

MICROCHIP TECHNOLOGY INC

Form DEF 14A

July 13, 2017

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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A
(RULE 14a-101)

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary proxy statement.
- Confidential, for use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)).
- Definitive Proxy Statement.
- Definitive Additional Materials.
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to § 240.14a-12.

Microchip Technology Incorporated
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and ..identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

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MICROCHIP TECHNOLOGY INCORPORATED
2355 West Chandler Boulevard, Chandler, Arizona 85224-6199

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS
August 22, 2017

TIME: 9:00 a.m. Mountain Standard Time
Microchip Technology Incorporated

PLACE: 2355 W. Chandler Boulevard
Chandler, Arizona 85224-6199

ITEMS OF BUSINESS: The election of each of Steve Sanghi, Matthew W. Chapman, L.B. Day, Esther L. Johnson and

- (1) Wade F. Meyercord to our Board of Directors to serve for the ensuing year and until their successors are elected and qualified.
- (2) To approve the amendment and restatement of our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan to (i) increase the number of shares of common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 6,000,000, (ii) re-approve the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan for purposes of Internal Revenue Code Section 162(m), and (iii) make certain other changes as set forth in the amended and restated plan.
- (3) To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of Microchip for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018.
- (4) To hold an advisory (non-binding) vote regarding the compensation of our named executives.
- (5) To hold an advisory (non-binding) vote regarding the frequency of holding an advisory vote on the compensation of our named executives.
- (6) To transact such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting or any adjournment(s) thereof.

The Microchip Board of Directors recommends that you vote for each of the foregoing items (1) through (4), and for a frequency period of one year on item (5).

RECORD DATE: Holders of Microchip common stock of record at the close of business on June 28, 2017 are entitled to vote at the annual meeting.

ANNUAL REPORT: Microchip's fiscal 2017 Annual Report, which is not a part of the proxy soliciting material, is enclosed.

PROXY: It is important that your shares be represented and voted at the annual meeting. You can vote your shares by completing and returning the proxy card sent to you. Stockholders may have a choice of voting their shares over the internet or by telephone. If internet or telephone voting is available to you, voting instructions are printed on the proxy card sent to you. You can revoke your proxy at any time prior to its exercise at the annual meeting by following the instructions in the accompanying proxy statement.

/s/ Kim van Herk

Kim van Herk
Secretary

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Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting
of Stockholders to be Held on August 22, 2017

The Microchip Notice of Annual Meeting, Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year
ended March 31, 2017 are available at www.microchip.com/annual_reports.

Chandler, Arizona
July 13, 2017

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MICROCHIP TECHNOLOGY INCORPORATED

2355 West Chandler Boulevard
Chandler, Arizona 85224-6199

PROXY STATEMENT

You are cordially invited to attend our annual meeting on Tuesday, August 22, 2017, beginning at 9:00 a.m., Mountain Standard Time. The annual meeting will be held at our Chandler facility located at 2355 W. Chandler Blvd., Chandler, AZ 85224-6199.

We are providing these proxy materials in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Microchip Technology Incorporated ("Microchip") of proxies to be voted at Microchip's 2017 annual meeting of stockholders and at any adjournment(s) thereof.

Our fiscal year begins on April 1 and ends on March 31. References in this proxy statement to fiscal 2017 refer to the 12-month period from April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017; references to fiscal 2016 refer to the 12-month period from April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016; and references to fiscal 2015 refer to the 12-month period from April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015.

We anticipate first mailing this proxy statement and accompanying form of proxy on July 13, 2017 to holders of record of Microchip's common stock on June 28, 2017 (the "Record Date").

PROXIES AND VOTING PROCEDURES

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT. Because many stockholders cannot attend the annual meeting in person, it is necessary that a large number of stockholders be represented by proxy. Stockholders may have a choice of voting over the internet, by using a toll-free telephone number or by completing a proxy card and mailing it in the postage-paid envelope provided. Please refer to your proxy card or the information forwarded by your bank, broker or other holder of record to see which options are available to you. Under Delaware law, stockholders may submit proxies electronically. Please be aware that if you vote over the internet, you may incur costs such as telephone and internet access charges for which you will be responsible.

You can revoke your proxy at any time before it is exercised by timely delivery of a properly executed, later-dated proxy (including an internet or telephone vote if these options are available to you) or by voting by ballot at the annual meeting.

The method by which you vote will in no way limit your right to vote at the annual meeting if you later decide to attend in person. If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other holder of record, you must obtain a proxy, executed in your favor, from the holder of record, to be able to vote at the annual meeting.

All shares entitled to vote and represented by properly completed proxies received prior to the annual meeting and not revoked will be voted at the annual meeting in accordance with the instructions on such proxies. **IF YOU DO NOT INDICATE HOW YOUR SHARES SHOULD BE VOTED ON A MATTER, THE SHARES REPRESENTED BY YOUR PROPERLY COMPLETED PROXY WILL BE VOTED AS OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS.**

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If any other matters are properly presented at the annual meeting for consideration, including, among other things, consideration of a motion to adjourn the annual meeting to another time or place, the persons named as proxies and acting thereunder will have discretion to vote on those matters according to their best judgment to the same extent as the person delivering the proxy would be entitled to vote. At the date this proxy statement went to press, we did not anticipate that any other matters would be raised at the annual meeting.

Stockholders Entitled to Vote

Stockholders of record at the close of business on the Record Date, June 28, 2017, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting. Each share is entitled to one vote on each of the five director nominees and one vote on each other matter properly brought before the annual meeting. On the Record Date, there were 232,723,905 shares of our common stock issued and outstanding.

In accordance with Delaware law, a list of stockholders entitled to vote at the annual meeting will be available at the annual meeting on August 22, 2017, and for 10 days prior to the annual meeting at 2355 West Chandler Boulevard, Chandler, Arizona, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Mountain Standard Time.

Required Vote

Quorum, Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes

The presence, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the shares entitled to vote at the annual meeting is necessary to constitute a quorum at the annual meeting. Abstentions and broker "non-votes" are counted as present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining a quorum. A broker "non-vote" occurs when a nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner (i.e., in "street name") does not vote on a particular proposal because the nominee does not have discretionary voting power with respect to that item and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner. Under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), which apply to NYSE member brokers trading in non-NYSE stock, brokers have discretionary authority to vote shares on certain routine matters if customer instructions are not provided. Proposal Three to be considered at the annual meeting may be treated as a routine matter. Consequently, if you do not return a proxy card, your broker may have discretion to vote your shares on such matter.

Election of Directors (Proposal One)

A nominee for director shall be elected to the board of directors if the votes cast for such nominee's election exceed the votes cast against such nominee's election. For this purpose, votes cast shall exclude abstentions, withheld votes or broker non-votes with respect to that director's election. Notwithstanding the immediately preceding sentence, in the event of a contested election of directors, directors shall be elected by the vote of a plurality of the votes cast. A contested election shall mean any election of directors in which the number of candidates for election as director exceeds the number of directors to be elected. If directors are to be elected by a plurality of the votes cast, stockholders shall not be permitted to vote against a nominee.

Approval of Microchip's Amended and Restated 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (Proposal Two)

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the annual meeting is required to (i) increase the number of shares of our common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 6,000,000, (ii) re-approve the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and (iii) make certain other changes as set forth in the amended and restated 2004 Equity Incentive Plan. Abstentions will have the same effect as voting against this proposal. Broker "non-votes" are not counted for purposes of approving this matter, and thus will not affect the outcome of the voting on such proposal.

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Ratification of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (Proposal Three)

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the annual meeting is required for ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of Microchip for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018.

Abstentions will have the same effect as voting against this proposal.

Advisory Vote Regarding the Compensation of our Named Executives (Proposal Four)

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the annual meeting is required to approve, on an advisory (non-binding) basis, the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Abstentions will have the same effect as voting against this proposal. Broker "non-votes" are not counted for purposes of approving this matter, and thus will not affect the outcome of the voting on such proposal.

Advisory Vote Regarding the Frequency of Voting on the Compensation of our Named Executives (Proposal Five)

A plurality of the votes duly cast is required to indicate, on an advisory (non-binding) basis, the frequency of stockholder voting on the compensation of our named executive officers (i.e., the selection receiving the greatest number of votes will be the advisory election). Abstentions and broker "non-votes" will be treated as if no vote were cast with respect to this proposal.

Electronic Access to Proxy Statement and Annual Report

This proxy statement and our fiscal 2017 Annual Report are available at www.microchip.com/annual_reports.

We will post our future proxy statements and annual reports on Form 10-K on our website as soon as reasonably practicable after they are electronically filed with the SEC. All such filings on our website are available free of charge.

The information on our website is not incorporated into this proxy statement. Our internet address is www.microchip.com.

Cost of Proxy Solicitation

Microchip will pay its costs of soliciting proxies including the cost of any proxy solicitor if a proxy solicitor is engaged. Proxies may be solicited on behalf of Microchip by its directors, officers or employees in person or by telephone, facsimile or other electronic means. We may also reimburse brokerage firms and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for their expenses incurred in sending proxies and proxy materials to beneficial owners of Microchip common stock.

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THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meetings of the Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors met six times in fiscal 2017. Each director attended at least 75% of the aggregate of (i) the total number of the meetings of the Board of Directors held during fiscal 2017 during such time as such person was a director, and (ii) the total number of meetings held by all of the committees of the Board of Directors on which he or she served during fiscal 2017 during such time as such person was a director. The Board of Directors has a practice of meeting in executive session on a periodic basis without management or management directors (i.e., Mr. Sanghi) present. The Board of Directors has determined that each of Mr. Chapman, Mr. Day, Ms. Johnson and Mr. Meyercord is an independent director as defined by applicable SEC rules and NASDAQ listing standards.

Board Leadership Structure

The Board of Directors believes that Microchip's Chief Executive Officer, Steve Sanghi, is best situated to serve as Chairman because he is the director most familiar with Microchip's business and industry, and most capable of effectively identifying strategic priorities and leading the discussion and execution of strategy. The Board's independent directors have different perspectives and roles in strategic development. In particular, Microchip's independent directors bring experience, oversight and expertise from outside the company and the industry, while the Chief Executive Officer brings company-specific experience and industry expertise. The Board of Directors believes that the combined role of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer promotes strategy development and execution, and facilitates information flow between management and the Board of Directors, which are essential to effective governance. Microchip does not have a lead independent director.

Board Oversight of Risk Management

The Board of Directors and the Board committees oversee risk management in a number of ways. The Audit Committee oversees the management of financial and accounting related risks as an integral part of its duties. Similarly, the Compensation Committee considers risk management when setting the compensation policies and programs for Microchip's executive officers. As part of this process, our Compensation Committee concluded that our compensation policies and practices do not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on Microchip.

The Board of Directors and the Audit Committee regularly receive reports on various risk-related items including risks related to manufacturing operations, intellectual property, taxes, cyber security, IT system continuity, products and employees. The Board and the Audit Committee also receive periodic reports on Microchip's efforts to manage such risks through safety measures, system improvements, insurance or self-insurance. The Board of Directors believes that the leadership structure described above facilitates the Board's oversight of risk management because it allows the Board, working through its committees, to participate actively in the oversight of management's actions.

Communications from Stockholders

Stockholders may communicate with the Board of Directors or individual members of the Board of Directors, provided that all such communication is submitted in writing to the attention of the Secretary at Microchip Technology Incorporated, 2355 West Chandler Boulevard, Chandler, Arizona 85224-6199, who will then forward such communication to the appropriate director or directors.

Committees of the Board of Directors

The following table lists our three Board committees, the directors who served on them and the number of committee meetings held in fiscal 2017:

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MEMBERSHIP ON BOARD COMMITTEES IN FISCAL 2017

Name	Audit Compensation and Governance		Nominating
Mr. Chapman	C		1
Mr. Day		1	C
	1		
Ms. Johnson			1
Mr. Meyercord	1	C	1
Mr. Sanghi			
Meetings held in fiscal 2017	8	10	2

C = Chair

1 = Member

Audit Committee

The responsibilities of our Audit Committee are to appoint, compensate, retain and oversee Microchip's independent registered public accounting firm, oversee the accounting and financial reporting processes of Microchip and audits of its financial statements, and provide the Board of Directors with the results of such monitoring. These responsibilities are further described in the committee charter which was amended and restated as of May 15, 2015. A copy of the Audit Committee charter is available at the About Us/Investor Relations section under Mission Statement/Corporate Governance on www.microchip.com.

Our Board of Directors has determined that all members of the Audit Committee are independent directors as defined by applicable SEC rules and NASDAQ listing standards. The Board of Directors has also determined that each of Mr. Chapman and Mr. Meyercord meet the requirements for being an "audit committee financial expert" as defined by applicable SEC rules.

In fiscal 2005, our Board and our Audit Committee adopted a policy with respect to (i) the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by us regarding questionable accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters; (ii) the confidential, anonymous submission by our employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters; and (iii) the prohibition of harassment, discrimination or retaliation arising from submitting concerns regarding questionable accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters or participating in an investigation regarding questionable accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters. In fiscal 2012, our Board and our Audit Committee approved an amended policy to include matters regarding violations of federal or state securities laws, or the commission of bribery. This policy, called "Reporting Legal Non-Compliance," was created in accordance with applicable SEC rules and NASDAQ listing requirements. A copy of this policy is available at the About Us/Investor Relations section under Mission Statement/Corporate Governance on www.microchip.com.

Compensation Committee

Our Compensation Committee has oversight responsibility for the compensation and benefit programs for our executive officers and other employees, and for administering our equity incentive and employee stock purchase plans adopted by our Board of Directors. The responsibilities of our Compensation Committee are further described in the committee charter which was amended and restated as of May 15, 2015. The committee charter is available at the About Us/Investor Relations section under Mission Statement/Corporate Governance on www.microchip.com. The Board of Directors has determined that all members of our Compensation Committee are independent directors as defined by applicable SEC rules, NASDAQ listing standards and other requirements. For more information on our Compensation Committee, please refer to the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" at page 28.

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Nominating and Governance Committee

Our Nominating and Governance Committee has the responsibility to help ensure that our Board is properly constituted to meet its fiduciary obligations to our stockholders and Microchip and that we have and follow appropriate governance standards. In so doing, the Nominating and Governance Committee identifies and recommends director candidates, develops and recommends governance principles, and recommends director nominees to serve on committees of the Board of Directors. The responsibilities of our Nominating and Governance Committee are further described in the committee charter, as amended and restated as of May 19, 2014, which is available at the About Us/Investor Relations section under Mission Statement/Corporate Governance on www.microchip.com. The Board of Directors has determined that all members of the Nominating and Governance Committee are independent directors as defined by applicable SEC rules and NASDAQ listing standards. When considering a candidate for a director position, the Nominating and Governance Committee looks for demonstrated character, judgment, relevant business, functional and industry experience, and a high degree of skill. The Nominating and Governance Committee believes it is important that the members of the Board of Directors represent diverse viewpoints. Accordingly, the Nominating and Governance Committee considers issues of diversity in identifying and evaluating director nominees, including differences in education, professional experience, viewpoints, technical skills, individual expertise, ethnicity and gender. The Nominating and Governance Committee evaluates director nominees recommended by a stockholder in the same manner as it would any other nominee. The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider nominees recommended by stockholders provided such recommendations are made in accordance with procedures described in this proxy statement under "Requirements, Including Deadlines, for Receipt of Stockholder Proposals for the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders; Discretionary Authority to Vote on Stockholder Proposals" at page 54. We do not pay any third party to identify or assist in identifying or evaluating potential nominees for director.

Attendance at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders

All directors are encouraged, but not required, to attend our annual meeting of stockholders. All directors attended our fiscal 2016 annual meeting of stockholders on August 15, 2016.

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE (*)

Our Board of Directors has adopted a written charter setting out the purposes and responsibilities of the Audit Committee. The Board of Directors and the Audit Committee review and assess the adequacy of the charter on an annual basis. A copy of the Audit Committee Charter is available at the About Us/Investor Relations section under Mission Statement/Corporate Governance on www.microchip.com.

Each of the directors who serves on the Audit Committee meets the independence and experience requirements of the SEC rules and NASDAQ listing standards. This means that the Microchip Board of Directors has determined that no member of the Audit Committee has a relationship with Microchip that may interfere with such member's independence from Microchip and its management, and that all members have the required knowledge and experience to perform their duties as committee members.

We have received from Ernst & Young LLP the written disclosure and the letter required by Rule 3526 of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (Communication with Audit Committees Concerning Independence) and have discussed with Ernst & Young LLP their independence from Microchip. We also discussed with Ernst & Young LLP all matters required to be discussed by Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) standards. We have considered whether and determined that the provision of the non-audit services rendered to us by Ernst & Young LLP during fiscal 2017 was compatible with maintaining the independence of Ernst & Young LLP.

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We have reviewed and discussed with management the audited annual financial statements included in Microchip's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2017 and filed with the SEC, as well as the unaudited financial statements filed with Microchip's quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. We also met with both management and Ernst & Young LLP to discuss those financial statements.

Based on these reviews and discussions, we recommended to the Board of Directors that Microchip's audited financial statements be included in Microchip's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2017 for filing with the SEC.

By the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors:

Matthew W. Chapman (Chairman) Esther L. Johnson Wade F. Meyercord

(*) The Report of the Audit Committee is not "soliciting" material and is not deemed "filed" with the SEC, and is not incorporated by reference into any filings of Microchip under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, whether made before or after the date of this proxy statement and irrespective of any general incorporation language contained in such filings.

Director Compensation

Procedures Regarding Director Compensation

The Board of Directors sets non-employee director compensation. Microchip does not pay employee directors for services provided as a member of the Board of Directors. Our program of cash and equity compensation for non-employee directors is designed to achieve the following goals: compensation should fairly pay directors for work required for a company of Microchip's size and scope; compensation should align directors' interests with the long-term interests of stockholders; compensation should be competitive so as to attract and retain qualified non-employee directors; and the structure of the compensation should be simple, transparent and easy for stockholders to understand. Non-employee director compensation is typically reviewed once per year to assess whether any adjustment is needed to further such goals. The Board of Directors has not used outside consultants in setting non-employee director compensation.

Director Fees

Effective November 14, 2016, non-employee directors receive an annual retainer of \$71,500, paid in quarterly installments, and \$3,000 for each meeting attended in person. Directors do not receive any additional compensation for telephonic meetings of the Board of Directors, for meetings of committees of the Board, or for serving as a committee chair.

Equity Compensation

Under the terms of our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan, each non-employee director is automatically granted: upon the date that the individual is first appointed or elected to the Board of Directors as a non-employee director, that number of restricted stock units ("RSUs") equal to \$160,000 (based on the fair market value of our common stock on the grant date) which shall vest in equal 25% annual installments on each of the four anniversaries of the tenth business day of the second month of our fiscal quarter in which the grant is made; and upon the date of our annual meeting, provided that the individual has served as a non-employee director for at least three months on that date and has been elected by the stockholders to serve as a member of the Board of Directors at that annual meeting, that number of RSUs equal to \$84,000 (based on the fair market value of our common stock on the grant date) which shall vest in equal 50% annual installments on each of the two anniversaries of the tenth day of the second month of our fiscal quarter in which the grant is made.

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In addition, upon the date of our 2015 annual meeting, each individual who had served as a non-employee director for at least five years on that date and was elected by the stockholders to serve as a member of the Board of Directors at that annual meeting (i.e., Messrs. Chapman, Day and Meyercord) was granted that number of RSUs equal to \$100,000 (based on the fair market value of our common stock on the grant date) which shall vest in equal 25% annual installments on each of the four anniversaries of the tenth day of the second month of our fiscal quarter in which the grant was made.

All vesting of the above grants is contingent upon the non-employee director maintaining his or her continued status as a non-employee director through the applicable vesting date.

In accordance with the foregoing, on August 15, 2016, each of Mr. Chapman, Mr. Day, Ms. Johnson and Mr. Meyercord was granted 1,372 RSUs.

The following table details the total compensation for Microchip's non-employee directors for fiscal 2017:

DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash	Stock Awards ⁽¹⁾	Option Awards	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation	All Other Compensation	Total
Steve Sanghi ⁽²⁾	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Matthew W. Chapman	80,250	80,131	—	—	—	160,381
L.B. Day	80,250	80,131	—	—	—	160,381
Esther L. Johnson	80,250	80,131	—	—	—	160,381
Wade F. Meyercord	80,250	80,131	—	—	—	160,381

The stock award of 1,372 RSUs to each of the directors on August 15, 2016 had a fair value on the grant date of (1) \$58.40 per share and a market value on the grant date of \$61.21 per share with an aggregate market value of each award of approximately \$84,000.

(2) Mr. Sanghi, our Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board, does not receive any additional compensation for his service as a member of the Board of Directors.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

The Compensation Committee is currently comprised of Mr. Meyercord (Chair) and Mr. Day. Each such person is an independent director. Neither Mr. Day nor Mr. Meyercord had any related-party transaction with Microchip during fiscal 2017 other than compensation for service as a director. In addition, neither of such directors has a relationship that would constitute a compensation committee interlock under applicable SEC rules. During fiscal 2017, no Microchip executive officer served on the compensation committee (or equivalent) or the board of directors of another entity whose executive officer(s) served either on Microchip's Compensation Committee or Board of Directors.

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CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS

During fiscal 2017, Microchip had no related-party transactions within the meaning of applicable SEC rules. Pursuant to its charter, the Audit Committee reviews issues involving potential conflicts of interest and reviews and approves all related-party transactions as contemplated by NASDAQ and SEC rules and regulations. The Audit Committee may consult with the Board of Directors regarding certain conflict of interest matters that do not involve a member of the Board.

SECTION 16(A) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) and related rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 require our directors, executive officers and stockholders holding more than 10% of our common stock to file reports of holdings and transactions in Microchip stock with the SEC and to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file. Based solely on our review of the copies of such forms received by us during fiscal 2017, and written representations from our directors and executive officers that no other reports were required, we believe that all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to our directors, executive officers and stockholders holding more than 10% of our common stock were met for fiscal 2017 except that Mr. Sanghi filed one late Form 4 in November 2016 with respect to one transaction; Mr. Moorthy filed one late Form 4 in October 2016 with respect to one transaction, and Mr. Meyercord filed one late Form 4 in August 2016 with respect to one transaction.

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PROPOSAL ONE

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Board currently consists of five directors: Steve Sanghi, Matthew W. Chapman, L.B. Day, Esther L. Johnson and Wade F. Meyercord. Unless proxy cards are otherwise marked, the persons named in the proxy card will vote such proxy for the election of the nominees named below. Each of the nominees is currently serving as a director and has agreed to continue serving if re-elected. If any of the nominees becomes unable or declines to serve as a director at the time of the annual meeting, the persons named in the proxy card will vote such proxy for any nominee designated by the current Board of Directors to fill the vacancy. We do not expect that any of the nominees will be unable or will decline to serve as a director.

Our Board of Directors has determined that each of the following nominees for director is an independent director as defined by applicable SEC rules and NASDAQ listing standards: Mr. Chapman, Mr. Day, Ms. Johnson and Mr. Meyercord.

The term of office of each person who is elected as a director at the annual meeting will continue until the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders and until a successor has been elected and qualified.

Vote Required; Board Recommendation

A nominee for director in an uncontested election shall be elected to the Board of Directors if the votes cast for such nominee's election exceed the votes cast against such nominee's election (with votes cast excluding abstentions, withheld notes or broker non-votes).

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that stockholders vote FOR the nominees listed below.

Information on Nominees for Director (as of June 30, 2017)

Name	Age	Position(s) Held
Steve Sanghi	61	Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board
Matthew W. Chapman	66	Director
L.B. Day	72	Director
Esther L. Johnson	65	Director
Wade F. Meyercord	76	Director

Steve Sanghi has served as Chief Executive Officer since October 1991, and Chairman of the Board since October 1993. He served as President from August 1990 to February 2016 and has served as a director since August 1990. From May 2004 through March 2014, when Xyratex Ltd. was acquired by Seagate Technology plc., he was a member of the Board of Directors of Xyratex Ltd., a publicly held U.K. company that specializes in storage and network technology. From May 2007 until April 2016, Mr. Sanghi served as a director of FIRST Organization, a not-for-profit public charity founded in 1989 to develop young people's interest in science and technology. From October 2013 through July 2014 when Hittite Microwave Corporation, a publicly held semiconductor company, was acquired, Mr. Sanghi was a member of the Board of Directors of Hittite Microwave Corporation. In November 2016, Mr. Sanghi joined the Board of Directors of Myomo, Inc., a commercial stage medical robotics company that offers expanded mobility for those suffering from neurological disorders and upper-limb paralysis.

The Board of Directors concluded that Mr. Sanghi should be nominated to serve as a director since he has served as CEO of Microchip for over 25 years and has provided very strong leadership to Microchip over this period. The Board of Directors believes that Mr. Sanghi's management skills have been instrumental to Microchip's extraordinary growth and profitability over the past 25 years and to the strong position Microchip has attained in its key markets.

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Matthew W. Chapman has served as a director of Microchip since May 1997. Since December 2006, he has served as Chief Executive Officer of Northwest Evaluation Association, a not-for-profit education services organization providing computer adaptive testing for millions of students throughout the United States and in 140 other countries. In his career, Mr. Chapman has served as CEO and Chairman of Concentrex Incorporated, a publicly held company specializing in supplying software solutions and service to U.S. financial institutions. Mr. Chapman also serves on the Board of Directors of the Oregon Business Association and Knowledge Alliance, and on the Board of Regents of the University of Portland.

The Board of Directors concluded that Mr. Chapman should be nominated to serve as a director due to his significant CEO level experience at several corporations. The Board of Directors also recognizes Mr. Chapman's experience in financial matters and that his background establishes him as an audit committee financial expert under applicable rules and makes him well suited to serve on the Board of Directors' nominating and governance committee.

L.B. Day has served as a director of Microchip since December 1994. Mr. Day serves as President of L.B. Day & Company, Inc., a consulting firm whose parent company he co-founded in 1977, which provides strategic planning, strategic marketing and organization design services to the elite of the technology world. He has written on strategic planning and is involved with competitive factor assessment in the semiconductor and other technology market segments, geared to helping client organizations incorporate competitive factor assessment findings into their strategic plans. He has served as a board member or as an advisor to many public and private boards.

The Board of Directors concluded that Mr. Day should be nominated to serve as a director due to his significant experience in corporate management and strategic matters. In particular, through his consulting practice, Mr. Day has been a key strategic advisor to a number of large public corporations. The Board of Directors also recognizes Mr. Day's experience in financial matters. The Board of Directors believes that Mr. Day's background makes him well suited to serve on the Board of Directors' nominating and governance committee and compensation committee.

Esther L. Johnson has served as a director of Microchip since October 2013. From April 2007 until her April 2012 retirement, Ms. Johnson served as the Vice President and General Manager of Carrier Electronics, a provider of high technology heating, air-conditioning and refrigeration solutions, and a part of United Technology Corporation, a publicly held company that provides high technology products and services to the aerospace and building systems industries. Prior to her position as Vice President and General Manager, since 1983, Ms. Johnson held a variety of other management positions with Carrier Electronics, including Director of Operations and Global Supply Chain Manager. Ms. Johnson was instrumental in Carrier being recognized by Industry Week as one of the "Top 10 Factories in North America." She has served as a board member on multiple private company boards.

The Board of Directors concluded that Ms. Johnson should be nominated to serve as a director due to her significant executive level experience in the technology industry. The Board of Directors also recognizes the knowledge and experience Ms. Johnson has gained through her service on the boards of various private companies. The Board of Directors also recognizes Ms. Johnson's experience in financial matters. The Board of Directors believes that Ms. Johnson's background makes her well suited to serve on the Board of Directors' audit committee and nominating and governance committee.

Wade F. Meyercord has served as a director of Microchip since June 1999. Since October 2002, he has served as President of Meyercord & Associates, Inc., a privately held management consulting firm specializing in executive compensation matters and stock plan consulting for technology companies, a position he previously held part time beginning in 1987. Mr. Meyercord served as a member of the Board of Directors of Endwave Corporation, a publicly held company, from March 2004 until it was acquired in 2011. Mr. Meyercord served as a member of the Board of Directors of California Micro Devices Corporation, a publicly held company, from January 1993 to October 2009 and Magma Design Automation, Inc., a publicly held company, from January 2004 to June 2005.

The Board of Directors concluded that Mr. Meyercord should be nominated to serve as a director due to his significant experience as a senior executive and board member of a number of companies in the technology industry.

Mr. Meyercord gained further industry experience through his consulting practice. The Board of Directors believes that Mr. Meyercord's background makes him well suited to serve on the Board of Directors' nominating and governance committee and compensation committee. The Board of Directors also recognizes his experience in financial matters and that his background establishes him as an audit committee financial expert under applicable

rules.

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PROPOSAL TWO

APPROVAL OF AMENDED AND RESTATED 2004 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN

Our 2004 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan") was initially approved by our stockholders in August 2004. The Plan provides for the grant of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock awards (which may be granted in the form of restricted stock or restricted stock units ("Restricted Stock Units" or "RSUs")), performance shares, performance units, and deferred stock units to our employees and consultants as well as for automatic grants of RSUs to the non-employee members of our Board of Directors.

Our Board of Directors is asking our stockholders to approve amending and restating the Plan to (i) increase the number of shares of common stock authorized for issuance thereunder by 6,000,000, and (ii) make certain other changes, including (x) providing that the gross shares pursuant to stock appreciation rights granted under the Plan (i.e., the shares actually issued pursuant to a stock appreciation right as well as the shares that represent payment of the exercise price and any applicable tax withholdings) will not be available for future grant or sale under the Plan; (y) adding a requirement that no award that vests on the basis of an individual's continuous service with us will vest earlier than one year following the date of grant, except with respect to 5% of the maximum number of shares issuable under the Plan; and (z) clarifying that there will be no right for a participant to receive dividends until the shares subject to stock appreciation rights are issued and there will be no right for a participant to receive dividends until the restrictions on shares of restricted stock lapse. We are also asking our stockholders to re-approve the material terms of the Plan so that we can (i) continue to have the ability to grant equity awards that constitute "performance-based compensation" for purposes of Internal Revenue Code Section 162(m) ("Section 162(m)"), and (ii) grant certain French-qualified RSUs. Our Board of Directors believes that in order for us to remain competitive amidst the changing equity compensation landscape, we must be able to continue to use equity compensation arrangements to help us achieve our goal of attracting, retaining and motivating our personnel. We believe that, as amended and restated, the Plan will be an essential element of our competitive compensation package.

Reasons for Voting for this Proposal

Long-Term Equity is a Key Component of our Compensation Strategy.

Our compensation strategy is to compensate our personnel in a manner that retains the highly talented employees necessary to manage and staff our business in an innovative and competitive industry. Our employees are our most valuable asset and we strive to provide them with compensation packages that are competitive, reward personal and company performance, and help meet our retention needs. We believe that equity awards, the value of which depends on our stock performance and which require continued service over time before any value can be realized, help achieve these objectives and are a key element to achieving our compensation goals. Equity awards also reinforce employees' incentives to manage our business as owners, aligning employees' interests with those of our stockholders. We believe we must continue to use equity compensation on a broad basis to help attract, retain, and motivate employees to continue to grow our business. As of March 31, 2017, there were approximately 7,240 employees (including executive officers), consultants, and non-employee directors who held outstanding equity awards granted under the Plan. We believe that executive officers and key employees should hold a long-term equity stake in Microchip to align their collective interests with the interests of our stockholders.

Requested Share Reserve Increase is Reasonable and Required to Meet our Forecasted Needs.

When we most recently increased the number of shares of common stock authorized for issuance under the Plan in 2012, we believed the shares of our common stock reserved for issuance under the Plan would be sufficient to enable us to grant equity awards until 2017. This estimate was based on forecasts that took into account our anticipated rate in growth in hiring, an estimated range of our stock price over time, and our anticipated burn rates.

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Our Board of Directors believes it is necessary to reserve additional shares of our common stock under the Plan to meet our anticipated equity compensation needs for the next several years. When determining the increase in the number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance under the Plan, our Board considered that we must be able to continue to use equity compensation arrangements to help us achieve our goal of attracting, retaining and motivating our personnel. Our Board also considering the following:

As of March 31, 2017, the number of shares of common stock that remained available for issuance under the Plan was 7,274,275, and we had 229,397,877 shares of common stock outstanding. As of such date, the outstanding equity awards under the Plan covered a total of 6,031,346 shares of our common stock, which consisted of (i) 5,981,292 shares subject to outstanding RSUs which were subject to vesting restrictions and (ii) 50,054 shares subject to outstanding options.

In fiscal 2017, fiscal 2016 and fiscal 2015, our usage of shares of our common stock for our stock plans as a percentage of our outstanding stock (i.e., our “burn rate”) was 0.61%, 1.09% and 0.60%, respectively. Our burn rate was calculated by dividing the number of shares subject to awards granted during the fiscal year by the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the fiscal year. Our average annual burn rate over this three-year period was 0.77%.

Our Board of Directors anticipates that the proposed share increase to the Plan will be sufficient for us to continue granting equity awards under the Plan through at least 2022 based on our average burn rate over the past three fiscal years. We are unable to predict our actual burn rate which will depend on a number of factors including the competitive dynamics for attracting, retaining and motivating our current and future employees, our future stock price, the impact of any future acquisitions we may make, any changes in tax laws, any changes in accounting rules related to share-based compensation and other factors. In particular, our Board considered that upon the closing of an acquisition (such as our acquisition of Atmel), we have typically assumed certain outstanding stock awards under the equity plans of the target company and such awards do not reduce the share reserve under Microchip's Plan. However, future equity awards to employees who join Microchip as a result of an acquisition will be made under the Plan and will reduce the share reserve under the Plan.

Our Board of Directors approved the amended and restated Plan on May 16, 2017. If stockholders approve this proposal, the amended and restated Plan will become effective as of the date of stockholder approval. If stockholders do not approve this proposal, our ability to attract and retain the individuals necessary to drive our performance and increase long-term stockholder value will be limited, as the Plan will continue to be administered in its current form and the share increase will not take effect.

The Plan Includes Compensation and Governance Best Practices

The Plan includes provisions that are considered best practices for compensation and corporate governance purposes. These provisions protect our stockholders' interest, as follows:

Administration. The Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee, which consists entirely of independent non-employee directors.

Repricing or Exchange Programs are Not Allowed. The Plan does not permit outstanding options or stock appreciation rights to be repriced or exchanged for other awards.

Minimum Vesting Requirements. In general, awards vesting on the basis of an individual's continuous service with us will vest in full no earlier than the one-year anniversary of the grant date, although up to 5% of the shares reserved in the Plan may be granted without this minimum vesting requirement.

Limited Transferability. Awards under the Plan generally may not be sold, assigned, transferred, pledged, or otherwise encumbered, unless otherwise approved by the administrator.

No Tax Gross-ups. The Plan does not provide for any tax gross-ups.

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• **No Dividends on Unvested Restricted Stock.** The Plan provides that a participant has no right to receive dividends on restricted stock until the restrictions on shares of restricted stock lapse.

Approving the Plan Allows Us to Grant Certain Tax-Qualified Awards under Section 162(m)

The approval of the Plan also is intended to give us, if we deem appropriate or desirable, the continued ability to grant awards that are intended to allow us to deduct in full for federal income tax purposes the compensation recognized by certain executive officers in connection with certain awards that may be granted to them under the Plan. Section 162(m) generally denies a corporate tax deduction for annual compensation exceeding \$1 million paid to the chief executive officer and certain other executive officers (excluding the chief financial officer). However, certain types of compensation, including performance-based compensation, are generally excluded from this deductibility limit if certain requirements are met. To enable compensation in connection with stock options, stock appreciation rights, RSUs and certain full-value awards and performance awards under the Plan to qualify as "performance-based" within the meaning of Section 162(m), the Plan limits the sizes of awards that may be granted to a participant each calendar year as further described below (among other requirements). By approving the amended and restated Plan, the stockholders will be re-approving, among other things, eligibility requirements for participation in the Plan and the other material terms of the Plan and awards granted under the Plan, including limits on the numbers of shares or compensation that could be granted to a participant each calendar year, and re-approving, among things, performance measures upon which specific performance goals applicable to certain awards would be based. Notwithstanding the foregoing, we retain the ability to grant awards under the Plan that do not qualify as "performance-based" compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m).

Approving the Plan Allows Us to Grant Certain French-Qualified Restricted Stock Units

In August 2015, a new law was adopted in France, which is referred to as "Loi Macron." Loi Macron provides potentially favorable tax and social contribution treatment to both our French subsidiaries and the employees receiving certain French-qualified equity awards. In order to benefit from Loi Macron's favorable tax treatment, French-qualified RSUs must be granted pursuant to an equity plan authorized by stockholders after August 7, 2015. We are not required to grant French-qualified RSUs in France and may choose, at our discretion, to grant non-qualified awards to employees of our French subsidiaries depending on the circumstances. Stockholder approval of the Plan at the Annual Meeting would allow us to meet the stockholder authorization requirement for granting French-qualified RSUs with Loi Macron terms. The approximate number of eligible employees that might receive awards under the Plan's French subplan is 410. Grants under the Plan and the French subplan are discretionary in nature and some employees might not receive grants under the Plan and/or the French subplan.

Our executive officers and directors have an interest in the approval of the Plan because they are eligible to receive equity awards under the Plan.

Please see the summary of our Plan, as amended and restated, below.

Vote Required and Recommendation

An affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of our common stock present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at our Annual Meeting is required to approve our amended and restated Plan. Abstentions will have the same effect as voting against this proposal. Broker "non-votes" are not counted for purposes of approving our amended and restated Plan and thus will not affect the outcome of the voting on such proposal.

Our Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" Proposal Two, the approval of our amended and restated 2004 Equity Incentive Plan.

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Description of the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan

The essential features of the Plan, as amended and restated, are summarized below. This summary does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by, the provisions of the amended and restated Plan, which is attached as Appendix A. Capitalized terms used herein and not defined shall have the meanings set forth in the Plan. General. The purposes of the Plan are to attract and retain the best available personnel, provide additional incentive to our employees, consultants and non-employee directors and promote the success of our business.

Shares Available for Issuance. Upon approval of the amended and restated Plan and subject to adjustment for changes in our capitalization, the maximum aggregate number of shares of common stock which may be issued under the Plan is 36,300,000 shares of common stock plus any shares subject to any options under our 1993 or 1997 Nonstatutory Stock Option Plans that expired unexercised, up to a maximum of an additional 5,000,000 shares.

If an award expires or becomes unexercisable without having been exercised in full, or with respect to restricted stock, RSUs, performance shares, performance units or deferred stock units, is forfeited to or repurchased by us, the unpurchased shares (or for awards other than stock options and stock appreciation rights, the forfeited or repurchased shares) which were subject thereto shall become available for future grant or sale under the Plan (unless the Plan has terminated). With respect to stock appreciation rights, the gross shares issued (i.e., shares actually issued pursuant to a stock appreciation right, as well as the shares that represent payment of the exercise price and any applicable tax withholdings pursuant to a stock appreciation right) shall cease to be available under the Plan. Shares that have actually been issued under the Plan under any award shall not be returned to the Plan and shall not become available for future distribution under the Plan; provided, however, that if shares of restricted stock, performance shares, performance units or deferred stock units are repurchased by us at their original purchase price or are forfeited to us, such shares shall become available for future grant under the Plan. Shares used to pay the exercise price or purchase price, if applicable, of an award shall become available for future grant or sale under the Plan. To the extent an award under the Plan is paid out in cash rather than stock, such cash payment shall not result in reducing the number of shares available for issuance under the Plan.

Administration. The Plan may be administered by our Board of Directors or a committee or committees, which may be appointed by our Board of Directors (the "Administrator"). To the extent that the Administrator determines it to be desirable to qualify awards granted under the Plan as "performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m), the Plan will be administered by a committee of two or more "outside directors" within the meaning of Section 162(m). Subject to the provisions of the Plan, the Administrator has the authority to: (i) construe and interpret the plan and awards; (ii) prescribe, amend or rescind rules and regulations relating to the Plan; (iii) select the service providers to whom awards are to be granted (apart from the non-employee director automatic grant provisions); (iv) subject to the limits set forth in the Plan, determine the number of shares or equivalent units to be granted subject to each award; (v) determine whether and to what extent awards are to be granted; (vi) determine the terms and conditions, not inconsistent with the terms of the Plan, applicable to awards granted under the Plan; (vii) modify or amend any outstanding award subject to applicable legal restrictions and the restrictions set forth in the Plan; (viii) authorize any person to execute, on our behalf, any instrument required to effect the grant of an award; (ix) approve forms of agreement for use under the Plan; (x) allow participants to satisfy tax withholding obligations by electing to have Microchip withhold from the shares or cash to be issued upon exercise, vesting of an award (or distribution of a deferred stock unit) that number of shares or cash having a fair market value equal to the minimum amount required to be withheld; (xi) determine the fair market value of the shares of our common stock and (xii) subject to certain limitations, take any other actions deemed necessary or advisable for the administration of the Plan. All decisions, interpretations and other actions of the Administrator shall be final and binding on all holders of options or rights and on all persons deriving their rights therefrom.

Plan Term. Unless previously terminated by the Board of Directors, the Plan shall terminate on May 22, 2022.

Discount Award Limitations. No stock options or stock appreciation rights may be granted with an exercise price that is less than 100% of fair market value on the date of grant.

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No Repricing. The Plan prohibits option or stock appreciation right repricing, including by way of an exchange for another award or for cash.

Eligibility. The Plan provides that awards may be granted to our employees, consultants and non-employee directors.

Minimum Vesting Requirements. Except with respect to 5% of the maximum number of shares issuable under the Plan, no award that vests on the basis of an individual's continuous service with us will vest earlier than one year following the date of grant; provided, however, that vesting of an award may be accelerated upon the death, disability, or involuntary termination of the service of the grantee, or in connection with a corporate transaction, as defined in the Plan.

Code Section 162(m) Performance Goals. We have designed the Plan so that it permits us to issue awards that qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m). Thus, the Administrator may make performance goals applicable to a participant with respect to an award. At the Administrator's discretion, one or more of the following performance goals may apply: (i) cash flow (including operating cash flow or free cash flow), (ii) cash position, (iii) revenue (on an absolute basis or adjusted for currency effects), (iv) revenue growth, (v) contribution margin, (vi) gross margin or gross margin as a percentage of revenue, (vii) operating margin or operating margin as a percentage of revenue, (viii) operating expenses or operating expenses as a percentage of revenue, (ix) earnings (which may include earnings before interest and taxes, earnings before taxes and net earnings), (x) earnings per share, (xi) net income, (xii) stock price, (xiii) return on equity, (xiv) total stockholder return, (xv) growth in stockholder value relative to a specified publicly reported index (such as the S&P 500 Index), (xvi) return on capital, (xvii) return on assets or net assets, (xviii) return on investment, (xix) operating profit or net operating profit, (xx) market share (which may include ranking for a specific product line or market share percentage for a given product line), (xxi) contract awards or backlog, (xxii) overhead or other expense reduction, (xxiii) credit rating, (xxiv) objective customer indicators, (xxv) new product invention or innovation, (xxvi) attainment of research and development milestones, (xxvii) improvements in productivity, (xxviii) attainment of objective operating goals, and (xxix) objective employee metrics. The performance measures listed above may apply to either Microchip as a whole or, except with respect to stockholder return metrics, a region, business unit, affiliate or business segment or specific product or products, and measured either on an absolute basis or relative to a pre-established target, to a previous period's results or to a designated comparison group, and, with respect to financial metrics, which may be determined in accordance with GAAP, in accordance with IASB Principles or which may be adjusted when established to exclude any items otherwise includable under GAAP or under IASB Principles or any other objectively determinable items including, without limitation, (a) any extraordinary non-recurring items, (b) the effect of any merger, acquisition, or other business combination or divestiture, or (c) the effect of any changes in accounting principles affecting Microchip's or a business unit's, region's, affiliate's or business segment's reported results. The performance goals may differ from participant to participant and from award to award.

Terms and Conditions of Options. Each option granted under the Plan is evidenced by a written stock option agreement between the participant and Microchip and is subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) **Exercise Price.** The Administrator determines the exercise price of options at the time the options are granted.

However, the exercise price of a stock option may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date the option is granted. For purposes of the Plan, "fair market value" is generally the closing sale price for the common stock (or the closing bid if no sales were reported) on the date the option is granted.

(b) **Form of Consideration.** The means of payment for shares issued upon exercise of an option is specified in each option agreement and generally may be made by cash, check, other shares of our common stock owned by the participant, delivery of an exercise notice together with irrevocable instructions to a broker to deliver to us the exercise price from sale proceeds, by a combination thereof, or by such other consideration and method of payment to the extent permitted by applicable laws.

(c) **Exercise of the Option.** Each stock option agreement will specify the term of the option and the date when the option is to become exercisable. However, in no event shall an option granted under the Plan be exercised more than ten years after the date of grant. Until the shares are issued, no right to vote or receive dividends or any other rights as a stockholder shall exist with respect to the underlying shares.

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(d) Termination of Employment. If a participant's employment terminates for any reason (other than death or permanent disability), all options held by such participant under the Plan expire upon the earlier of (i) such period of time as is set forth in his or her option agreement or (ii) the expiration date of the option. In the absence of a specified time in the option agreement, the option will remain exercisable for three months following the participant's termination. The participant may exercise all or part of his or her option at any time before such expiration to the extent that such option was exercisable at the time of termination of employment.

(e) Permanent Disability. If an employee is unable to continue employment with us as a result of permanent and total disability (as defined in the Code), all options held by such participant under the Plan shall expire upon the earlier of (i) such period of time as is set forth in his or her option agreement or (ii) the expiration date of the option. In the absence of a specified time in the option agreement, the option will remain exercisable for six months following the participant's termination. The participant may exercise all or part of his or her option at any time before such expiration to the extent that such option was exercisable at the time of termination of employment.

(f) Death. If a participant dies while employed by us, 100% of his or her awards shall immediately vest, and his or her option shall expire upon the earlier of (i) such period of time as is set forth in his or her option agreement or (ii) the expiration date of the option. In the absence of a specified time in the option agreement, the option will remain exercisable for 12 months following the participant's termination. The executors or other legal representatives or the participant may exercise all or part of the participant's option at any time before such expiration with respect to all shares subject to such option.

(g) Other Provisions. The stock option agreement may contain terms, provisions and conditions that are consistent with the Plan as determined by the Administrator.

162(m) Share Limit. No participant may be granted stock options and stock appreciation rights to purchase more than 1,500,000 shares of common stock in any fiscal year, except that up to 4,000,000 shares may be granted in the participant's first fiscal year of service.

Terms and Conditions of Stock Appreciation Rights. The Administrator determines the exercise price of stock appreciation rights (or "SARs") at the time they are granted. However, the exercise price of a SAR may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date the SAR is granted. Otherwise, the Administrator, subject to the provisions of the Plan (including the 162(m) share limit referred to above and the minimum vesting requirements), shall have complete discretion to determine the terms and conditions of SARs granted under the Plan. However, in no event shall a SAR granted under the Plan be exercised more than ten years after the date of grant. Until the shares are issued, no right to vote or receive dividends or any other rights as a stockholder shall exist with respect to the underlying shares.

Payment of Stock Appreciation Right Amount. Upon exercise of an SAR, the holder of the SAR shall be entitled to receive payment in an amount equal to the product of (i) the difference between the fair market value of a share on the date of exercise and the exercise price and (ii) the number of shares for which the SAR is exercised.

Payment upon Exercise of Stock Appreciation Right. At the discretion of the Administrator, payment to the holder of an SAR may be in cash, shares of our common stock or a combination thereof. To the extent that an SAR is settled in cash, the shares available for issuance under the Plan shall not be diminished as a result of the settlement.

Stock Appreciation Right Agreement. Each SAR grant shall be evidenced by an agreement that specifies the exercise price, the term of the SAR, the conditions of exercise, and such other terms and conditions as the committee, in its sole discretion, shall determine.

Expiration of Stock Appreciation Rights. SARs granted under the Plan expire as determined by the Administrator, but in no event later than ten years from date of grant. No SAR may be exercised by any person after its expiration. The same provisions regarding termination of service that apply to options apply to SARs.

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Terms and Conditions of Restricted Stock. Subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan, restricted stock may be granted to our employees and consultants at any time and from time to time at the discretion of the Administrator. Subject to the minimum vesting requirements, the Administrator has complete discretion to determine (i) the number of shares subject to a restricted stock award granted to any participant and (ii) the conditions for grant or for vesting that must be satisfied, which typically will be based principally or solely on continued provision of services but may include a performance-based component. However, no participant shall be granted a restricted stock award covering more than 300,000 shares in any of our fiscal years, except that up to 750,000 shares may be granted in the participant's first fiscal year of service. Until the shares are issued, no right to vote or receive dividends or any other rights as a stockholder shall exist with respect to the underlying shares. Restricted stock may also be granted in the form of RSUs. Each RSU granted is a bookkeeping entry representing an amount equal to the fair market value of a share of our common stock.

Restricted Stock Award Agreement. Each restricted stock grant shall be evidenced by an agreement that specifies the purchase price (if any) and such other terms and conditions as the Administrator shall determine; provided, however, that if the restricted stock grant has a purchase price, the purchase price must be paid no more than ten years following the date of grant.

Terms and Conditions of Performance Shares. Subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan, performance shares may be granted to our employees and consultants at any time and from time to time as determined at the discretion of the Administrator. The Administrator has complete discretion to determine (i) the number of shares of our common stock subject to a performance share award granted to any participant and (ii) the conditions that must be satisfied for grant or for vesting, which typically will be based principally or solely on achievement of performance milestones but may include a service-based component. However, no participant shall be granted performance share award covering more than 300,000 shares in any of our fiscal years, except that up to 750,000 shares may be granted on the participant's first fiscal year of service.

Performance Share Award Agreement. Each performance share grant shall be evidenced by an agreement that specifies such other terms and conditions as the Administrator, in its sole discretion, shall determine.

Terms and Conditions of Performance Units. Performance units are similar to performance shares, except that they are settled in cash equivalent to the fair market value of the underlying shares of our common stock, determined as of the vesting date. The shares available for issuance under the Plan shall not be diminished as a result of the settlement of a performance unit. No participant shall be granted a performance unit award covering more than \$1,500,000 in any of Microchip's fiscal years, except that a newly hired participant may receive a performance unit award covering up to \$4,000,000 in the participant's first fiscal year of service.

Performance Unit Award Agreement. Each performance unit grant shall be evidenced by an agreement that shall specify such terms and conditions as shall be determined at the discretion of the Administrator.

Terms and Conditions of Deferred Stock Units. Deferred stock units consist of restricted stock, performance share or performance unit awards that the Administrator, in its sole discretion, permits to be paid out in installments or on a deferred basis, in accordance with rules and procedures established by the Administrator. Deferred stock units are subject to the individual annual limits that apply to each type of award.

Dividend Equivalent Right Restrictions. The Plan does not permit the granting of dividend equivalent rights, including but not limited to, on options or SARs. Accordingly, in no event will dividend equivalent rights be paid out on unearned performance-based vesting awards under the Plan.

Awards to Non-Employee Directors. The Plan provides for initial and annual awards to non-employee directors within prescribed parameters. Specifically, each non-employee director is entitled to receive the following automatic grants: (i) for new non-employee directors, a grant of that number of RSUs equal to \$160,000 divided by the fair market value of a share on the date of grant, rounded down to the nearest whole share (the "Initial RSU Grant"), and (ii) for continuing non-employee directors who have served at least three months on the date of the annual meeting, a grant of that number of RSUs equal to \$84,000 divided by the fair market value of a share on the date of grant, rounded down to the nearest whole share (the "Annual RSU Grant"), provided that such non-employee director has been elected by the stockholders to serve as a member of the Board at that annual meeting. The Initial RSU Grant vests in equal 25% annual installments on each of the four anniversaries of the

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tenth business day of the second month of our fiscal quarter in which the grant is made. The Annual RSU Grant vests in equal 50% annual installments on each of the two anniversaries of the tenth day of the second month of our fiscal quarter in which the grant is made. Vesting of the Initial RSU Grant and the Annual RSU Grant is contingent upon the applicable non-employee director maintaining continued status as a non-employee director through the applicable vesting date.

Non-Transferability of Awards. Unless determined otherwise by the Administrator, an award granted under the Plan may not be sold, pledged, assigned, hypothecated, transferred, or disposed of in any manner other than by will or by the laws of descent or distribution and may be exercised, during the lifetime of the recipient, only by the recipient. In no event may an award granted under the Plan be exchanged for consideration. If the Administrator makes an award granted under the Plan transferable, such award shall contain such additional terms and conditions as the Administrator deems appropriate.

Acceleration upon Death. In the event that a participant dies while a service provider, 100% of his or her awards shall immediately vest.

Leave of Absence. In the event that a participant goes on an unpaid leave of absence, award vesting will cease until he or she returns to work, except as required by law or as determined by the Administrator.

Forfeiture on Misconduct. Should (i) a participant's service be terminated for misconduct (including, but not limited to, any act of dishonesty, willful misconduct, fraud or embezzlement), or (ii) a participant makes any unauthorized use or disclosure of confidential information or trade secrets of Microchip or its parent or subsidiary, then all outstanding awards held by the participant will terminate immediately and cease to be outstanding, including both vested and unvested awards.

Adjustment Upon Changes in Capitalization. In the event that our capital stock is changed by reason of any stock split, reverse stock split, stock dividend, combination or reclassification of our common stock or any other increase or decrease in the number of issued shares of common stock effected without receipt of consideration by us, appropriate proportional adjustments shall be made in the number and class of shares of stock subject to the Plan, the individual fiscal year limits applicable to restricted stock, RSUs, performance share awards, SARs and options, the number and class of shares of stock subject to any award outstanding under the Plan, and the exercise price of any such outstanding option or SAR or other award, provided that such automatic adjustments will not be made to the number of shares to be granted to our non-employee directors under the Plan. Any such adjustment shall be made by the Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors, whose determination shall be conclusive.

Dissolution or Liquidation. In the event of the proposed dissolution or liquidation of Microchip, the Administrator will notify each participant as soon as practicable prior to the effective date of such proposed transaction. The Administrator in its discretion may provide for a participant to have the right to exercise his or her option or SAR until ten days prior to such transaction as to all the shares covered by the award, including shares as to which the award would not otherwise be exercisable. The Administrator may provide that any repurchase option or forfeiture rights held by Microchip will lapse 100% and vesting will accelerate 100%, provided that the proposed dissolution or liquidation takes place at the time and in the manner contemplated. To the extent that it has not been exercised (with respect to options or SARs) or vested (with respect to other awards), an award will terminate immediately prior to the consummation of the proposed action.

Change of Control. In the event of a change of control of Microchip, the successor corporation (or its parent or subsidiary) will assume or substitute each outstanding award. If the successor corporation refuses to assume the awards or to substitute equivalent awards, such awards shall become 100% vested. In such event, the Administrator shall notify the participant that each award subject to exercise is fully exercisable for 30 days from the date of such notice and that the award terminates upon expiration of such period.

Amendment, Suspensions and Termination of the Plan. Our Board of Directors may amend, suspend or terminate the Plan at any time; provided, however, that stockholder approval is required for any amendment to the extent necessary to comply with Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Rule 16b-3") or Section 422 of the Code, or any similar rule or statute. The Plan will terminate in May 2022 unless earlier terminated by the Board of Directors.

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Federal Tax Information

The following paragraphs are a summary of the general federal income tax consequences to U.S. taxpayers and us of awards granted under the Plan. Tax consequences for any particular individual may be different.

Options. Options granted under the Plan are nonstatutory options that do not qualify as incentive stock options under Section 422 of the Code.

A participant will not recognize any taxable income at the time the participant is granted a nonstatutory option. However, upon its exercise, the participant will recognize taxable income generally measured as the excess of the then-fair market value of the shares purchased over the exercise price of the option. Any taxable income recognized in connection with an option exercise by a participant who is also our employee will be subject to tax withholding by us. Upon resale of such shares by the participant, any difference between the sale price and the participant's exercise price, to the extent not recognized as taxable income as described above, will be treated as short-term or long-term capital gain or loss, depending on the holding period.

Stock Appreciation Rights. No taxable income is reportable when an SAR is granted to a participant. Upon exercise, the participant will recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the fair market value of any shares of our common stock received and/or the amount of cash received. Any taxable income recognized in connection with exercise of an SAR by a participant who is also our employee will be subject to tax withholding by us. Any additional gain or loss recognized upon any later disposition of the shares of our common stock would be a capital gain or loss.

Restricted Stock, Performance Units and Performance Shares. A participant will not have taxable income upon grant (unless, with respect to restricted stock that is not in the form of RSUs, he or she elects to be taxed at that time). Instead, he or she will recognize ordinary income at the time of vesting/delivery equal to the fair market value (on the vesting date) of the vested shares or cash received minus any amount paid for the shares of our vested common stock. Any taxable income recognized in connection with an award of restricted stock, performance units, and performance shares by a participant who is also our employee will be subject to tax withholding by us.

Deferred Stock Units. Typically, a participant will recognize employment taxes upon the vesting of a deferred stock unit and income upon its delivery. The participant may be subject to additional taxation, interest and penalties if the deferred stock unit does not comply with Section 409A of the Code.

Tax Effect for Microchip. We generally will be entitled to a tax deduction in connection with an award under the Plan in an amount equal to the ordinary income realized by a participant at the time the participant recognizes such income (for example, the exercise of a non-qualified stock option). Special rules limit the deductibility of compensation paid to our covered employees. Under Section 162(m), the annual compensation paid to any of these specified executives will be deductible only to the extent that it does not exceed \$1,000,000. However, we can preserve the deductibility of certain compensation in excess of \$1,000,000 if the conditions of Section 162(m) are met with respect to awards. These conditions include (among others) stockholder approval of the Plan and its material terms, setting limits on the number of awards that any individual may receive and for awards other than stock options and stock appreciation rights, and establishing performance criteria that must be met before the award actually will vest or be paid. The Plan has been designed to permit the Administrator to grant awards that qualify as performance-based for purposes of satisfying the conditions of Section 162(m), thereby permitting us to continue to receive a federal income tax deduction in connection with such awards.

Section 409A of the Code. Section 409A of the Code imposes certain requirements on non-qualified deferred compensation arrangements. These include requirements with respect to an individual's election to defer compensation and the individual's selection of the timing and form of distribution of the deferred compensation. Section 409A of the Code also generally provides that distributions must be made on or following the occurrence of certain events (e.g., the individual's separation from service, a predetermined date, or the individual's death). Section 409A of the Code imposes restrictions on an individual's ability to change his or her distribution timing or form after the compensation has been deferred. For certain individuals who are officers, Section 409A of the Code requires that such individual's distribution commence no earlier than six months after such officer's separation from service.

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Awards granted under the Plan with a deferral feature will be subject to the requirements of Section 409A of the Code. If an award is subject to and fails to satisfy the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, the recipient of that award will recognize ordinary income on the amounts deferred under the award, to the extent vested, which may be prior to when the compensation is actually or constructively received. Also, if an award that is subject to Section 409A of the Code fails to comply with the provisions of Section 409A of the Code, Section 409A of the Code imposes an additional 20% federal income tax on compensation recognized as ordinary income, as well as possible interest charges and penalties. Certain states have enacted laws similar to Section 409A of the Code which impose additional taxes, interest and penalties on non-qualified deferred compensation arrangements. We will also have reporting requirements with respect to such amounts, and will have certain withholding requirements.

THE FOREGOING IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE EFFECT OF U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION UPON PARTICIPANTS AND MICROCHIP UNDER THE PLAN. IT DOES NOT PURPORT TO BE COMPLETE, AND DOES NOT DISCUSS THE TAX CONSEQUENCES OF A SERVICE PROVIDER'S DEATH OR THE PROVISIONS OF THE INCOME TAX LAWS OF ANY MUNICIPALITY, STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY IN WHICH A SERVICE PROVIDER MAY RESIDE.

Accounting Treatment. Under current accounting rules mandating expensing for all compensatory equity awards, including stock options and RSUs, we recognize compensation expense for all awards granted under the Plan. This will result in a direct charge to our reported earnings.

Number of Awards Granted to Employees, Consultants, and Directors

The amount, timing, and value of discretionary awards under the Plan, including grants to our CEO and our four other most highly compensated executive officers, is in the discretion of the Administrator and therefore not determinable in advance. The future award of RSUs to non-employee directors is subject to the election of such individuals as directors and the fair market value of the common stock on the date the RSUs are granted. No options were granted under the Plan during fiscal 2017. The following table sets forth the aggregate number of RSUs granted under the Plan during fiscal 2017 to each of our named executive officers; executive officers as a group; directors who are not executive officers as a group; and all employees who are not executive officers as a group:

EQUITY GRANTS IN FISCAL 2017

Name of Individual or Identity of Group and Position	Number of Shares Subject to RSUs Granted	Weighted Average Fair Value ⁽¹⁾
Steve Sanghi CEO and Chairman of the Board	84,508	\$ 50.05
Ganesh Moorthy President and COO	50,413	\$ 50.51
Mitchell R. Little VP, Worldwide Sales and Applications	16,278	\$ 50.07
Stephen V. Drehobl VP, MCU8 and Technology Development Division	18,749	\$ 50.07
J. Eric Bjornholt VP, CFO	11,932	\$ 50.08
All current executive officers as a group (6 people)	195,739	\$ 50.18
All current directors who are not executive officers as a group (4 people)	5,488	\$ 58.40
All other employees as a group	1,434,428	\$ 51.61

⁽¹⁾ Represents the weighted average fair value per share as of the grant date.

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PROPOSAL THREE

RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Audit Committee of our Board of Directors has appointed Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, to audit our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018. Ernst & Young LLP has audited our financial statements since the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002 and has served as our independent registered public accounting firm since June 2001. The partner in charge of our audit is rotated every five years. Other partners and non-partner personnel are rotated on a periodic basis as required.

We anticipate that a representative of Ernst & Young LLP will be present at the annual meeting, will have the opportunity to make a statement if he or she desires and will be available to respond to appropriate questions. Stockholder ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP is not required by our Bylaws or applicable law. However, our Board of Directors chose to submit such appointment to our stockholders for ratification. In the event of a negative vote on such ratification, the Audit Committee will reconsider its selection.

Fees Paid to Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Audit Fees

This category includes fees associated with our annual audit, the reviews of our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, and statutory audits required internationally. This category also includes advice on audit and accounting matters that arose during, or as a result of, the audit or the review of our interim financial statements, statutory audits and the assistance with review of our SEC registration statements. This category also included fees associated with the audit of our internal control over financial reporting required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. The aggregate fees billed or to be billed by Ernst & Young LLP in each of the last two fiscal years for such services were approximately \$6,099,416 for fiscal 2017 and \$3,525,475 for fiscal 2016. Our audit fees in fiscal 2017 were significantly higher than our audit fees in fiscal 2016 due to our acquisition of Atmel resulting in higher fees for audit, purchase accounting and related tax work.

Audit-Related Fees

This category includes fees associated with employee benefit plan audits, internal control reviews, accounting consultations and attestation services that are not required by statute or regulation. There were no fees billed by Ernst & Young LLP for such services in each of the last two fiscal years.

Tax Fees

This category includes fees associated with tax return preparation, tax advice and tax planning. The aggregate fees billed or to be billed by Ernst & Young LLP in either of the last two fiscal years for such services were approximately \$842,330 for fiscal 2017 and \$830,885 for fiscal 2016.

All Other Fees

This category includes fees for support and advisory services not related to audit services or tax services. There were no such fees in fiscal 2017 or fiscal 2016.

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Our Audit Committee pre-approves all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by our independent registered public accounting firm. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. The Audit Committee has adopted a policy for the pre-approval of services provided by our independent registered public accounting firm. Under the policy, pre-approval is generally provided for up to one year, and any pre-approval is detailed as to the particular service or category of services and is subject to a specific budget or limit. The Audit Committee may also pre-approve particular services on a case-by-case basis. The Chairman of the Audit Committee has the delegated authority from the Audit Committee to pre-approve a specified level of services, and such pre-approvals are then communicated to the full Audit Committee at its next scheduled meeting. During fiscal 2017, all audit and non-audit services rendered by Ernst & Young LLP were approved in accordance with our pre-approval policy.

Our Audit Committee has determined that the non-audit services rendered by Ernst & Young LLP during fiscal 2017 and fiscal 2016 were compatible with maintaining the independence of Ernst & Young LLP.

Vote Required; Board Recommendation

The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast on the proposal at the annual meeting is required to approve the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of Microchip for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018. Abstentions will have the same effect as a vote against this proposal.

Upon the recommendation of our Audit Committee, our Board of Directors unanimously recommends that stockholders vote "FOR" Proposal Three, the ratification of our independent registered public accounting firm, as described in this Proxy Statement.

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PROPOSAL FOUR

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

As contemplated in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the "Dodd-Frank Act"), Section 14A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 enables our stockholders to vote to approve, on an advisory (non-binding) basis, the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this Proxy Statement in accordance with the SEC's rules (commonly referred to as a "Say-on-Pay").

As described under the heading "Executive Compensation — Compensation Discussion and Analysis," our executive compensation program is a comprehensive package designed to motivate our executive officers to achieve our corporate objectives and is intended to be competitive and allow us to attract and retain highly qualified executive officers. We believe that the various elements of our executive compensation program work together to promote our goal of ensuring that total compensation should be related to both our performance and individual performance. Stockholders are urged to read the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" section of this Proxy Statement, beginning on page 28, which discusses how our executive compensation policies implement our compensation philosophy, and the "Compensation of Named Executive Officers" section of this Proxy Statement, which contains tabular information and narrative discussion about the compensation of our named executive officers. These sections provide additional details about our executive compensation programs, including information about the fiscal 2017 compensation of our named executive officers. The Compensation Committee and our Board of Directors believe that these policies are effective in implementing our compensation philosophy and in achieving our goals.

We are asking our stockholders to indicate their support for our executive compensation as described in this Proxy Statement. This Say-on-Pay proposal gives our stockholders the opportunity to express their views on our named executive officers' compensation. This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of our named executive officers and the philosophy, policies and practices described in this Proxy Statement. Accordingly, we are asking our stockholders to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the named executive officers, as disclosed in this Proxy Statement pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the SEC, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the Summary Compensation Table and the other related tables and disclosures.

The Say-on-Pay vote is advisory, and therefore not binding on us, the Compensation Committee or our Board of Directors. However, our Board of Directors and our Compensation Committee value the opinions of our stockholders and to the extent there is any significant vote against the named executive officer compensation as disclosed in this Proxy Statement, we will consider our stockholders' concerns and the Compensation Committee will evaluate whether any actions are necessary to address those concerns. Our current policy is to provide stockholders with an opportunity to approve the compensation of our named executive officers each year at our annual meeting of stockholders. Thus, it is expected that the next such vote will occur at our 2018 annual meeting.

Vote Required; Board Recommendation

The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast on the proposal at the Annual Meeting is required to approve the compensation of our named executive officers on an advisory (non-binding) basis. Abstentions will have the same effect as a vote against this proposal. Broker "non-votes" are not counted for purposes of approving the compensation of our named executive officers on an advisory (non-binding) basis and thus will not affect the outcome of the voting on such proposal.

Our Board of Directors unanimously recommends voting "FOR" Proposal Four, the approval, on an advisory (non-binding) basis, of the compensation of our named executive officers, as described in this Proxy Statement.

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PROPOSAL FIVE

APPROVAL OF FREQUENCY PERIOD OF ADVISORY COMPENSATION VOTE

In connection with Proposal Four, the Dodd-Frank Act also requires that we include in this Proxy Statement a separate advisory (non-binding) stockholder vote to advise Microchip on how frequently we should seek a Say-on-Pay vote. By voting on this Proposal Five, stockholders may indicate whether they would prefer an advisory vote on executive officer compensation once every one, two, or three years.

Because an advisory vote every year allows our stockholders to provide us with timely feedback regarding our compensation policies and practices, our Board of Directors believes that Say-on-Pay votes should be conducted annually. You may cast your vote on your preferred voting frequency by choosing the option of one year, two years, three years or abstain from voting. Under SEC rules, we will be required to permit our stockholders to vote on the frequency of the Say-on-Pay vote at least once every six years.

Vote Required; Recommendation of the Board of Directors

The selection regarding the frequency of the stockholder vote on executive compensation receiving the highest number of "FOR" votes shall be approved on an advisory (non-binding) basis. However, because this vote is advisory and not binding on the Board of Directors or us in any way, the Board of Directors may decide that it is in the best interests of our stockholders and us to hold an advisory vote on executive compensation more or less frequently than the option approved by our stockholders.

Our Board of Directors unanimously recommends that stockholders vote to hold Say-on-Pay votes every year (as opposed to every two or three years) under Proposal Five.

Table of ContentsSECURITY OWNERSHIP OF PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS,
DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The following table sets forth information concerning the beneficial ownership of our common stock as of May 22, 2017 for: (a) each director, (b) our CEO, our CFO and the three other most highly compensated executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table, (c) all directors and executive officers as a group, and (d) each person who is known to us to own beneficially more than 5% of our common stock. Except as otherwise indicated in the footnotes to this table, and subject to applicable community property laws and joint tenancies, the persons named in this table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of common stock held by such person:

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Number of Shares Beneficially Owned ⁽¹⁾	Percent of Common Stock ⁽¹⁾
The Vanguard Group, Inc. ⁽²⁾	22,016,435	9.60
T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. ⁽³⁾	19,870,438	8.66
BlackRock, Inc. ⁽⁴⁾	13,471,356	5.87
Steve Sanghi ⁽⁵⁾	4,505,907	1.96
Matthew W. Chapman ⁽⁶⁾	27,236	*
L.B. Day ⁽⁷⁾	14,734	*
Esther L. Johnson	5,707	*
Wade F. Meyercord ⁽⁸⁾	38,279	*
J. Eric Bjornholt ⁽⁹⁾	15,477	*
Stephen V. Drehobl	14,263	*
Mitchell R. Little	8,576	*
Ganesh Moorthy ⁽¹⁰⁾	199,695	*
All directors and executive officers as a group (10 people) ⁽¹¹⁾	4,879,341	2.13

* Represented less than 1% of the outstanding shares of common stock as of May 22, 2017. Our shares of common stock outstanding at May 22, 2017 were 229,398,261.

For each individual and group included in the table, the number of shares beneficially owned includes shares of common stock issuable to the identified individual or group pursuant to stock options that are exercisable within 60 days of May 22, 2017. There are no stock purchase rights or RSUs that will vest within 60 days of May 22, 2017.

⁽¹⁾ In calculating the percentage of ownership of each individual or group, share amounts that are attributable to options that are exercisable within 60 days of May 22, 2017 are deemed to be outstanding for the purpose of calculating the percentage of shares of common stock owned by such individual or group but are not deemed to be outstanding for the purpose of calculating the percentage of shares of common stock owned by any other individual or group.

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Address is 100 Vanguard Boulevard, Malvern, PA 19355. All information is based solely on the Schedule 13G filed by The Vanguard Group, Inc. on February 10, 2017, with the exception of the percentage of common stock held which is based on shares outstanding at May 22, 2017. Such Schedule 13G/A indicates that The Vanguard Group, Inc. (i) has sole power to dispose of or direct the disposition of 21,647,402 shares of common stock and shared power to dispose of or direct the disposition of 369,033 shares of common stock; and (ii) has sole power to vote or direct the vote of 334,972 shares of common stock and shared power to vote or direct the vote of 36,574 shares of common stock.

Address is 100 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202. All information is based solely on the Schedule 13G/A filed by T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. on February 7, 2017, with the exception of the percentage of common stock held which is based on shares outstanding at May 22, 2017. Such Schedule 13G/A indicates that T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. (i) has sole power to dispose of or direct the disposition of 19,870,438 shares of common stock; and (ii) has sole power to vote or direct the vote of 6,632,168 shares of common stock.

Address is 55 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10055. All information is based solely on the Schedule 13G/A filed by BlackRock, Inc. on January 25, 2017 with the exception of the percentage of common stock held which is based on shares outstanding at May 22, 2017. Such Schedule 13G/A indicates that BlackRock, Inc. (i) has sole power to dispose of or direct the disposition of 13,471,356, shares of common stock; and (ii) has sole power to vote or direct the vote of 11,644,678 shares of common stock.

Includes 1,552,971 shares held of record by The Sanghi Trust (the "Sanghi Trust") and 2,952,936 shares held of record by The Sanghi Family Limited Partnership (the "Family Limited Partnership"). Steve Sanghi and Maria T. Sanghi are the sole trustees of the Sanghi Trust. The Sanghi Trust is the sole member of the Sanghi LLC which is the sole general partner of the Family Limited Partnership.

(6) Includes 6,000 shares issuable upon exercise of options that are exercisable within 60 days of May 22, 2017.

(7) Includes 6,000 shares issuable upon exercise of options that are exercisable within 60 days of May 22, 2017.

(8) Includes 29,279 shares held of record by Wade F. Meyercord and Phyllis Meyercord as trustees, and 9,000 shares issuable upon exercise of options that are exercisable within 60 days of May 22, 2017.

(9) Includes 15,477 shares held of record by J. Eric Bjornholt and Lynn Bjornholt as trustees.

(10) Includes 199,695 shares held of record by Ganesh Moorthy and Hema Moorthy as trustees.

(11) Includes an aggregate of 21,000 shares issuable upon exercise of options that are exercisable within 60 days of May 22, 2017.

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EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Overview of the Compensation Program

The Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors, presently comprised of Mr. Day and Mr. Meyercord, reviews the performance of our executive officers and makes compensation decisions regarding our executive officers. Our policies for setting compensation for each of our named executive officers (i.e., our CEO, CFO, and our three other most highly paid executive officers) are the same as those for the rest of our executive officers. Our compensation program is a comprehensive package designed to motivate the executive officers to achieve our corporate objectives and is intended to be competitive and allow us to attract and retain highly qualified executive officers. In general, the types of compensation and benefits provided to our executive officers are similar to those provided to a broad base of Microchip employees, and include salary, cash bonuses, RSUs, and other benefits described below.

Our Executive Compensation Policy and Objectives

Our compensation policy for executive officers, including our named executive officers, and key employees is based on a "pay-for-performance" philosophy. This "pay-for-performance" philosophy emphasizes variable compensation, primarily by placing a large portion of pay at risk. We believe that this philosophy meets the following objectives:

- rewards performance that may contribute to increased stockholder value,
- attracts, retains, motivates and rewards individuals with competitive compensation opportunities,
- aligns an executive officer's total compensation with our business objectives,
- fosters a team environment among our management that focuses their energy on achieving our financial and business objectives consistent with Microchip's "guiding values,"
- balances short-term and long-term strategic goals, and
- builds and encourages ownership of our common stock.

Decisions regarding cash and equity compensation also include subjective determinations and consideration of various factors with the weight given to a particular factor varying from time to time and in various individual cases, such as an executive officer's experience in the industry and the perceived value of the executive officer's position to Microchip as a whole.

We believe that the overall compensation levels for our executive officers, including our named executive officers, in fiscal 2017 were consistent with our "pay-for-performance" philosophy and were commensurate with our fiscal 2017 performance.

Executive Compensation Process

The Compensation Committee evaluates and establishes the compensation of our executive officers, including the named executive officers. The Compensation Committee seeks input from Mr. Sanghi when discussing the performance of, and compensation levels for, the executive officers other than himself. Mr. Sanghi does not participate in deliberations relating to his own compensation.

The Compensation Committee designs our executive compensation program to be competitive with those of other companies in the semiconductor or related industries in our market. The Compensation Committee determines appropriate levels of compensation for each executive officer based on their level of responsibility within the organization, performance, and overall contribution. After such determination, the Compensation Committee makes allocations between long-term and short-term as well as the cash and non-cash elements of compensation. Microchip's financial and business objectives, the

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salaries of executive officers in similar positions with comparable companies and individual performance are considered in making these determinations. To the extent compensation information is reviewed for other companies, it is obtained from published materials such as proxy statements, and information gathered from such companies directly. We do not engage consultants to conduct such review process for us or utilize a specific peer group. The executive officer compensation process begins with consideration of Microchip's overall budget for employee compensation. The Compensation Committee considers the budgeted salary data and individual executive officer salary increases are determined with the goal of keeping the executive officer salary increases within the budgeted range for other employees. In setting salaries for executive officers, the Compensation Committee may consider relevant industry data but does not target any overall industry percentage level or peer group average. Microchip's compensation budget is created as part of its annual and quarterly operating plan processes under which business and financial objectives are initially developed by our executive officers, in conjunction with their respective business units, and then discussed with and approved by our CEO. These objectives are then reviewed by our Board of Directors and are the overall financial and business objectives on which incentive compensation is based. The Compensation Committee sets the compensation of our Chairman and CEO, Mr. Sanghi, in the same manner as each of our other executive officers. In particular, the Compensation Committee considers Mr. Sanghi's level of responsibility, performance, and overall contribution to the results of the organization. The Compensation Committee also considers the compensation of CEOs of other companies in the semiconductor or related industries in our market. Mr. Sanghi participates in the same cash incentive, equity incentive and benefit programs as our other executive officers. For example, his compensation is subject to the same performance metrics as our other executive officers under our Executive Management Incentive Compensation Plan ("EMICP"). The Compensation Committee recognizes that Mr. Sanghi's total compensation package is significantly higher than that of our other executive officers and the Compensation Committee believes this is appropriate in consideration of Mr. Sanghi's superior leadership of Microchip over a long period of time. In particular, the Compensation Committee believes that Mr. Sanghi's leadership has been key to the substantial revenue and profitability growth, strong market position and substantial increase in the market value of Microchip since taking Microchip public in 1993, and to leading Microchip's strong performance relative to others in the industry over a number of years.

For fiscal 2017, the Compensation Committee reviewed and approved the total compensation package of all of our executive officers, including the elements of compensation discussed below, and determined the amounts to be reasonable and competitive.

At our last annual meeting of stockholders held in August 2016, our stockholders approved an advisory (non-binding) proposal concerning our executive compensation program with approximately 84.4% of the votes cast in favor of the proposal. The Compensation Committee considered the results of this vote in establishing the compensation program for fiscal 2017.

Elements of Compensation

Our executive compensation program is currently comprised of four major elements:

- annual base salary,
- incentive cash bonuses,
- equity compensation, and
- compensation and employee benefits generally available to all of our employees.

The retirement benefits and other benefits offered to our executive officers are largely the same as those we provide to a broad base of employees. While our executive officers' level of participation in our management incentive compensation plans and equity incentive plans is typically higher than for our non-executive employees, based on the officers' level of responsibility and industry experience, the plans in which our executive officers are eligible to participate are very similar to

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those for many of our other employees. The Compensation Committee reviews each element of compensation separately and total compensation as a whole, other than those benefits which are available to all employees. The Compensation Committee determines the appropriate mix of elements to meet our compensation objectives and to help ensure that we remain competitive with the compensation practices in our industry and market.

Although our executive officers are entitled to certain severance and change of control benefits (as described below), the Compensation Committee does not consider such benefits to be elements of compensation for purposes of annual compensation reviews because such benefits may never be paid.

Base Salaries. Since fiscal 2014, salary reviews for executive and non-executive employees have been conducted on a quarterly basis. Also, the budget for salary increases is established each quarter with any increases determined each quarter on a discretionary basis based on the performance reviews of the employees. When setting base salaries, we review the business and financial objectives for Microchip as a whole, as well as the objectives for each of the individual executive officers relative to their respective areas of responsibility. In particular, we consider our overall revenue growth and revenue growth in our strategic business units, non-GAAP gross margins, non-GAAP operating expenses, non-GAAP net income per diluted share, cash generation, expected capital expenditures and other financial considerations in setting our budgets for salaries. We also consider the individual performance of our named executive officers including the officer's level of responsibility, performance, overall contribution to the results of the organization, the officer's base salary relative to the salaries of our other officers, salary relative to comparable positions in the industry and market, the officer's overall compensation including incentive cash bonuses and equity compensation and the officer's performance relative to expectations. We do not assign any specific weight to any such factor but consider such factors as a whole for each executive. This review encompasses the objectives for both the immediately preceding fiscal year and the upcoming fiscal year. In addition to our quarterly salary reviews, in August 2016, after consideration of the increased roles and responsibilities of our executive officers in light of our acquisition of Atmel and other recent acquisitions, the need to incentivize and retain such officers and the significant cost synergies that were realized as a result of the integration activities following the closing of the Atmel acquisition, the Compensation Committee approved salary increases for each of our executive officers other than Mr. Moorthy. Mr. Moorthy's base salary was not increased in August 2016 because his base salary had been increased effective April 1, 2016 in connection with his promotion to President. After consideration of all of the factors described above and including the salary increases approved in August 2016, the base salaries for our named executive officers other than our CEO were increased by an average of approximately 8.0% over the course of fiscal 2017 and our CEO's base salary was increased by 13.0%.

Incentive Cash Bonuses. The Compensation Committee sets performance goals which, if met, result in quarterly payments to our executive officers under the EMICP. Executive officers may also receive quarterly payments under the Discretionary Management Incentive Compensation Plan ("DMICP"). The Compensation Committee establishes performance goals which it believes are challenging, require a high level of performance and motivate participants to drive stockholder value, but which goals are expected to be achievable in the context of business conditions anticipated at the time the goals are set. When setting the performance goals, the Compensation Committee places more emphasis on the overall expected financial performance of Microchip rather than on the achievement of any one individual goal. The Compensation Committee believes that this focus on the overall payout incentivizes outstanding performance across the corporation and drives the overall financial success of the corporation. The Compensation Committee uses the DMICP to help achieve the overall objectives of the performance bonus program.

The performance metrics under the EMICP are determined by the Compensation Committee at the beginning of each quarter so that such compensation may qualify as performance-based compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. The metrics may be based on either GAAP or non-GAAP financial results at the discretion of the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee typically uses non-GAAP information when setting the targets because it believes such targets are more useful in understanding our operating results due to the exclusion of non-cash, and other charges that many investors feel may obscure our underlying operating results. Our non-GAAP results exclude, as applicable, the effect of discontinued operations, share-based compensation, expenses related to our acquisition activities (including intangible asset amortization, inventory valuation costs, severance costs, and legal and other general and administrative expenses associated with acquisitions), preclusion of

revenue recognition under GAAP for inventory in the

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distribution channel on the acquisition dates of our acquisitions, revenue recognition changes related to Atmel and Micrel distributors, a loss on the inducement and extinguishment of our convertible debentures, non-cash interest expense on our convertible debentures, gains on equity securities, impairments on available-for-sale investments, the related income tax implications of these items, tax adjustments in accordance with ASC 740-270 and non-recurring tax events. The earnings per share metric changes each quarter. Each of the other performance metrics is reviewed each quarter but may be the same for multiple quarters. The table below sets forth the performance metrics under the EMICP for each quarter of fiscal 2017:

Performance Metric	Target Quarterly Measurement					Actual Results							
	Q1 FY17	Q2 FY17	Q3 FY17	Q4 FY17	Target % of Bonus	Q1 FY17 Perf. %	Q1 FY17 Bonus Payout %	Q2 FY17 Perf. %	Q2 FY17 Bonus Payout %	Q3 FY17 Perf. %	Q3 FY17 Bonus Payout %	Q4 FY17 Perf. %	Q4 FY17 Bonus Payout %
Total sequential revenue growth	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	10.00	2.41	13.03	3.54	16.80	0.84	7.80	2.44	13.13
High performance micro-controller sequential revenue growth	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	4.00	(0.92)	(1.23)	3.88	5.17	3.45	4.6	10.84	14.45
Analog sequential revenue growth	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	4.00	1.07	2.76	4.67	7.56	1.39	3.19	1.05	2.73
Licensing sequential revenue growth	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	2.00 ⁽¹⁾	3.09	4.59	14.97	10.98	0.69	1.46	(3.23)	(1.15)
Gross margin percentage (non-GAAP)	57.00	53.00	54.00	56.00	15.00	59.75	25.31	57.21	23.29	57.84	29.42	59.24	27.15
Operating expenses as a percentage of sales (non-GAAP)	28.00	30.00	27.00	26.50	15.00	27.05	19.75	26.73	21.35	25.04	24.81	23.66	29.20
Operating income as a percentage of sales (non-GAAP)	28.00	22.00	26.00	28.50	15.00	32.70	26.75	30.48	31.20	32.81	32.02	35.58	32.70