

Maple Grove Charter School

Governance Board Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, August 17th, 2026 TIME: 3:15 pm (Google Meet Enabled)

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 **3:18 pm**
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call -**Micheal Fasse - present, Karen Paul- present, Kelly Hirn- present, Ashley Lange- present (virtual), Jeff Artus - present, Jennica Blaublach- present (virtual), and Karen Gauerke - present**
4. Written notice of this meeting has been posted.
5. Approval of [June 2026 Meeting Minutes](#) and [Record Review June 2026](#) Jeff pointed out in the minutes it should say credit goes to the Rib Falls Methodist Church, not the Foundation, for paying off the student lunch debt. Also it should credit the PTO, not the Foundation, for paying for new cabinets in the office. Motion by Mike to approve the minutes with the revisions. Second by Karen G. Passes unanimously. Motion by Mike to approve the Record Review writeup. Second by Jeff. 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 recognized Sabrina Riehle and Annette Garza-Neske for setting up a PTO table at the Hamburg anniversary celebration.**
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. **Robin gave a huge recognition to the summer maintenance staff, including high school student workers, for all of the big projects they completed over the past several months to prepare for the new year. She asked the board members to consider sending some sort of card, letter, etc to teachers and staff at the start of the year to thank them and show support for them. It would mean a lot to hear from the board. She shared that the teachers call every student's parents with a positive update to start the year, and also send postcards to the kids in the mail. During testing, parents are asked to write supportive letters to their students. These are several ways the Maple Grove community supports one another. Beth and Robin will send a list of teachers to the board for this.**
8. New Business:
 - 8.1 Contract and Bylaws Review
 - 8.1.1 [Contract](#) Goals (5 minutes) Kelly will get physical copies of the charter and printed copies of the contract and bylaws for all members. Board reviewed the goals that had been determined by the Operations Committee: academic growth in reading and math, character development and positive school culture with a focus on CRISP values. This year was for setting the goals, gathering data and creating baselines. Moving forward can start to look at whether we are meeting goals.
 - 8.1.2 Review of the [Lottery Process](#) question whether we need to make changes to referencing specific open enrollment and registration dates. Options are to change the dates in the document every year, or to reference DPI with links. This worked and DPI likes this option, so it is recommended we go with this. Motion by Ashley to follow the wording used by the state with

links to DPI for specific dates, and to take out specific dates in item G. Second by Mike. Passes unanimously. Update from Kelly that DPI says we can't legally give preferential treatment to Hamburg residents for enrollment, however the closest we can do is to allow a district preference. There is a specific list of preferences we can choose from, and district is one. This past year all district applicants were accepted, including those from Hamburg.

8.2 [Board positions](#) (10 minutes)

8.2.1 Vote incoming Board Officers call for nominations for President was made. Mike nominated Kelly and she accepts. No other nominations. Verbal vote unanimously passes in favor of Kelly, with one abstention. Kelly Hirn will remain as board president. Call for nominations for Vice President was made. Karen G nominated Ashley and she accepts. Jeff nominated Mike and he accepts. Karen G motion to close nominations, second by Mike, passes unanimously. Because there are multiple nominations, a private ballot vote is required. Votes were cast and ballots collected and read by Kelly. 5 votes for Ashley, 1 vote for Mike, 1 abstention. Mike motion to accept Ashley as Vice President, Karen G second, passes unanimously. Ashley Lange will be board vice president. Call for nominations for Secretary was made. Ashley nominated Jennica and she accepts. Mike motion to close nominations, Jeff seconds, passes unanimously with one abstention. Jennica Blaublach will be board secretary. Call for nominations for Treasurer was made. Jeff nominated Karen Paul and she accepts. Motion to close nominations by Mike, second by Jeff, passes unanimously. Karen Paul will remain board treasurer.

8.3 Board Retreat Update: (10 minutes) Black Creek Coffee sent Karen G a thank you note for choosing to have our retreat there. Kelly pointed out that the board has come a long way and has made a lot of progress based on the assessment answers. She also shared that there seemed to be a lot of consensus in the answers which feels like the board is very aligned on where we excel and where we need improvement. Some assessment categories she highlighted were: parent and community involvement - we have this and are good at this but not necessarily as part of a plan or strategy. Ideas to improve this include actively looking for involvement in the modules, curriculum support, classroom support, and logistics. Suggestion that the board owns a survey that gauges what teachers need from the community, and where community strengths lie to create a list of resources. Ashley to own this, potentially as part of the Marketing Committee. Robin gave an update on the district volunteer policy, continue to do background check on a regular basis but also adding Act 89 which is a new DPI policy to combat grooming in schools. Other ideas are better getting word out about events, having the Secretary regularly share to the Athens and Hamburg Facebook pages, getting a list of PTO parents who can help for each event and having governance board members on the list, door prizes and incentives for helping. Also discussed board giving review and feedback to leadership. We regularly review at each meeting with Robin and Andrea and have a great relationship, but the report/feedback process isn't structured and we need a structured strategy. Something for Ops Committee to work on.

8.3.1 Approve Record Review Sooner discussed several options for how this could happen: possibly keep the larger write-up with a synopsis of meeting that is approved at next month's meeting, but have a smaller blurb with important information and dates approved at the end of current meeting. Possibly have the larger write-up completed during the meeting so it can be approved and sent in right away. Question if secretary would do both write-ups, or if there could be help. Jennica said she feels comfortable writing both up during each meeting so they can be approved at the end, and will trial it in September and October. Wants to go over current process with Ashley to see if there is a better structure to follow. Motion by Karen to try this for two months, second by Ashley, passes unanimously. Ashley mentions that she and Jennica will be meeting before September meeting to do training and onboarding, will include framework for the Record Review write-up.

8.3.2 Move meeting to 5pm motion by Mike, second by Karen G, passes unanimously

8.3.3 Pay for Retreat Lunch \$85 motion by Mike to cover the cost and reimburse Kelly, second by Jeff, passes unanimously. Karen will get receipt from Kelly.

9. Ongoing Business:

9.1 [Principal's Report](#) (5 minutes) enrollment at 135, cap at 146. Kindergarten, 2nd and 3rd are each at capacity. Offers have been made for Library Specialist, 1st grade teacher, paraprofessional to be approved at tonight's district meeting. Still need music and art, could be split half time for each at about 10-20 hours per week split with AES. Open house will be next week Thursday 8/25 from 2-6. Another big thank you to the summer custodial team for refinishing the beautiful original hardwood floor in the library, replacing paneling in the entry, stairs and downstairs. Thanks to the foundation for paying for hallway flooring into the office, the PTO for a new office desk. The school got new internet which will hopefully have less outages, and the gym fan was installed. Thanks to Scherer Construction for creating and donating "Buddy Benches" for both inside and outside the school.

9.1.1 Any updates to the student handbook? the new cell phone policy which is a state law will take effect in all district schools. No phones are to be out during instructional time. At Maple Grove specifically there will be no caffeinated beverages or soda allowed for lunch.

9.2 Superintendent's Report no budget report, final was given in June.

9.3 [FOMG Budget](#) (5 minutes) everything balanced and reconciled, will add reimbursement for lunch to next meeting. Discussed with Robin options for CD and money market rates. Motion to approve budget by Mike, second by Jeff, passes unanimously.

9.4 PTO Updates (5 minutes) no updates, and will need to figure out another way to get this report as Rebecca was a PTO member and could give updates. Jennica mentioned she hopes to be able to join the PTO and attend as many meetings as she can. Robin is also an option to attend. Could possibly get a list of bullet points from Rebecca or someone else on the PTO.

9.5 Maple Grove Foundation Updates (5 minutes) they took well-deserved time off for the summer. Only update is that they plan to have a table with popcorn bags and a letter at the open house to market the foundation. Reminder to check the list of things PTO can't/won't cover (including teacher wish list) and give to foundation. Karen G suggested to ask parents to check with their employers about whether they have foundations or donation processes where they could donate to the school.

10. Adjournment at 4:48 pm motion by Mike, second by Jeff, passes unanimously.