

Calgary Arts Academy Society

Board Minutes for the Regular meeting held at Calgary Arts Academy, Knob Hill Middle School on June 16, 2009



Present:	Pat Cavill	Chair
	Karie Wylie	Board Treasurer
	Joyce Buzath	School Council Chair, Knob Hill
	Cesar Romero	School Council Chair, Glenmeadows
	Mark Bellamy	Director
	Emily Forrest	Director 19:15 arrival
	Todd Hirsch	Director
	Rob Roach	Director
	Frankie Thomas	Director
	Al Walhstrom	Director
Staff:	Dale Erickson	Superintendent
	Garry Schock	Secretary-Treasurer
	Josh Van Beers	Acting Principal
	Laura Shuler	Education Director
Regrets:	Jane Matheson	vice Chair
	Teri Basi	Board Secretary
Guests:	Bill McGregor-	Chair, Foundations for the Future Charter Academy
		for the School Presentation portion only;
	Janice Nigh	Arts & Research Coordinator
	Anna Wood	Resident Dance Artist
Meeting Scribe:	Garry Schock	

School Presentation

18:18 start: Anna Wood presented the work she did with students learning the Moon phases as part of the science curriculum. She provided the written outline all students were given (attached) and presented the final video capturing the students work from the making of the Moon Masks right on through to the Dance capturing the phases of the moon.

Anna worked with about 8 students for many hours over a two week period. Consider these benefits to the students; small class size, physical activity beyond the regular physical education class, individual expression when making the masks to teamwork in bringing the Dance together and learning a component of the Science curriculum.

1. **Call to Order** – A quorum is present so the meeting was called to order by Pat Cavill @ 6:45 p.m.

2. **Approval of Agenda - No MOTION**

3. **Presentation by Guest:** 18:47 – 19:28

Bill McGregor - Chair of Foundations for the Future Charter Academy (FFCA) and Chair of the director's sub-committee of The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools (TAAPCS).

Bill's presentation tonight is to offer perspective as to the role of a director of a Charter School Board. In a very earnest and passionate demeanor, Bill discussed the key responsibility that comes with the position.

The delivery of education at the school is in the hands of the staff that are employed by the school and so the role of the Board, is governance. The Board is at the top of the school hierarchy and exists to make and support decisions that will help Educators become the best they can be, to govern a School so that the object (purpose) of the school is measured by student successes.

Alberta Education is at the top of the overall hierarchy of all School Boards in Alberta, of which the department has employees and they get their instructions from elected officials in the government. Therefore; one of the key roles that a director can assume which could achieve the greatest impact for the school is advocacy for the school with political players.

Bill points out for example, that at the Alberta Government level, if the Superintendent who is a paid individual of the school enters into conversations with elected officials, this could be deemed to be a conflict of interest because they have a vested interest in the outcomes.

However; schools also have elected officials, the Board Directors. So while it is important for the Administrative staff of a school to communicate to Alberta Education bureaucrats, it is just as important for the Board Directors to communicate consistent messages to the elected politicians.

Relationships, relationships, relationships! Bill offers the following suggestions to assist in the advocacy of the school with politicians:

- Development a game plan to see the people you've got to see;
 - Develop a script for consistent messaging, avoid haphazard conversations,
 - Go to events,
 - Go in pairs and decide on the roles, whose lead and whose support,

- Single encounters are not enough, like advertising, repetition is essential,
- Take this role on as a responsibility (personally),
- Share school success stories with politicians,
- Have an elevator speech, i.e. if you met a politician and you knew you only have a few seconds, what would you say to capture their attention, to peak their interest?

Calgary Arts Academy thanks you very much Bill McGregor!

4. Consideration of Consent Agenda

- **MOTION:** that the Consent Agenda be filed
Moved by: Al
Carried

5. Reports submitted at meeting

- a) Finance Committee (see 6c)

6. Decision Items

- a) Ratify email vote approving funds for business plan for Stampede Proposal

MOTION: that the email vote approving \$10k to fund the preparation of the business plan for the Stampede Board be ratified,
Moved by: Al
Carried

- b) “2008 Annual Education Results Report, revised” changes requested by and accepted by Alberta Education

MOTION: that the revised 2008 Annual Education Results Report as already approved by Alberta Education be accepted,
Moved by: Rob
Carried

- c) 09/10 Budget:

- File version “Budget 2009-10 C-V1.1 455 FTE.xls” which incorporates the values of a contract with Willco Transportation for the 09/10 school year,

MOTION: that the 09/10 Budget as presented be approved and that the 09/10 Bus contract with Willco Transportation be continued for the 09/10 school year also be accepted,
Moved by: Todd
Seconded by: Karie
Carried

d) 2010-2011 Capital Plan

MOTION: that the 2010-2011 Capital Plan be approved as submitted,
Moved by: Karie
Seconded by: Rob
Carried

e) This was added in after the agenda had been motioned on:

Since there was no quorum at the May 19, 2009 Board meeting and whereas the members that were present at that meeting accepted the reports which were presented and on the website, therefore;

MOTION: that the Board ratify the filing of the reports from the May 19, 2009 meeting,
Moved by: Joyce
Carried

7. Discussion Items

- a) Stampede update – The Facilities Committee brought out the latest diagram of the architect’s rendition of what the new school could look like, there was also space for commercial artist space on the main floor. Next meeting of the Facilities Committee with the Architect is June 18.
- b) School Council Society for Casino privileges progress – application has been sent off to incorporate the “...School Council Society”.

8. Other Information

- a) An updated draft version of the Strategic Plan was handed out so that everyone had a chance to review it before the September Board retreat.
- b) Copies of the brochures to be distributed at the Festivals in the summer are on the website.

9. Adjournment – 8:05 PM

(To be APPROVED at the September 17, 2009 meeting)

Teri Basi, Board Secretary _____

Patricia M. Cavill, Chair _____