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

PROPOSED BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES
Thursday, August 20, 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 – **PRESENT**
Paul Andonian **- PRESENT**
Sonia Kalfayan Superintendent/Principal K-12 - **PRESENT**

Public - Guests
Jennifer Joubert – CMU Authorizer
Ryan Maxwell – High School Head Teacher
Dzovinar Hamakorzian – Elementary Head Teacher
Terri Blohm - Scribe
Teresa Shekerdemian - Scribe

I. OPENING MEETING ITEMS

A. Call to Order
Dickran Kurjian called the meeting to order at 5:04 P.M.

B. Verification of Quorum
Dickran Kurjian declared that a quorum was present.

C. Approval of Agenda
Ara Topouzian moved to approve the agenda as presented; Steve George seconded the motion.
The Motion Carried 9 and 0.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments.

III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2026

Steve Grigorian moved to approve the board minutes of June 18, 2026, as presented, Dr. Linda Darian Karibian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 9 and 0.**

IV. NEW MEMBER OATH OF OFFICE

Dickran Kurjian introduced Paul Andonian and welcomed him to the Board.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT

David Terzibashian stated the following:

- Cash flow remains strong
- Adam Holcomb and Ed Bedikian are currently working on the audit and the audit will be completed in September. The deadline for completion of the audit is November 1, 2026.
- No financial changes during July and August.
- Michigan legislators passed the increase for the foundation allowance to $10,300 per student. This is an increase of $250 from the previous school year.
- Payroll transition to Holly Academy is going well.
- Looking into paying vendors electronically.

Dr. Linda Darian Karibian moved to approve the Financial report as presented; and Ane McNeil seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 9 and 0.**

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Principal's Report

Sonia Kalfayan, Superintendent/Principal K-12

Sonia Kalfayan reviewed the enrollment numbers as presented in her report. Enrollment numbers will change once school beings on August 31, 2026. Ara Topouzian requested a report of the total enrollment for the last five years.

Sonia Kalfayan stated the following:

- Washington Trip is scheduled for September 26-29, 2026. Chaperones will include three faculty and three parents.
- Faculty will return to school on August 24, 2026. Faculty will have ALICE training, CPR during the week.
- Meet & Greet/Orientation will be on August 28, 2026. Parents and students will have an opportunity to meet their teachers and visit the classrooms. Middle and High School students will attend orientation and set up their lockers.

Terri Blohm will continue to email all board members The Weekly which will contain all school events and activities.

Dr. Greg Karapetian moved to approve the principal's report as presented; and David Terzibashian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 9 and 0.**

B. Committee Reports

Academic Report – Esther Lyons

Esther Lyons presented to the board three items:

1. Key policy and legislative changes for the school year 2026-2027. Alerted the board that for the school year 2027-2028, there will be teacher training in the Science of Reading and dyslexia screening for K-3 students.

2. The Michigan high school graduation requirements.

3. The School Advance Administrator Evaluation System which features 5 domains which principals are held accountable: Results, Leadership, Systems, Processes, and Capacity.

Sonia Kalfayan discussed the Academic Performance Report and stated that the school scored above the 50% percentile. Sonia also stated that Kandy Fowler from CMU will meet with faculty to review Academic Performance Report. Sonia stated that the M-Step scores have not yet been released, however once it is available, she will present at the September Board meeting.

Sonia Kalfayan stated that senior student, Jurius Azar, will assist Robert Schroeder with the after-school Robotics Program.

Armenian Report – David Terzibashian

No report at this time.

Human Resources Report – Sonia Kalfayan Superintendent/Principal K-12
Sonia Kalfayan stated that the following positions have been fulfilled:

- Middle School Social Studies: Holly Bailey
- High School English: Meagan Eggenberger
- High School English: Tim Caldwell
- High School Math: Dr. Anca Stefan
- All School Counselor: Sherri Medvedik
- Armenian Teacher: Natella Bedrossian
- STEAM Center: Robert Schroeder (reassigned)

Teachers not returning:
Jeremy Callahan - Robotics/Automotive
Arus Movesyan - Armenian Language

Alumni Task Force – Steve Grigorian
Steve Grigorian stated that he had spoken with Principal Sonia Kalfayan about her being replaced on the Alumni Task Force committee because of her added responsibility of being in charge of the entire Manoogian School.

The Alumni Task Force committee has been purposely dormant until September.

AI Task Force – Steve Grigorian
Steve Grigorian stated that the AI Task Force committee has decided to focus policy addendums initially on three areas of AI. They are:

- Academic Integrity
- Data Privacy
- Student Safety

The completed report will be presented at the October board meeting.

Ara Topouzian moved to approve the Committee Reports as presented; and Dr. Linda Darian Karibian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 9 and 0.**

VII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Lease Renewal
Dickran Kurjian stated that a three-year lease was signed. The lease has been changed from $10,000 per year to the following: first year $8,000, second year $9,000, third year $10,000.

Dr. Greg Karapetian moved to approve the Lease Renewal; and Ara Topouzian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 9 and 0.**

B. Approval of Board Policy-Academic Grades/Student Behavior
Esther Lyons stated that the board had received the policy on keeping academic grades separate from classroom behavior. She was recommending that the board approve this policy.

Ara Topouzian moved to approve the Board Policy Academic Grades/Student Behavior as presented; and Dr. Greg Karapetian seconded the motion. **The Motion Carried 9 and 0.**

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE AUTHORIZER

Jennifer Joubert thanked the board for attending the Central Michigan University Annual Conference, which was held on August 19, 2026, at Huntington Place in Detroit, Michigan. She stated that CMU will send surveys to all participants.

Jennifer Joubert stated that she has met with Ara Topouzian and Dr. Linda Darian Karibian for their reappointment discussions. We discussed the possibility of holding a Board retreat to discuss future planning.

Jennifer Joubert congratulated Esther Lyons and Dickran Kurjian on receiving an award for their 30 years of service as Board Members.

IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Steve Grigorian suggested a board retreat to discuss strategic board goals.
President Dickran Kurjian appointed Dr. Linda Darian Karibian to organize a board retreat.

Dickran Kurjian stated that the Special Projects Golf Outing was a success. Next year's Golf Outing has been scheduled for August 2, 2027.

X. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

XI. ADJOURNMET

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 P.M. A motion was made by Esther Lyons and seconded by Dr. Linda Darian Karibian to adjourn the board meeting. The next board meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2026, at 5:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther M. Lyons

Esther M. Lyons
Board Secretary