Minutes of the 142nd Meeting
of the Board of Directors of the
Alabama School of Mathematics and Science
Mobile, Alabama
Friday, June 12, 2026
10:45 a.m.

PRESENT	Ms. Erin Scott, Mr. Thomas Wheat, Ms. Pam Doyle, Dr. Greg Bacon, Dr. Rhinnie Scott, Dr. Sandra Sims de Graffenreid, Mr. John Peebles, Ms. Cathy Jones, Mr. Julian Katz, Dr. Edward Thomas, Honorable Jo Bonner, Dr. Lena Walton, Ms. Sheila Roby, Ms. Eliska Morgan, and Dr. Elizabeth Jones.
ABSENT	Ms. Elizabeth Norton, Representative Matthew Simpson, Mr. Raymond Bell, Representative Alan Baker, and Ms. Sharon Magee.
GUESTS	Mr. Nash Campbell, Dr. John Hoyle, Dr. Samantha Church, Ms. Cecilia Godwin, and Ms. Kristy Gunther.
OPENING	Mrs. Pam Doyle welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.
ROLL CALL	The roll was taken, and a quorum was established.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Minutes of February 4, 2026, Board of Directors meeting were presented for action. Upon a motion being made by Mr. Jo Bonner and seconded by Dr. Lena Walton, the Board duly

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2026, board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER REPORT

Ms. Kristy Gunther, the Director of Finance, presented the Treasurer's report to the Board. The Treasurer's report represents financial activity through the 2nd quarter of fiscal year 2026. Ms. Gunther stated that revenue is lower compared to last year. This is related to special grants that were received last year and did not repeat this year. Overall, expenses are about $15k higher compared to the prior year (see report page 6).

FINANCE REPORT

Ms. Gunther explained the Finance report (see report pages 7 and 8). Some of the increases are under repairs/maintenance related to summer projects. Upon a motion being made by Mr. Thad Wheat and seconded by Ms. Eliska Morgan, the Board duly

RESOLVED to accept the Finance Report as given.
The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

GENERAL REPORTS

LEGAL

Mr. Nash Campbell stated there were no claims, threats, or lawsuits against the school at this time.

ASMS REPORT

Before presenting the ASMS Report to the Board, Dr. Hoyle asked the board to nominate Pam Doyle for the Alabama Association of School Boards All-State School Board Recognition Program. Dr. Hoyle thanked Mrs. Doyle for humbly serving as Board Chair over the last 4 years and supporting ASMS. The resolution states the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science Board of Directors hereby nominates Pamela Doyle for the Alabama Association of School Boards All State School Board Member Recognition Program. The Board thanked Mrs. Doyle for her leadership and dedication and made a motion to approve the resolution. Upon a motion being made by Mr. Jo Bonner and seconded by Ms. Eliska Morgan, the Board duly

RESOLVED to approve the resolution nominating Pam Doyle for the Alabama Association of School Boards All-State School Board Recognition Program. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Doyle spoke following the resolution approval, giving her thanks to Dr. Hoyle and the Board for the nomination. She says she hopes this will help state leaders recognize the success at ASMS and continue supporting the school.

Dr. Hoyle highlighted a few other updates. ASMS is ranked by Niche as the number one public high school in Alabama, number one STEM high school in Alabama, number one high school for college prep in Alabama, and number one magnet high school in Alabama for the second consecutive year. This recognition reflects the strength of our students, faculty, academic program, residential model and broader school community. The Admissions department is nearing the end of the admissions process. The Admissions Committee has reviewed early applications and extended offers to 112 students. We anticipate admitting additional students from the waiting list to reach full residential capacity at 300 students. Graduation took place at the Mobile Convention Center this year. Board member and alumnus Greg Bacon served as the commencement speaker. The 105 graduates earned an average of $219k in scholarships per students and 65% of the graduates will remain in Alabama for college. Dr. Hoyle discussed the planning of a new residence hall and gymnasium. In March, ASMS engaged Lemoine, a consulting firm specializing in planning, procurement, and construction management services, to assist with the selection of a design firm for the project. Following a formal Request for Proposals process, ASMS selected Williams Blackstock Architects. The goal is to complete the project in approximately 18 months and open for the 2028 school year. Dr. Hoyle discussed the path forward for a small ninth-grade cohort. A small cohort would allow ASMS to support talented students earlier in their academic development. ASMS will also review whether legislative clarification is needed before implementing a ninth-grade

pilot. For more details and information in the ASMS report, please see pages through 12.

FACULTY REPORT

Dr. Elizabeth Jones, Faculty Representative to the Board, provided a brief overview of the faculty report. The Spring Research Forum was a success with 86 students presenting 33 projects under the mentorship of 17 faculty. This year, seventeen students received the Alabama Seal of Biliteracy. Those seniors have demonstrated proficiency in English and one other language in addition to other graduation requirements. In the chemistry department, two students, scored in the top 1000 of 16,000 participants to become National Finalists in the ACS National Chemistry Olympiad. The ASMS Math Department hosted the 2026 ASMS and USA Statewide Mathematics Festival in March. Twenty-nine middle school students participated in the Middle School Math Olympiad followed by festival activities in the Wilson building, a keynote speech, and an awards ceremony (see report pages 13 and 14).

NEW BUSINESS

Authorization to Develop Plan to Offer a Ninth-Grade Cohort

A ninth-grade cohort would create a more coherent four-year academic experience, comparable to other high-performing residential and STEM-focused schools. Entering ASMS at this natural transition point would allow students to build relationships, strengthen a sense of belonging, and engage more fully with the school's academic and residential culture. This earlier entry point would also give students more time to develop academic confidence, problem-solving skills, and college readiness while preserving the mission, rigor, and distinctive character of ASMS. Upon a motion being made by Dr. Lena Walton and seconded by Dr. Sandra Sims de Graffenried, the board duly

RESOLVED to pass a resolution authorizing the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science to develop plans to offer a small ninth-grade cohort beginning at the start of the 2027-2028 school year. The President is authorized to develop the academic, residential, staffing, admissions, financial, and operational plans necessary to implement the cohort and to provide periodic updates to the Board. The motion passed with no objections.

New Dorm and New Gymnasium Resolution

A new dormitory and gymnasium would strengthen ASMS's residential academic program by increasing student capacity, improving student life, supporting health and wellness, and ensuring that campus facilities match the quality and ambition of the school's academic mission. A new dormitory would allow ASMS to serve more highly capable students from across Alabama, while a modern gymnasium would provide a safer and more suitable space for physical education, athletics, recreation, assemblies, and community-building activities. Upon a motion being made by Dr. Sandra Sims-de Graffenried and seconded by Mr. Jo Bonner, the board duly

RESOLVED to pass a resolution supporting a collaborative effort between the ASMS School Board and the ASMS Foundation Board to expand the ASMS campus through the development of a modern, safe, and efficiently designed gymnasium and a new dormitory to house approximately 150 additional students, with appropriate residential staffing. The resolution authorizes the ASMS President to work with representatives of the School Board, the Foundation Board, legal counsel, architects, financial advisors, and other appropriate partners to explore planning, funding, governance, design, construction, and operational options for the project. The President is further authorized to negotiate and execute necessary preliminary planning agreements, subject to applicable Board approval requirements, and will provide bi-monthly project updates outside of regularly scheduled Board meeting. The motion passed with no objections.

Student Auxiliary Proposed budget for 2026-2027

Dr. Hoyle requested the Board approve the 2026-2027 Student Auxiliary proposed budget. Upon a motion being made by Mr. Jo Bonner and seconded by Mr. Matt Simpson, the Board duly

> **RESOLVED** to approve the Student Auxiliary proposed budget for 2026-2027. The motion passed unanimously.

New Courses for 2026-2027

When ASMS faculty members develop new courses to be taught, these must have Board approval. The new courses are listed below, and a description of the courses can be found on pages 20 and 21 .

- English 236: Science Fiction
- Biology 208: Introduction to Forensic Science
- HS 249: The Marvelous Middle Ages: Western European Medieval Period, 11th-15th Centuries
- HS 250: The Tudors: English History from 1485 to 1603
- HS 251: The Stuarts: From People of the British Isles to The British People, 1603 to 1714

Upon a motion being made by Dr. Sandra Sims de Graffenried and seconded by Mr. Jo Bonner, the board duly

> **RESOLVED** to approve the courses listed above beginning the fall term of the 2026-2027 school year. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Executive Committee Nominations

The Executive Committee opened the floor for nominations for board officers to serve for 2026-2027. The Executive Committee is made up of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Mrs. Pam Doyle discussed the nominations made by the committee. Mr. Thad Wheat would serve as Chair; Mr. John Peebles as Vice Chair; Dr. Rhinnie Scott as secretary; and Dr. Sandra Sims de Graffenried as Treasurer. There were no other nominations made by the board. Upon a motion being made by Mr. Jo Bonner and seconded by Dr. Lena Walton, the board duly

RESOLVED to approve the slate of officers as stated for the Executive Committee. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Board of Directors Meeting Dates

The 2026-2027 Board of Directors meeting dates are provided on page 22 of the board documents. Upon a motion being made by Dr. Sandra Sims de Graffenried and seconded by Mr. John Peebles, the board duly

RESOLVED to approve the 2026-2027 Board of Directors meeting dates. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

PERSONNEL APPROVAL

(See report page 23)

Termination of Faculty Member

An English instructor has been terminated from ASMS under the advisement of legal counsel. Upon a motion being made by Dr. Sandra Sims de Graffenried and Mr. Jo Bonner, the board duly

RESOLVED to approve the termination of an English instructor at ASMS under the advisement of legal counsel. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Faculty Contract Renewals

The contracts of the faculty members listed below are expiring at this time. The Board must act to renew these contracts (see report pages 24-26).

Faculty Contract for Dr. Matthew Davenport

Dr. Matthew Davenport, a chemistry instructor, has completed 3 years of service at ASMS. Dr. Davenport will be renewed with a 5-year faculty contract of employment, 2026-2027 through 2030-2031.

Faculty Contract for Kevin Dolbeare

Kevin Dolbeare, a chemistry instructor, has completed 20 years of service at ASMS. Mr. Dolbeare will be renewed with another 5-year faculty contract of employment, 2026-2027 through 2030-2031.

Faculty Contract for Grey Gaillard

Grey Gaillard, a Computer Science instructor, has completed 10 years of service at ASMS. Mr. Gaillard will be renewed with another 5-year faculty contract of employment, 2026-2027 through 2030-2031.

Faculty Contract for Dr. Mark Byrne

Dr. Mark Bryne, a physics instructor, has completed a first 1-year faculty contract of employment. Dr. Bryne will be renewed with a 3-year faculty contract, 2026-2027 through 2028-2029.

Faculty Contract for Dr. Jennifer Tellman

Dr. Jennifer Tellman, a history instructor, has completed two years of service at ASMS. Dr. Tellman will be renewed with a 3-year faculty contract, 2026-2027 through 2028-2029.

Faculty Contract for Suzanne Lindley

Suzanne Lindley, a World Language instructor, has completed two years of service at ASMS. Ms. Lindley will be renewed with a 3-year faculty contract, 2026-2027 through 2028-2029.

Faculty Contract for Helene Swanepoel

Helene Swanepoel, a mathematics and engineering instructor, has completed two years of service at ASMS. Ms. Swanepoel will be renewed with a 3-year faculty contract, 2026-2027 through 2028-2029.

Faculty Contract for Bill Brouillet

Bill Brouillet, a Physical Education instructor, has completed 16 years of service at ASMS. Due to Mr. Brouillet not having a master's degree, he will only be renewed for a 1-year faculty contract of employment, 2026-2027.

Faculty Contract for Dr. Angela Kennedy

Dr. Angela Kennedy, a French instructor, has completed a one-year contract with ASMS. She's being renewed for another one-year faculty contract of employment, 2026-2027.

Mr. Nash Campbell, legal counsel, asked if anyone had a conflict with any of the names listed above to let it be known. There were no concerns stated by any board members. Upon a motion being made by Dr. Sandra Sims de Graffenried and seconded by Mr. Jo Bonner, the board duly

> **RESOLVED** to approve the faculty contract renewals listed above as presented. The motion passed unanimously with no objections.

Faculty Contract of Employment

Mr. Campbell reported a decision regarding a faculty member eligible for a five-year contract renewal. Due to recent evaluations and personnel issues, Kristal Webb will instead receive a one-year contract of employment. At the end of this school year, pending a successful review, a five-year contract may be offered. Mr. Campbell asked for a motion to approve a one-year contract of employment. Upon a motion being made by Dr. Sandra Sims de Graffenried and seconded by Mr. Jo Bonner, the board duly

> **RESOLVED** to approve a one-year contract of employment for the faculty member. The motion passed unanimously with no objections.

President's Evaluation

Mrs. Pam Doyle, Board chair moved to the last item on the agenda, the President's evaluation. Mr. Campbell asked for all guests to leave the room during this agenda item. The board discussed the President's evaluation. The Executive Committee stated the President received an excellent evaluation and recommended a contract of employment incentive bonus of 10 percent (of current salary) for President Dr. John Hoyle. Upon a motion being made by Dr. Sandra Sims de Graffenried and seconded by Mr. John Peebles, the Board duly

> **RESOLVED** to approve a contract of employment incentive bonus of 10 percent for ASMS President, Dr. John Hoyle. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m. The next meeting will be Friday, September 11, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted by

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Dr. Rhinnie Scott, Secretary

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Cecilia Godwin
Infrastructure & Board Admin. Coord.