muhammedov made a motion to amend the agenda and table the item III.A Brown Act Training and Conflict of Interest Training.
S. Orazov seconded the motion.
I. Cordoba, Student Board Member, gave her preferential opinion as a statement of yes for this item.

Tabled items:
III.A Brown Act Training and Conflict of Interest Training.
All board members will complete the training offline individually.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

E. Public Comments

The Board received one public comment during the public comment period. The speaker shared concerns. The Board acknowledged the public comment and stated that the Board could not respond during the public comment period.

F.

Announcements - CEO & Superintendent, Board, Student Board Member

A. Rubalcava, CEO and Superintendent, shared updates and highlights from the first week of the academic year. G. Serce, Chief Academic Officer, presented key moments from leadership preparations for the new school year, accompanied by photos of school teams, teachers, and staff welcoming students, parents, and families back to Magnolia campuses.
In addition, I. Cordoba, Student Board Member, shared that she had completed her first week of her senior year, expressed excitement for the school year ahead, and thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as Student Board Member and represent the voices of Magnolia students.
The board shared updates from visits to several Magnolia campuses during the first week of school, highlighting the positive school climate, recognizing the efforts of school leaders, teachers, and Home Office staff in supporting a successful start to the school year, and expressing appreciation for the collaboration and dedication demonstrated across the campuses.

G. Approval of Minutes from MPS Regular Board Meeting - July 23, 2026

D. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the minutes from July 23, 2026 Regular Board Meeting on 07-23-26.
S. Covarrubias seconded the motion.
I. Cordoba, Student Board Member, gave her preferential opinion as a statement of yes for this item.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

II. Closed Session

A. Public Announcement of Closed Session

M. Muhammedov, Board Chair, reported that the Board will be going into Closed Session to discuss public employee performance evaluation (§54957) - Title: CEO & Superintendent, and conference with legal counsel - anticipated litigation pursuant to (§54956.9): 1 case, and will report out.

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

Item was discussed in closed session.

C.

Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation pursuant to (§54956.9): 1 case

Item was discussed in Closed Session.

D. Report Out of Closed Session

M. Muhammedov, reported in open session at 4:09 pm that on all items in closed session, the Board took no action and directed staff to take next steps.
S. Orazov left at 3:55 PM.

III. Information/Discussion Items

A. Brown Act Training & Conflict of Interest Training

This item was tabled during the approval of agenda.

IV. Consent Items

A. Approval of Revised 2026-27 School Calendar for Magnolia Science Academy-5

D. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the Revised 2026-27 School Calendar for Magnolia Science Academy-5 (MSA-5).
U. Yapanel seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

V. Action Items

A. Approval of Board Resolution for Creation of Positions for the Magnolia Science Academy (“MSA”)- 5, MSA-6, MSA-Orange County Anaheim School Sites for the Improvement of Educational Programs for Students

G. Serce, Chief Academic Officer, presented the proposed approval of the creation of positions for Magnolia Science Academy 5, Magnolia Science Academy 6, and Magnolia Science Academy Orange County–Anaheim to support the educational programs and operational needs of the schools. He then requested an amendment to the item based on updated enrollment data and staffing needs, recommending approval of only the proposed positions for MSA Orange County–Anaheim while the requested positions for MSA 5 and MSA 6 would be brought back for Board consideration at a future meeting following further review.

M. Muhammedov made a motion to amend the existing motion and approve board resolution authorizing the creation of the following positions immediately: MSA-OC Anaheim: one part-time Custodian, one full-time Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten (TK/K) Teacher Aide, and one full-time Multiple Subject Teacher.
D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.
The amended motion striked out the creation of the following positions:

- **MSA-5:** one part-time IT Technician
- **MSA-6:** one part-time Education Specialist

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

Roll Call

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

B. Approval of Construction and Contractor Change Orders for the Magnolia Science Academy-5 (7111 Winnetka) Project

P. Ontiveros, General Counsel and Director of Facilities, presented the proposed approval of construction change orders for the Magnolia Science Academy 5 project located at 7111 Winnetka Avenue. He explained that the requested change orders include owner-requested modifications, scope adjustments, and credits resulting from the transfer of work between contractors. The net change order amount is $32,699.80 and will be funded through the project's existing contingency budget.
Board members requested clarification regarding the exterior paint change included in the change orders. Staff explained that the modification restored a two-tone exterior design that had been shown in earlier project renderings and was requested by the school.

M. Muhammedov made a motion to approve the proposed construction change orders submitted by the prime contractors, Del Amo Construction (“DAC”), Silver Creek Modular (“SCM”), and Pro-Craft Construction (“PCC”) for the Magnolia Science Academy-5 project located at 7111 Winnetka Ave (the “Project”), in a total net amount equal to Thirty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-Nine and 80/100 Dollars $32,699.80.
U. Yapanel seconded the motion.
I. Cordoba, Student Board Member, gave her preferential opinion as a statement of yes for this item.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

S. Orazov	Absent
S. Covarrubias	Absent

Roll Call

S. Dikbas	Absent
M. Muhammedov	Aye
U. Yapanel	Aye
D. Gonzalez	Aye

C. Approval of Transportation Services for Magnolia Science Academy 5

A. Rubalcava, Chief Executive Officer and Superintendent, presented the proposed approval of transportation services for Magnolia Science Academy 5 to provide temporary student transportation while the school is co-located at Magnolia Science Academy 1. He explained that the service is intended to support families during the temporary relocation, help maintain student enrollment, and would be reflected in a future budget amendment. Board members asked questions regarding the proposed transportation service, including the temporary nature of the program, anticipated student participation, bus capacity, pickup and drop-off logistics, and communication with families. Staff provided clarification on the implementation plan and confirmed that the transportation service would be offered only during the temporary co-location.

M. Muhammedov made a motion to approve a temporary student transportation services agreement with Riders Express for Magnolia Science Academy 5 (MSA-5), at a rate not to exceed $740 per service day, with MPS retaining the right to terminate the service upon 30 calendar days' written notice.
S. Covarrubias seconded the motion.
I. Cordoba, Student Board Member, gave her preferential opinion as a statement of yes for this item.

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

Roll Call

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

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 4:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Muhammedov