**Are you thinking of joining the MAV Board?**

**Want to know what it is all about, and whether you are suitable?**

**About MAV**

The Mathematical Association of Victoria (MAV) is an innovative and leading association. Through its programs and services, MAV promotes the importance of mathematics to society. MAV has over 1400 members from all sectors of education including individuals, schools, universities and other institutions. This provides membership benefits to a growing network of over 15,000 mathematics educators. MAV reaches up to 23,000 people through its newsletter and has been an active not-for-profit professional Association for more than 100 years. To find out more about our services and impact see our latest [annual report](https://www.mav.vic.edu.au/About-Us/Annual-Reports).

MAV was incorporated as a Public Company with Limited Liability on the 5th of July 1971. [MAV became a registered Charity](https://www.acnc.gov.au/charity/charities/fac9fbdf-94a3-ea11-a812-000d3ad1ce4e/profile) on 4th August 2020 and reports to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). Most of MAV’s obligations are to the ACNC.

For MAV, the ‘Objects' of the Association as defined in the [Constitution](https://www.mav.vic.edu.au/About-Us/Constitution-and-Policies) are to assist and advance education in mathematics, and to promote the importance and value of mathematics in society. The Company pursues these Objects through a range of activities and services which are [outlined here](https://www.mav.vic.edu.au/About-Us/Constitution-and-Policies).

A charity’s members are its ‘owners’ and form an important part of any charity. Members are entitled to know how a charity is acting and using its resources (finances and any assets) on their behalf.

**What is a Director (Board member)?**

**The Board of MAV is the governing body for the Association that represents the members, and ensures good governance**.

A director is appointed to the Board by members to represent their interests and ensure that the organisation is appropriately managed. The Board members jointly as the Board provide leadership, set strategic and policy direction; and oversee the business and affairs of the Association for the purpose for which the Association is established. The Board is accountable to the members of the Association for the overall performance of the Association.

The Board does not manage the day-to-day operations of the Association. This is delegated to the CEO.

The role of a director and the Board governance, not operational and is to focus on:

* setting the strategic direction
* ensuring MAV sets and reviews appropriate policies and governance guidelines
* ensuring that MAV is financially well managed and sustainable
* ensuring MAV’s activities are managed within a suitable level of risk
* making decisions in relation to key matters that affect the organisation
* ensuring compliance with the law, ACNC and other requirements
* ensuring suitable corporate governance and accountability to members
* representing the MAV publicly to help grow the Association’s reputation

Directors are appointed for two-year terms. Positions such as President, Vice President and Chair of Finance Committee are appointed by the Board itself. The [Constitution](https://www.mav.vic.edu.au/About-Us/Constitution-and-Policies) outlines the details for nomination and appointment of directors to the Board.

Directors receive onboarding and ongoing training each year ensure they understand their roles and responsibilities , you don’t need to know it all to get started.

**Who is on the MAV Board?**

The Board is made up of between 9 and 14 individuals of a diverse backgrounds that represent various school sectors, stages and focus areas of mathematics education. This includes: practising teachers from primary, secondary, and early childhood; representatives from government, Catholic and independent schools; school and education industry leaders; education academics and researchers; STEM industry representatives and people with other specific skills such as indigenous education, marketing or finance. Experience from different career stages and a diversity are highly valued in helping ensure that MAV is considering viewpoints across the education sector.

Basically, anyone interested can nominate. You do not need special director training to nominate.

**What is the time commitment for being on the MAV Board?**

MAV Board meetings are held six times per year for approximately three hours. In preparation for each meeting a couple of hours would need to be spent reading Board papers. The AGM is also held one evening in May each year.

An annual Board strategy day (October) and a director training day (August) are both held on Sundays during the year.

Further work is required as part of at least one committee. Committees usually meet up to 4 times per year, and tasks related to the committee may need to be completed. For a list of committees and meeting regularity see here: <https://www.mav.vic.edu.au/About-Us/Committees>

Board members may also get involved in undertaking work on special projects. Depending on availability further time may be allocated to supporting MAV’s general activities, advocacy and work across Victoria. Much of this work can be done remotely. The year culminates in a Christmas social function for special guests and partners that is must attend event.

**What are the eligibility requirements to nominate for election to the MAV Board?**

To nominate for election to the board you need to be an MAV member - either an individual member or the key contact in a school/institution that is a member.

You must also meet the requirements of [governance standard 4 from the ACNC](https://www.acnc.gov.au/for-charities/manage-your-charity/governance-hub/governance-standards), this states that suitably responsible persons be appointed who have not been previously disqualified from managing a corporation or charity.

You must meet MAV’s [child safety](https://www.mav.vic.edu.au/About-Us/Constitution-and-Policies) requirements, including either a Victorian Institute of teaching registration, or Working With Children check.

Other than that, MAV seeks people to join the board who are highly interested in improving mathematics education and ensuring MAV’s future sustainability and success.

**Can I be regionally based?**

MAV holds meetings both virtually and face-to-face. Interested people based in regional areas are encouraged to nominate and bring their unique perspectives to the table. It would be expected that some events such as the strategy day and director training would be attended in person. Other meetings may be fully virtual and some hybrid allowing flexibility for engagement regardless of location. The MAV Board can agree reimburse reasonable expenses to help with travel or other related costs.

**How can I find out more?**

For a full explanation of the role of directors and the Board, and participation requirements see the Board Charter. It is suggested this document is reviewed before deciding to nominate.

If you would like to discuss the role an opportunity of becoming a director at MAV further please contact Kerryn Sandford, President for a confidential discussion. [kerryn.sandford@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kerryn.sandford@education.vic.gov.au)