Making Waves Academy

Minutes

September Board Meeting

Teaching & Learning

Date and Time
Monday September 14, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Location
In-person at:
Making Waves Academy
4123 Lakeside Dr.
Richmond, CA 94806

And streaming on zoom:
https://mwacademy.zoom.us/j/87855022048?pwd=SVFZNGlTbVVHb1NFYUd2WWNTaW8wQT09
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Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
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COMING SOON

- HAGA CLIC AQUÍ para acceder a la agenda y portadas en español/CLICK HERE to access agenda and cover sheets in Spanish: https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:b0d63deb-2b65-4e64-9482-9d332a156108
- HAGA CLIC AQUI para acceder el reporte escolar/CLICK HERE to access the school board report in Spanish: https://bit.ly/4eLd72o

If you have questions about the board agenda and materials or you are in need of disability-related accommodations, please contact:
Si tiene preguntas sobre la agenda y materiales de la junta o necesita adaptaciones relacionadas con la discapacidad, comuníquese con:
Bryann Fitzpatrick at bfitzpatrick@mwacademy.org or (510) 994-6486.

Public Comment

- The public may address the MWA Board regarding any item within the subject-matter jurisdiction of the MWA governing board.
- Under Public Comment, members of the public may
  - Comment on items on the agenda
  - Comment on items not on the agenda
  - ***Presentations are limited to two minutes each***, or a total of twenty minutes for all speakers, or the two-minute limit may be shortened.
- In accordance to the Brown Act, the MWA Board may listen to comments, but can neither discuss nor take action on the topics presented. Members of the board are very limited in their response to statements or questions by persons commenting on items not on the agenda.

- ***Speakers may submit a request to speak before 9:00 AM on the day of the board meeting, fill out a comment card at the meeting, or raise their hand/use the raise hand function during the public comment sections of the meeting.***
    - ***If you would like to send your request to speak prior to the meeting, please email your request to bfitzpatrick@mwacademy.org*** *in English or Spanish.*
    - *Your submission should:*
        - *indicate if it is a general public comment for the beginning of the meeting or a comment for a specific agenda item (please include the item number).*
        - *include your name so that you can be called when it is your turn to speak.*
    - *During the meeting, we will call your name and you should use the "raise hand" feature to identify yourself.*
- Under SB1036 the minutes from this meeting will omit student and parent names and other directory information, except as required by judicial order or federal law. If a parent/legal guardian wishes a name be included, one must inform the board prior to their public comment.

Comentarios públicos

- *El público puede dirigirse a la Junta Directiva de la MWA con respecto a cualquier asunto dentro de la jurisdicción del tema materia por la Junta Directiva de la MWA.*
- *Bajo comentario público, los miembros del público pueden:*
    - *Hacer comentarios sobre los puntos del orden del día*
    - *Hacer comentarios sobre puntos no incluidos en el orden del día*
    - ***Las presentaciones están limitadas a dos minutos cada una****, o un total de veinte minutos para todos los oradores, o se puede acortar el límite de dos minutos.*

• De acuerdo con la Ley Brown, la Junta Directiva de la MWA puede escuchar los comentarios, pero no discutirán ni tomarán medidas sobre los temas presentados. La respuesta de los miembros de la Junta Directiva a las declaraciones o preguntas de las personas que comentan temas que no figuran en el orden del día es muy limitada.

- ***Mientras las reuniones se llevan a cabo virtualmente, los miembros del publico que desean hablar durante la junta pueden presentar una solicitud para hablar antes de las 9:00 a.m. del día de la reunión de la junta o usar la función de levantar la mano durante las secciones de comentarios públicos de la reunión.***
    - ***Si desea enviar su solicitud de uso de la palabra antes de la reunión, envíe su solicitud por correo electrónico a bfitzpatrick@mwacademy.org*** *en inglés o español.*
    - *En su solicitud:*
        - *Incluya su nombre para que pueda ser llamado cuando sea su turno de hablar.*
        - *indicar si es un comentario público general para el comienzo de la reunión o si es comentario público sobre un artículo específico del programa (incluya el número del artículo).*

    - *Durante la reunión, le llamaremos por su nombre y deberá utilizar la función de "levantar la mano" para identificarse.*
- *En virtud de la SB1036, las actas de esta reunión omitirán los nombres de los estudiantes y padres y otra información del directorio, excepto cuando lo requiera la orden judicial o por la ley federal. Si un padre/tutor legal desea que se incluya un nombre, se debe informar a la junta antes de su comentario público.*

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discapacidad, comuníquese con:

Bryann Fitzpatrick at bfitzpatrick@mwacademy.org or (510) 994-6486.
Please note that all agenda times are estimates.
Tenga en cuenta que todos los horarios de la agenda son estimaciones.

Directors Present
Alicia Malet Klein, Amy Obinyan, Eleanor Boli, Esther Hugo, Kyle Cooper

Directors Absent
Enrique Romero, Felicia Selva

Guests Present
Alton B. Nelson Jr., Bryann Fitzpatrick, Jeremy Cruz Perez

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Alicia Malet Klein called a meeting of the board of directors of Making Waves Academy to order on Monday Sep 14, 2026 at 4:13 PM.

B. Record Attendance

II. Closed Session

A. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

No action was taken.

B. Existing Litigation / Conference with Legal Counsel

No action was taken. The case name remains unspecified because disclosure would jeopardize service of the process.

III. Additional Opening Items

A. Remarks by Board President

The overall strong start to the new school year as evidenced by the reports was noted, as was the absence of ED Liz Martinez for a family emergency in Los Angeles.

Members were reminded to complete the newly required trainings on sexual harassment, sexual abuse and manadated reporting.

Focus Area: Teaching & Learning

WASC/LCAP Goals:
LCAP Goal 1: Support for All Learners
LCAP Goal 2: College and Career Readiness

The board welcomed the new Chief of Staff, Bianca Muonekwu, and 3 new members:

Jeremy Cruz Perez

- Member of the 24th Wave, the second student board member to serve in office.

Eleanor Boli

- Former Dean and Associate Director at MWA for 8 years, now working on economic and community development with an eye to small business.

Kyle Cooper

- Executive in the finance technology industry, has consulted with MWA pro bono and started his career as a high school science teacher with TFA.

B. Public Comment

Two public comments were made.

A MWA alum sharing concerns about MWEF's new scholarship policies.

A MWA parent shared kind regards and appreciation at the starts of the school year and encouraged parents to become involved.

IV. Standing Reports

A.

Mission Connection: Back to School PD

The Board received an overview of the 2026 - 2027 professional development (PD) plan, including the schedule for the year and the focus on instructional practices, student and family support, teacher development, and feedback-driven priorities. Board members discussed the integration of parent engagement opportunities and also encouraged sharing the PD presentation with faculty.

B. ASB Update

ASB President Dipika Thajali and Vice Predisent Jasmin Fajardo gave an update highlighting strong student engagement, including 38,000 views across five ASB media posts and a student voice form to gather feedback and ideas. ASB also identified communication and coordination as areas for improvement, including creating a form for morning announcements.

The upper school ASB intends to invite the middle school ASB members to an upcoming meeting to share their process and help connect students across grade levels.

C. Deep Dive: Strategic Plan

The Board reviewed the progress on the strategic plan’s shift in the North Star from college attainment to economic mobility, including 10-year goals, 3-year targets and 1-year operational steps. Academic outcomes, preliminary test score results, employee retention, and positive impacts of restorative practices were all discussed. The Board identified a need to determine measurable career-focused goals to match the academic goals and discussed potential metrics,such as number of interviews, creation of personal budgets and resumes/brand presence strategies, number of internships, and evidence of networking.

In discussion of the coming integration of college coaching and support into MWA's CCC, it was noted that MWA does not and will not issue college scholarships; that function will continue to live at Making Waves Education Foundation.

It was noted that board members can email any questions to the ED, since she was absent.

D. Q&A on Written School Report: Start of Year Overview

The Board reviewed the start-of-year school reports, including the use of Wayfinder curriculum across all grade levels and the focused instructional coaching in ELA and math. Discussion highlighted the need to continue building content-specific support in science and history through content leads and outside providers.

Regarding the middle school report, it was noted that board members can submit questions to the ED or division director, since they were absent.

E. Q&A on Executive Director Report

The board noted the strong start-of-year results including 97% ADA, improved retention and suspension rates, and increased diversity in the fifth-grade class resulting from the priority changes in the charter. The Board also recognized the leadership team's start-of-year retreat and emphasis on building alignment around instructional priorities, particularly support for English Learners and students with disabilities.

Board questions can be submitted to the ED.

F. Q&A on Written Finance Report

The Board noted the Finance Advisory Committee's recommendation to approve the unaudited actuals later in the meeting and recognized the work of the school's Controller Lawrence Lee while the search is underway to fill vacancies on the finance team.

G. Break

V. Non-Action Items

A. Board Work and Advisory Committee Updates

Culture and Climate Committee: Enrique Romero

- The committee is currently looking to identify the appropriate scope and members. They look forward to having their first meeting with new leadership this semester.

Parent Leadership Team (PLT) and 5C: Felicia Selva

- The PLT has already hosted several outreach events this semester, including the parent/guardian assembly, Back to School Night activities, and the 5C Family Leadership Institute. Their next meeting is on September 30, 2026.

Student Perspectives: Jeremy Cruz Perez

- The Student Board Member shared positive feedback on increased staff and teacher engagement at the start of the school year, and identified inconsistent Wi-Fi access as a concern. The Managing Director of IT and Operations Damon Edwards shared ways to address the issues and will collect broader information from faculty and students.

Enrique Romero and Felicia Selva were unable to attend the meeting, so the board president read updates they provided.

B. Notification on Homeless Liaison

The board has been notified that Lindsey De Leon Rodas, School Counselor, is designated as the homeless liaison for the 2026-27 school year for Making Waves Academy.

VI. Action Items

A. Appoint Expulsion Hearing Officer

Esther Hugo made a motion to Appoint Liz Martinez as the Expulsion Hearing Officer at Making Waves Academy for the 2026-27 school year.
Eleanor Boli seconded the motion.
Jeremy Cruz Perez gave a preferential vote to approve this item.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Extended Learning Opportunities Plan

Amy Obinyan made a motion to Approve the 2026-27 ELO-P, with the condition that the number of students served this year is clarified.
Kyle Cooper seconded the motion.
The board asked for clarification on Marlin Academy's hours and days of service and the number of students served.

Jeremy Cruz Perez gave a preferential vote to approve this item.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Updated Upper School Curriculum List

Eleanor Boli made a motion to Approve the updates to the upper school curriculum list.
Esther Hugo seconded the motion.
Jeremy Cruz Perez gave a preferential vote to approve this item.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Updated 26-27 Bell Schedule

Amy Obinyan made a motion to approve the revised MS bell schedule.
Kyle Cooper seconded the motion.
Jeremy Cruz Perez gave a preferential vote to approve this item.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Making Waves Education Foundation MOU

Esther Hugo made a motion to approve the MOU with MWEF.
Eleanor Boli seconded the motion.
Jeremy Cruz Perez gave a preferential vote to approve this item.

Alicia Malet Klein abstained, given she is also member of the board of MWEF.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. FY26 Unaudited Actuals Report

Kyle Cooper made a motion to Approve the FY26 Unaudited Actuals Report at the recommendation of the FAC.
Amy Obinyan seconded the motion.
Two changes were made: Alton B. Nelson signing instead of Liz Martinez, due to her absence and the submission deadline, and a system true-up on the fund balance (page 6).

Jeremy Cruz Perez gave a preferential vote to approve this item.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VII. Consent Action Items

A. BEI Security Systems Maintenance Contract

Kyle Cooper made a motion to Approve all consent action items.
Esther Hugo seconded the motion.
Jeremy Cruz Perez gave a preferential vote to approve all consent action items.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Prop 28 - Arts & Music Annual Report

Kyle Cooper made a motion to Approve all consent action items.
Esther Hugo seconded the motion.
Jeremy Cruz Perez gave a preferential vote to approve all consent action items.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Vendor Invoices

Kyle Cooper made a motion to Approve all consent action items.
Esther Hugo seconded the motion.
Jeremy Cruz Perez gave a preferential vote to approve all consent action items.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Accept Minutes: June Board Meeting

Kyle Cooper made a motion to approve the minutes from June Board Meeting on 06-15-26.
Esther Hugo seconded the motion.
Jeremy Cruz Perez gave a preferential vote to approve all consent action items.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VIII. Discussion Items

A. Appreciations by the Board of Directors

Appreciations for staff, student leadership, ong-serving Board members, and CEO Alton Nelson in his final year were shared. Strong student engagement, growth in academic outcomes, and the huge expansion of student clubs were also noted.

B. Schedule of Remaining Board of Directors Meetings for 2026-27

- Oct 19, 2026 at 4pm
- Dec 14, 2026 at 11am
- Jan 25, 2027 at 11am
- Mar 8, 2027 at 4pm
- May 3, 2027 at 4pm
- June 14, 2027 at 11am

IX. 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 6:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alicia Malet Klein

Documents used during the meeting

- Copy of MWA PD Approach - 2026-27 - SEP 2026.pdf
- ASB Board Report - September 2026.pdf
- Deep Dive_MWA Strategic Plan Overview_September 2026.pdf
- September 2026_School Board Report_2026-27.pdf
- September 2026_Executive Director Report (2).pdf
- Unaudited_Actual_vs_2nd_Interim_budget_reports.pdf
- Executive_Summary_-_2025-26_Unaudited_Actuals-09.04.26.pdf
- ELOP_ProgramPlan26-27.pdf
- 2026_2027 Curriculum & Textbooks - Upper School.pdf
- MWA Bell Schedule 2026-2027_Pending Approval.pdf
- FY26 MOU MWA-MWEF.pdf
- 2025-26 Unaudited Actuals-Making Waves Academy School.pdf

- 2025-26 Unaudited Actuals-Central Office.pdf
- 2603481 MWA 2026 PM (SEC_03_1260).pdf
- prop28annualreport FY26.pdf
- Bill Payment List - Jun to Aug 2026.pdf
- MWA Board September Deep Dive_September 14 2026.pptx
- Sep Board Meeting Slides_2026.pdf
- September 2026_School Board Report_2026-27_Spanish.pdf