

MEETING MINUTES

Board Meeting

Date: September 14, 2026 – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Hybrid – 11 Resnik Rd. Plymouth & Zoom Virtual

Attendees:

Liza Veto, (Chair), Zoom

Rachel Babcock, (Co Director and Board Member), at Map Academy

Shaun Adamec (Board Member), Zoom

Adam Earle (Treasurer), Zoom

Aja Isaacson (Board Member), Zoom

Anre Dowell (Board Member), Zoom

Josh Charpentier (Co Director and Board Member), at Map Academy

Mike Balaschi (Assistant Director), at Map Academy

Steve Sell (Assistant Director) – Zoom

Absent

Kerin McGue

Mindy Savage

1. Call to Order/Attendance

Liza Veto called the meeting to order at **4:05 PM**. Attendees introduced themselves.

a. Public Comment

Rachel Babcock confirmed that there were no public comments.

2. Consent Agenda

a. 9/14/26 Co-directors Report

Liza Veto introduced the consent agenda, and requested that the co-director's report be displayed to highlight specific items. Liza Veto drew attention to the end-of-year state data collections and submissions, describing this as a significant behind-the-scenes effort that involved reporting detailed information regarding students, teachers, and provided supports to the state. Liza Veto commended the staff for this work and directed attendees to the report for further details. She then highlighted the enrollment numbers, noting that while the maximum capacity for Map Academy was 300 seats, the school was currently enrolled above that amount in anticipation of some students not engaging and with additional applications pending. Liza Veto stated that in her professional consulting practice, she was working on an enrollment project and could appreciate the significance of these numbers.

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She explained that being continuously fully enrolled was the primary goal and that these enrollment levels ensured the school possessed the necessary resources to provide supports, programming, and staff.

Rachel Babcock acknowledged the complexity of the enrollment process and credited Mike Balaschi for managing the puzzle of multiple enrollment windows and graduations. Liza Veto agreed, noting that the process was particularly difficult at Map Academy because the school graduated and enrolled students multiple times throughout the year, unlike the traditional September to June schedule. She compared the degree of difficulty to Olympic judging. Rachel Babcock agreed and added that the complex nature of the students' lives made the enrollment numbers difficult to predict. Liza Veto directed the board's attention to the data regarding industry-recognized credentials (IRCs) and asked if someone could provide a voiceover for that section. Rachel Babcock explained that IRCs were a growth area receiving broader attention in high schools regarding how to help students earn concrete credentials.

She stated that the school had been offering CPR and first aid for a long time, and that the organization had made a concerted effort over the last year to broaden its catalog of credentials. She noted that the number of credentials increased from 44 to 70 during the previous school year and that the team expected this figure to continue rising. These credentials included OSHA 10, ServSafe, and various healthcare certifications. Liza Veto asked how many students were currently enrolled in the Bridgewater dual enrollment program. Rachel Babcock responded that there were eight students enrolled for the fall semester. She explained that fall enrollment was typically lower due to difficulties in securing classes at Bridgewater, but she anticipated an increase in the spring semester. Mike Balaschi confirmed that eight students were enrolled and noted that two of those students were taking multiple classes each after participating and earning credits at BSU in previous semesters.

Liza Veto highlighted the Ed Disruption podcast and suggested that board members listen to the recent episode featuring graduates. Anre Dowell pointed out that many companies now required the OSHA 30 credential, which increased student employability and helped avoid personal financial costs for training. Rachel Babcock stated that the organization was currently focused on OSHA 10 but was exploring the possibility of offering OSHA 30 through a new partnership with Building Pathways South in Taunton. Liza Veto requested that a link to the podcast be provided to the board members. Rachel Babcock agreed to share the link in the meeting chat.

Liza Veto asked if there were any other items to flag regarding the co-director's report. There were none.

b. July 27, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Liza Veto requested comments or corrections regarding the minutes from the July 27th board meeting. There were none.

c. July 27 Executive Session Minutes

Liza Veto requested comments or corrections regarding the minutes from the executive session. There were none.

As there were no questions or comments, Liza Veto requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Adam Earle made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Josh Charpentier seconded the motion.

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For	Against
Liza Veto Anre Dowell Adam Eaerle Rachel Babcock Shaun Adamec Aja Isaacson Josh Charpentier	

3. Old Business

a. Building Purchase Project Update

Liza Veto provided an update on the building purchase project. She stated that the finance committee had been active since the July 27th meeting. Although an offer had not yet been accepted by the owner, she reported that the committee had made positive progress and that the current price remained within the range approved by the board. Liza Veto detailed the committee's recent activities, which included meetings and email correspondence with Mass Development, the drafting of an official offer to purchase by the organization's attorney, and discussions with Bay Coast Bank regarding potential financing. She noted that the committee was meeting weekly with legal counsel, Mike Sweet. Liza Veto also described a meeting with the Designer Selection Board regarding state approval requirements for school construction. She added that Josh Charpentier had taken the lead on drafting a bid for a project manager. The committee was also evaluating whether the building should be purchased in the name of the school or Map Education Inc. and was planning to consult with two additional banks for due diligence. Liza Veto asked the other committee members if they had further details to add. Adam Earle stated that the meeting with the Designer Selection Board had been helpful in establishing the necessary pathway for the project.

Aja stated that the team had prioritized some components of the project ahead of others. She noted that meetings between Josh Charpentier, Rachel Babcock, and the relevant parties had helped establish the sequence of events, which had kept the process moving. Liza Veto agreed with this assessment. She noted that there was no single document mapping out the necessary steps for such projects. Liza Veto explained that the team had gathered information by speaking with various individuals and groups who provided referrals. She stated that all parties consulted had been supportive of Map taking on the project. Liza Veto confirmed that although a final accepted offer from the owner remained pending, the team had utilized the time to map out and initiate the next steps.

Rachel Babcock stated that the next objective was to return in October to discuss a purchase and sale document. She explained that once an offer was secured, the work performed by the Finance Committee and counsel would continue, leading to a formal agreement. Josh Charpentier added that the OPM RFQ had been structured in phases. He explained that the organization could issue the bid for the OPM before receiving an accepted offer because the commitment was limited to phase one. Josh Charpentier stated that phase one was intended to determine the actual cost of the expansion. He noted that this approach provided a trial period, allowing the organization to switch OPMs if necessary. Liza Veto clarified that an RFQ was a public opportunity for entities to bid on a project.

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She stated that because this was a public project, the organization was required to follow this procurement process. Josh Charpentier explained that the OPM RFQ stood for Owner's Project Manager Request for Qualifications. He noted that the project exceeded the one-and-a-half-million-dollar threshold, which triggered the requirement for qualifications rather than a request for quotes. Josh Charpentier stated that the organization would score the qualifications and then negotiate a price. He noted that they had included a non-mandatory preference for local experience with the town of Plymouth. Liza Veto invited any board members to participate in the design or financial elements of the project and requested that interested members follow up with her.

4. New Business

a. Discussion & Vote: 26-27 Board Goals

Liza Veto transitioned to the review of board goals. She noted that the board had performed a self-rating of its goals from the previous year. Regarding the first goal to embed training in at least three board meetings, Liza Veto confirmed that the board had received training on budget and audit, charter tuition, competency determination, charter amendments, and data-based decision-making. She concluded that the board had met this goal. Regarding the second goal to develop a long-range project for capital planning, Liza Veto stated that the building project and catchment area discussions had fulfilled this requirement. Regarding the third goal to monitor student success measures, Liza Veto noted that the board had reviewed enrollment, accountability, course completion, and school culture data. She stated that while the board had performed well, breaking data down into subgroups remained a goal for the upcoming year. Regarding the fourth goal concerning board member functions, Liza Veto explained that the board had provided a menu of options to accommodate the diverse interests and capacities of its members.

Liza reviewed the previous year's performance, noting that every board member had contributed to each of the three designated areas. She noted that multiple members had visited the school or attended graduations, which indicated that the board was performing well. She asked if there were any questions or comments regarding her assessment of the previous year.

Liza Veto introduced the agenda item regarding goals for the upcoming year. She explained that the goals were derived from input provided by Rachel Babcock and Josh Charpentier, school priorities, and the building work ahead. Liza Veto asked if Rachel Babcock, Josh Charpentier, or Mike Balaschi had any highlights to add. Rachel Babcock stated that the priorities remained the same as those used for the previous two years. She noted that maintaining these priorities was helpful as the school continued ongoing work and prepared for charter renewal. Rachel Babcock added that the essential questions guiding the staff's work also remained unchanged for the third year.

Liza Veto presented the goals for the new year. She explained that the first goal regarding training would remain the same, as members had indicated a preference for professional development embedded within meetings rather than separate training sessions. Liza Veto described the second goal as new or adjusted to highlight the building project, noting that the board needed to provide oversight and contribute relevant expertise. She stated that the third goal would focus on the disaggregation of data to ensure all elements were met. Liza Veto noted that the fourth goal remained the same as the previous year, focusing on each member contributing their unique skills. Liza Veto asked if there were any questions, amendments, or alternative goals. Rachel Babcock thanked Liza Veto for leading the work. Josh Charpentier stated that he did not have any questions but appreciated the effort put into the goals. Rachel Babcock noted that the focus had shifted significantly toward the building project over the past year. Liza Veto asked if the goals seemed reasonable and if they would support growth without being overwhelming. Adam Earle agreed with the goals, stating that they were fantastic and that tracking them was important.

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Rachel Babcock discussed the focus on disaggregated data. She noted that it could be difficult to disaggregate data depending on the topic and that it was important to look at subgroups. She invited members to suggest specific data topics for future meetings. Liza Veto suggested revisiting disaggregated credit earning data. Rachel Babcock agreed that this was a large pool of data that could be reliably disaggregated across subgroups. Liza Veto suggested that they could also look at supports utilized by students. Liza Veto asked for a motion to approve the board's goals for 26-27. Adam Earle made a motion to approve the goals as presented. Liza Veto seconded the motion. Liza Veto conducted a roll call vote, and the motion passed with unanimous approval.

For	Against
Liza Veto Anre Dowell Adam Earle Rachel Babcock Shaun Adamec Aja Isaacson Josh Charpentier	

b. Discussion & Vote: Updated Restraint & Seclusion Manual

Liza Veto introduced the updated restraint and seclusion manual. Rachel Babcock explained that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education had released new guidelines in August regarding restraint, timeout rooms, and seclusion in public schools. She stated that Map Academy counsel Pat Nevins had helped draft an updated policy manual that was compliant with these new guidelines. Rachel Babcock clarified that while Map Academy did not use restraints or seclusion, the policy applied to instances where staff members placed hands on a student during a crisis, such as intervening in a fight. She noted that the document was consistent with the student handbook approved at the previous meeting.

Rachel explained that the restraint and seclusion manual contained boilerplate forms for procedures that the school did not perform but noted that the document was necessary to remain compliant with updated policies from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Liza Veto asked if board members had any questions regarding the manual. Shaun Adamec asked how much of the content was boilerplate and how much applied to the school. Rachel Babcock explained that the document focused on de-escalation which is relevant but was largely geared toward environments that utilized significant restraints, which was not the case for their school.

Liza Veto welcomed Steve Sell, an Assistant Director, to the meeting.

Liza Veto moved for the board to approve the updated restraint and seclusion manual. The board members voted unanimously to approve the manual.

For	Against

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Liza Veto	
Anre Dowell	
Adam Earle	
Rachel Babcock	
Shaun Adamec	
Aja Isaacson	
Josh Charpentier	

5. Upcoming meeting dates

- a. Monday, October 19, 2026 @ 4:00–5:30**
- b. Monday, January 11, 2027 @ 4:00**
- c. Monday, March 29, 2027 @ 4:00**

Liza Veto proposed holding time for meetings on Monday, November 16th and Monday, December 14th in case they are needed for the building project. Rachel Babcock stated that they might not need both dates but intended to hold them to avoid scheduling conflicts. Liza Veto asked if any board members had concerns regarding these dates. Rachel Babcock stated that she would send the invitations and adjust the October calendar invite to reflect a potential end time of 5:30.

6. Comments & Announcements.

Liza Veto noted that the next graduation ceremony was scheduled for October 28th. Rachel Babcock announced that the Commonwealth had passed the Protect Act, which required schools to implement new policies regarding interactions with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. DESE recently released accompanying guidelines for schools. Rachel Babcock stated that the school was working on these policies and would present them to the board in October. Liza Veto asked if there were any other comments from board members or staff. Josh Charpentier requested that board members notify the leadership team as soon as possible if they could not attend the October 19th meeting, as the auditor would be present and a quorum was required to meet the legal deadline for the audit submission.

7. Adjournment.

Adam Earle moved to adjourn the meeting. Liza Veto seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

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For	Against
Liza Veto	
Anre Dowell	
Adam Eaerle	
Rachel Babcock	
Shaun Adamec	
Aja Isaacson	
Josh Charpentier	

The meeting closed at **4:48 p.m.**

Document List:

- September 14, 2026 Agenda
- 9/14/26 Co-directors Report
- July 27 Board Meeting Minutes
- July 27 Executive Session Minutes
- Progress on Board Goals Presentation (Sept 2026)

Upcoming Graduations

Wednesday, October 28, 2026 @ 4pm
Wednesday, January 27, 2027 @ 4pm
Wednesday, March 24, 2027 @ 4pm
Wednesday, June 16, 2027 @ 4pm