Maple Grove Charter School

A Collaborative Exploratory Learning Charter

Governance Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, June 8th, 2026 TIME: 5:30 pm

Video call link: https://meet.google.com/nap-urqo-yrx Or dial: (US) +1 540-835-0231 PIN: 335 111 160#

Maple Grove Charter School

Mission: Maple Grove Charter School seeks to develop the whole child through the provision of exploratory experiences where students engage in a hands-on approach in project development through cultural connections to our traditions, opportunities, and our greater community.

Vision: Maple Grove Charter School will honor and sustain our proud history and traditions through educational excellence for community students, families, and residents.

1. Call to Order **at 5:32 pm**
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call -Micheal Fasse **- present**, Karen Paul **- present**, Kelly Hirn **- present**, Ashley Lange **- present**, Rebecca Primm **- present (virtual)**, Jeff Artus **- present** and Karen Gauerke **- present**
4. Written notice of this meeting has been posted.
5. Approval of May 2026 Special Meeting Minutes, **as a side note, Kelly talked to Tim about our lottery and he liked the number system but asked what would happen if a parent was present at the meeting and asked to see their child's rank. We are covered here because we could have shown this. There is a Master List tab on the spreadsheet used but it was kept private during the meeting to maintain anonymity. motion by Karen G, second by Michael passes unanimously** May 2026 Meeting Minutes **Rebecca suggestion to update the minutes section 8.1.2 to say 2 TERM limit, not 2 year limit. Ashley to make the change. Motion to approve with changes by Michael, second by Karen G passes unanimously** and Record Review May 2026 **motion by Rebecca, second by Michael passes unanimously**
6. Acknowledge Public Participation – Community members can address the Board if they wish. Public comments are noted and addressed by the Board per the agenda. Any public comments not relating to agenda items will be discussed at an upcoming meeting. **Cindy Artus brought up the Hamburg 150th Anniversary on June 27th. There is a tshirt available to order for $17. Suggested asking the PTO if they want to set up a MGCS table at the event. Cindy also brought up concerns about Hamburg residents being at a disadvantage getting into the school now that we have open enrollment numbers high enough to require a lottery. She emphasized that it was Hamburg residents and voters who rallied to keep MGCS open when it went to Athens from Merrill. Mentioned that the bylaws makes exceptions for children of board members and staff and asked the board to consider doing the same for Hamburg residents. Kelly responded that she has asked WRCCS, lawyers and DPI about this and has been told that we can't cherry pick enrollment like this, but she will ask again about how to delineate**.
7. Recognition - Governance Board, Principal and/or Superintendent may recognize community members, teachers, parents, etc. who have supported Maple Grove Charter School in the past month. **Recognition to Rebecca on her last day serving on the board. Everyone gave thanks and Kelly praised her for all of her work. Kelly mentioned that WRCCS will be using MGCS as an example during their statewide conference on 6/15 - 6/16. She will send out a copy of the video featuring the school. Robin gave a shoutout to the 5th grade class on their graduation and showed a slideshow of photos and memories. Kudos given to the PTO and Jeff and Cindy for being a huge help with the last day cookout. Thank you to Karen G and family for donating a bike again in honor of Kenny and the Fired Up to Read initiative. Recognition given to former MGCS student Ariana Lutzke for winning an award for the Merrill VFW 250th anniversary art contest. She will now advance to the national level, and MGCS received an award for her winning. Robin thanked Ashley and Mike for coming in**

and giving guest lessons on environmental and agriscience topics during summer school. Recognition was given to Mr. Noland of the Merrill School Forest on his retirement. the MGCS 5th grade class was his last trip before retiring, so the PTO sponsored bandanas that said "Last Crew" and a signed canoe oar that were presented to him as a gift. Karen G mentioned that she observed great student behavior at the Fired Up to Read assembly. The kids were very respectful.

8. New Business:
    - 8.1 Contract and Bylaws Review
        - 8.1.1 Contract Update (5 minutes) **signed and onto state level for approval**
        - 8.1.2 Bylaws (15 minutes) Draft Version **In section 5 Kelly brought up ideas to think about in regards to terms limits for officers, which would lead to less turnover and better orientation/handover for officer positions. She made some very slight wording changes. No changes to Section 6. Motion to approve with changes by Michael, second by Ashley passes unanimously**

    - 8.2 Whole Child Learning Plan (10 minutes)
        - 8.2.1 Work Plan: Screening Data, Foxtail Reports, High Quality Work, & Learners Survey - **very detailed and informative presentations given by Robin. Learner survey: 19 questions, craftsmanship was our lowest foxtail, questions about why. Do we need to better define it? Other ideas for better answering next year to have 5th grade read questions to the younger kids, better explain and give examples. Mixing more age groups in fox dens. Robin said it is great to see that 76% of students said "I feel comfortable at Maple Grove." For the work plan, goal was 100% students showing measurable growth in literacy and math using individual growth scores. Data showed that we did not reach 100%, so we will revisit ways to improve for next year. One possibility is that the 60% for lower students is too high of a goal. Another thought is that the new math curriculum was still in the learning and observation phase and will be more of a focus next year on growth. Foxtails: 960 awarded this year, so goal for next year is 1000. They taper off at the end of the year and the older grades seem to give out less which are two areas to focus on next year.**

    - 8.3 Board positions (10 minutes) **There are two openings on the board. Rebecca finished up her 2nd term so per bylaws she must step down from the board. Her officer role as VP will also be open. Karen G. finished up her first term and reapplied for another term. We had 2 additional applicants - Jennica Blaubach and Lauryn Kleinschmidt.**
        - 8.3.1 Vote in incoming Board Members - Applications and LOI **application materials for all 3 applicants were reviewed and discussed. For the two new applicants, both were highlighted as having experience in administrative work and developing processes, which is a great asset. Both are also MGCS parents. A private ballot vote was held in which board members ranked their choices for the two open spots. President Kelly Hirn tabulated the votes and Karen G. received the highest number, Jennica Blaubach received the second highest. Karen G and Jennica will fill the 2 open positions upon formally accepting the offer.**
    - 8.4 Finance Committee (10 minutes) - **Karen updated the board that the committee met with herself, Beth Steinke and Mike present. Talked about continued fundraising efforts as well as looking into grants to apply for. Reminder to look at needs and wants, including outdoor education, ag education and class needs that were given to the board. Discussion about applying for grants and how some of them are very time consuming and intensive. Possible training opportunity for board members and potentially writing a grant process policy for the board. Ashley to look into USDA grant for grant application and writing. There is a grant coming up due 6/30 through Ag Country that we would need specific information for, and it is likely we may not have enough time to get it done but would look into it.**

9. Ongoing Business:
    9.1 Principal's Report (5 minutes)
    9.2 Superintendent's Report (5 minutes)
        9.2.1 Update on feasibility studies - **Andrea updated us that a preliminary report on results of the study will be available next Monday with a formal report given to the Board of Education 2-3 weeks later. The results and finalized report will be shared with the community in a mailing that comes out in October of this year.**
        9.2.2 Review and vote on district policies to adopt or adapt as needed for MGCS.
            9.2.2.1 Student Code of Classroom Conduct 5500 **this was due to a clerical error, no decisions need to be made, just an update to the board for awareness.**
        9.2.3 School budget **fiscal year ending July 1st, went over the last of the budget numbers for the year. MGCS came in under budget at 78% of our 1 million dollar budget. The paperwork audit was started. Andrea credited this to stable conservative budgeting.**

    9.3 FOMG Budget (5 minutes) **reconciled bank statement and in good shape. Only outstanding item is the bill from thank you cards. Question about moving sap fund into a CD or money market savings account. Will look into this for next year. current budget approval Motion by Karen G, second by Michael, passes unanimously.**
        9.3.1 Approve the Budget for the Upcoming Year - **motion by Ashley, second by Jeff passes unanimously.**
    9.4 PTO Updates (5 minutes) **they did not have a meeting this month, no updates. Jeff gave a big kudos to the PTO for all their hard work and involvement during end of year activities.**

    9.5 Maple Grove Foundation Updates (5 minutes) **712 Creative has been hired to update marketing and fundraising materials. Kwik Trip card sales will continue over the summer. The foundation will be sponsoring new cabinets downstairs as well as end of year events. Ashley gave a big thank you to the foundation for covering outstanding lunch balances. Talked about how school districts in the area have very large lunch debt and it is a very big problem. We are lucky to have a group willing to help with this.**
10. Adjournment **at 7:39 pm motion by Mike, second by Ashley passes unanimously**