

A.G.B.U. ALEX & MARIE MANOOGIAN SCHOOL
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 569-2988

PROPOSED BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES
Thursday, June 18, 2026

Attendance

Dickran Kurjian – **PRESENT**
Esther Lyons – **PRESENT**
Dr. Linda Darian Karibian – **PRESENT**
Steve Grigorian – **PRESENT**
David Terzibashian – **PRESENT**
Dr. Greg Karapetian – **PRESENT**
Ara Topouzian – **PRESENT**
Ane McNeil – **ABSENT**
Sonia Kalfayan Principal, Lower & Middle Schools - **PRESENT**

Public - Guests

Jennifer Joubert – CMU Authorizer
Adam Holcomb, MAST Financial
Terri Blohm - Scribe
Teresa Shekerdeman - Scribe

I. OPENING MEETING ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Dickran Kurjian called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

B. Verification of Quorum

Dickran Kurjian declared that a quorum was present.

C. Approval of Agenda

David Terzibashian moved to approve the agenda as presented; Ara Topouzian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments.

III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES OF APRIL 23, 2026

Ara Topouzian moved to approve the Board minutes of April 23, 2026, Dr. Linda Darian Karibian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

IV. BUDGET HEARING

A. Open the Budget Hearing – Dickran Kurjian

Steve Grgorian moved to open the Budget Hearing, Ara Topouzian seconded the motion.

The Motion Carried 7 and 0.

Dickran Kurjian stated that the Michigan Department of Education requires that school boards hold public budget hearings to comply with the Accounting Act and the Michigan Open Meetings Act. The 2026-2027 budget has to be approved before June 30, 2026.

Adam Holcomb from MAST Financial Group will present the amended 2025-2026 budget and the proposed budget for the school year 2026-2027.

B. 2025-2026 Amended Budget – Adam Holcomb, MAST Financials

Adam Holcomb stated the following on the 2025-2026 amended budget:

- A. Budget increased 3%
- B. MPSERS pension plan healthy
- C. Cash flow remains strong

- C. 2026-2027 Proposed Budget-Adam Holcomb, MAST Financial Group
 - A. 2026-2027 budget based on enrollment of 412 students
 - B. Proposed foundation allowance is \$10,300 when State of Michigan legislature passes the proposed increase. This is a \$250 increase from 2025-2026.
 - C. On August 4, 2026, Oakland County residents will be asked to consider a new Regional Enhancement Millage. If passed, additional funds may be available in January 2027.
 - D. Salary increase of 2% for teachers/staff
 - E. Health care increase of 15%
- D. Public Comment
 - Dickran Kurjian stated that the rent renewal is not due at this time.
- E. Close the Budget Hearing
 - Ara Topouzian moved to Close the Budget Hearing and Dr. Greg Karapetian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

V. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. **Principal's Report**

Sonia Kalfayan, Principal Lower/Middle School

Sonia Kalfayan stated that the 2025-2026, K-12 enrollment was 417 students. For the school year 2026-2027, K-12 enrollment is 409 students. The Manoogian School will not know the actual number of students enrolled until August when school starts.

B. **Committee Reports**

Academic Report – Esther Lyons

Esther Lyons stated there was no report.

Sonia Kalfayan, Principal Lower/Middle School

Sonia Kalfayan reviewed the NWEA test results. The math, reading and science scores were good in kindergarten through eighth grade. All k-8 grades exceeded the 50% benchmark set by Central Michigan University.

Teachers will review the NWEA results and will develop an improvement plan for each subject area. Parents will receive the test results for their students in the mail.

Armenian Report – David Terzibashian

David Terzibashian stated that he met with Sebouh Avedikian and Armenian teachers to compare the Armenian Language testing results from January to June. The results showed improvement. From the test results the Armenian faculty will concentrate on improving spelling and developing a better Armenian sentence structure.

Armenian programs will be added again to the 2026-2027 school calendar. Programs will honor Translator's Day, Armenian Cultural Day, Armenian Independence and Vartanantz Day.

Human Resources Report – Sonia Kalfayan

Sonia Kalfayan stated that there is a vacancy for a high school English teacher. Lorna Girgin (Vorsganian) will not be returning. Meagan Eggenberger will replace Abby Vargas.

Alumni Task Force – Steve Grigorian

Steve Grigorian stated that the alumni Task Force has been suspended until September.

AI Task Force – Steve Grigorian

Steve Grigorian stated that the AI Task Force has decided to focus on three areas after consulting CMU policies:

- Academic Integrity
- Data Privacy
- Student Safety

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of 2025-2026 Amended Budget

Ara Topouzian moved to approve the 2025-2026 Amended Budget; and Dr. Linda Darian Karibian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

B. Approval of 2026-2027 Budget

Ara Topouzian moved to approve the 2026-2027 Amended Budget; and Dr. Linda Darian Karibian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

C. Approval of MAST Financial Contract

Dr. Greg Karapetian moved to approve the MAST Financial Contract; and David Terzibashian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

D. Approval of Shared Services Agreement with Holly Academy

Ara Topouzian moved to approve the Shared Services Agreement with Holly Academy and Dr. Linda Darian Karibian; seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

E. Approval of Reappointment Nominations for Dr. Linda Darian Karibian and Mr. Ara Topouzian

David Terzibashian moved to approve the Reappointment Nominations for Dr. Linda Darian Karibian and Mr. Ara Topouzian; Dr. Greg Karapetian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

F. Approval of Audit Engagement Letter

David Terzibashian moved to approve the Audit Engagement Letter; Dr. Linda Darian Karibian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

G. Approval of Lease Renewal (Pending approval from CMU)

Tabled to August meeting.

H. Approval of Michigan High School Athletic Association Agreement

Esther Lyons moved to approve the Michigan High School Athletic Agreement; and David Terzibashian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

I. Approval of Budget Reduction Proposal

The Education Committee, the Finance Committee, Adam Holcomb, MAST and Sonia Kalfayan met to discuss the current budget deficit and the declining enrollment at the school. After much deliberation it was decided to eliminate the position of high school principal due to the declining enrollment in the high school and to reduce the deficit. Dickran Kurjian consulted with the Manoogian School's attorney on restructuring the school to one principal.

Ara Topouzian moved to approve the Budget Reduction Proposal; and David Terzibashian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

- J. Approval of Date Change from September 17th to September 24th Board Meeting
Esther Lyons moved to approve the date change to September 24, 2026, Board Meeting and Ara Topouzian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

- K. Approval of Emergency Operations Plan
Dr. Greg Karapetian stated that Michigan requires all public schools to adopt the Standard Response Protocol developed by I Love U Guys Foundation as the statewide standard for Emergency Operations Plan. He then distributed to each board member the Emergency Action Plan with details. The plan has 5 categories: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, Shelter.

Ara Topouzian moved to approve the Emergency Operations Plan and David Terzibashian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

- L. Approval of New Board Policies of the Student Handbook
Esther Lyons reviewed the new Manoogian School policies for administration and for the student handbook which had been sent to the board members prior to the board meeting. The new policies for administration were on texting and graduation. The new student policies for the student handbook were on graduation and student drivers on the school campus.

Ara Topouzian made the following suggestions to improve clarity on the policies:

1. Add administrators along with teachers on texting.
2. On written notice state within 5 days
3. Student drivers add - to comply with Michigan motor vehicle laws and school policies

Ara Topouzian moved to approve the New Board Policies of the Student Handbook and Esther Lyons seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 7 and 0.**

VII. COMMENTS FROM THE AUTHORIZER

Jennifer Joubert reminded the board to register for Central Michigan University Annual Conference on August 19, 2026, at Huntington Place in Detroit, Michigan

VIII. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ara Topouzian suggested two items:

1. That we add a section in the agenda toward the end of each board meeting called Board Comments or Unforeseen. The intent is to give board members an opportunity to comment on anything related to the meeting or for the betterment of the school.
2. Requested that the committee reports and any other materials that the board needs to approve should be received at least one week prior to the board meeting.

David Terzibashian suggested that board members should wear name tags when they are attending school events.

Sonia Kalfayan stated that no payment has been received from the individual who damaged the flagpole. Further action will be taken for financial damages.

Dickran Kurjian stated that Audrey Armoudlian was a valued employee and thanked her for her years of service at the Manoogian School. He wished her well in her future endeavors.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 P.M. A motion was made by Ara Topouzian and seconded by Dr. Linda Darian Karibian to adjourn the board meeting. The next board meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2026, at 5:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Esther M. Lyons".

Esther M. Lyons
Board Secretary