



Karl G. Maeser Preparatory Academy

TRUTH HONOR VIRTUE



MEETING MINUTES

Karl G. Maeser Preparatory Academy
Public Board Meeting
December 9th, 2025
7:00 pm

OPEN SESSION

Start Time: 7:00 pm

End Time: 9:20 pm

Members Present: Cynthia Shumway Sandra Russell, Steve Whitehouse, Jo Anna Larsen, Richard Dodge

Members Absent:

Students Present: Tyler Ames, Matty Simmons

Staff Present: Robyn Ellis, Laura Ure, Casey Holmes, Lane Riley

Public: Kyle Painter (Disrupters Media), Kathy Phelps, Jordan Thompson (Clear Point), Jonathan Gadd

Cynthia Shumway called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

BOARD BUSINESS

- It was determined that there was a quorum present.
- The Pledge was recited.
- **MOTION:** Jo Anna Larsen moved to approve the minutes from [November 11th, 2025](#) as amended. Sandra Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed. Cynthia Shumway abstained.
- Next meeting is scheduled for January 13th, 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jonathan Gadd, a parent at Maeser came to share frustrations with the school canceling the Mr. Maeser Pageant.

LEA REPORT-Robyn Ellis

- Marketing:
 - Disrupters Media, represented by Kyle Painter, provided an update of their work to date, including the new website, logos, video assets and social media clips.
 - Kyle also presented options for future engagement.
- Kathrine Payne is moving out of state in January, so we will be welcoming Clara Wright as the middle school drama teacher.
 - **MOTION:** Jo Anna Larsen moved to ratify the hiring of Clara Write as well as approving her LEA specific license. Steve Whitehouse seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approved 2/10/26



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DIRECTORS REPORT-Robyn Ellis

- Last week of class. Next week starts review and finals.
- Friday is the Board and Faculty Christmas Party.
- HS basketball has now started.

DISCUSSION & APPROVAL

- IT Safety Presentation/Cyber Security Presentation by Checkpoint
 - Jordan presented where we, as a school, are at risk through our email system and how his company can help and protect our school from cyber attacks.
 - **MOTION:** Steve Whitehouse moved to give the Budget Committee the authority to evaluate options and make a decision, in consultation with Administration, on what to do moving forward with the IT/Cyber Security protection plan. Jo Anna Larsen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- [MSI Proposal Template](#)
 - With extra innovation grant funds, there are some MSI proposals to allow some bigger dollar item projects to take place.
 - **MOTION:** Sandra Russell moved to approve the MSI proposals and the application for the grants. Richard Dodge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET-Steve Whitehouse

- Field Bleachers Purchase
 - We are still working on pricing out aluminum bleachers vs concrete bleachers.
- Benefits Renew
 - Steve shared benefit options and recommended that medical benefits remain with the current provider, Select Health, and that we change dental to Principal Insurance.
 - **MOTION:** Jo Anna Larsen moved to approve the benefits renewal as discussed. Sandra Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Advancement Committee Budget
 - The Advancement Committee has requested a budget of \$13,000 for the remainder of the school year.
 - **MOTION:** Sandra Russell moved to approve the Advancement Committee budget as presented. Richard Dodge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FACILITIES/MAINTENANCE-Richard Dodge

- Still working on the logistics for adding lockers to the new addition.
- Everything, on the construction, is moving along well.

SCHOOL POLICIES/LEGISLATIVE

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ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE: Jo Anna Larsen

- Jo Anna and her student team (Senior Capstone project) provided updates on the new website.
- The donations policy will be reworked and brought back for discussion next month.

CURRICULUM-Cynthia Shumway & Robyn Ellis

- [Foreign Language Films](#) (line 10 in the document)
 - **MOTION:** Jo Anna Larsen moved to approve the foreign language films as presented. Sandra Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- [Region/State Drama list](#), [MS One Act proposal](#), [Broadway Rocks Updated list](#) will go up for final approval at next months meeting.

WINTERIM-Sandra Russell

- Doping for Gold film
 - **MOTION:** Steve Whitehouse moved to approve the use of Doping for Gold with the disclosure agreement and the ability for parents to opt out their students. Richard Dodge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Jo Anna Larsen moved to move into closed session for the discussion of personnel, litigation and items pertinent to Utah Code Subsection 52-4-205(1)(a), (1)(f), or (2). Steve Whitehouse seconded. Steve (aye), Jo Anna (aye), Sandra (aye), Richard (aye), Cynthia (aye).

CLOSED SESSION

Start Time: 9:28 pm

End Time: 10:05 pm

MOTION: Steve Whitehouse moved to return back into open session. Steve Whitehouse seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Start Time: 10:07 pm

End Time: 10:07 pm

Steve Whitehouse moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned.

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at:

Recording: https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1W7yr2J5HWYSOx8M_qDh0rolqt0rqLrvC

Minutes: <https://maeserprep.org/board-meeting-minutes/>

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Materials: https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1Jrl7IeZmpdtjBlEQp6Syt_hXzkZF0cZm