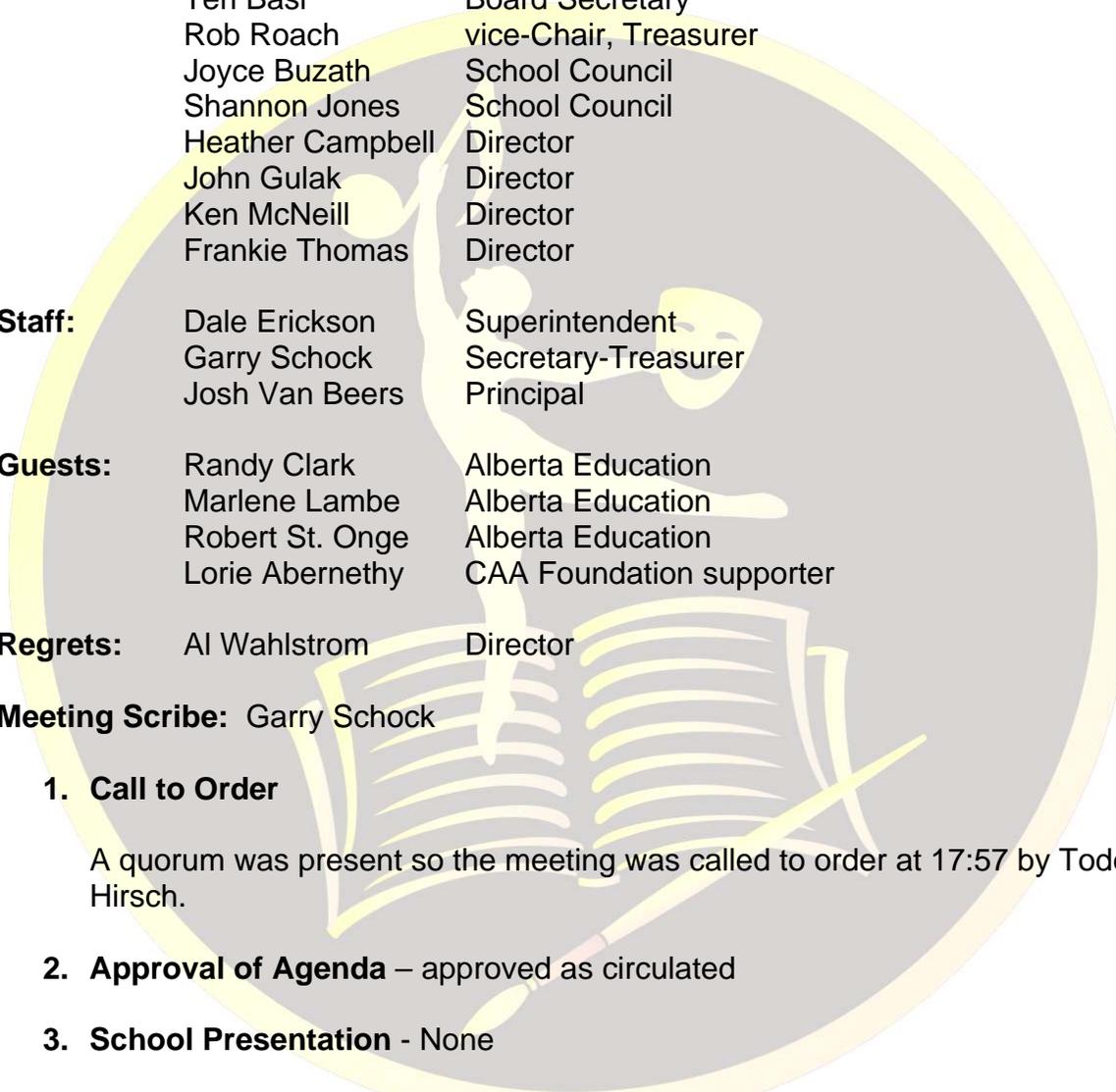


Calgary Arts Academy Society

Board Minutes for the Regular meeting held at Calgary Arts Academy, Knob Hill Campus on May 17, 2011



Present:	Todd Hirsch	co-Chair
	Pat Cavill	co-Chair
	Teri Basi	Board Secretary
	Rob Roach	vice-Chair, Treasurer
	Joyce Buzath	School Council
	Shannon Jones	School Council
	Heather Campbell	Director
	John Gulak	Director
	Ken McNeill	Director
	Frankie Thomas	Director
Staff:	Dale Erickson	Superintendent
	Garry Schock	Secretary-Treasurer
	Josh Van Beers	Principal
Guests:	Randy Clark	Alberta Education
	Marlene Lambe	Alberta Education
	Robert St. Onge	Alberta Education
	Lorie Abernethy	CAA Foundation supporter
Regrets:	Al Wahlstrom	Director
Meeting Scribe:	Garry Schock	

1. Call to Order

A quorum was present so the meeting was called to order at 17:57 by Todd Hirsch.

2. Approval of Agenda – approved as circulated

3. School Presentation - None

4. Charter Evaluation presentation by Alberta Education

A final draft of the Charter Evaluation was presented to the CAAS Board. This allows for proofing of any potential factual errors before the final copy is issued.

Alberta Ed. (AE) has high praise for the work Calgary Arts Academy is doing and described the work that is being done as “high caliber”.

The evaluation finds the School is committed to improve and find new ways to move forward to teach the Alberta curriculum. And whilst the School does so, the evaluation also finds that the School is in compliance with Provincial requirements.

The evaluation is based on the School meeting seven areas of criteria:

1. Are the provincial requirements being met?
2. Does the school meet the terms of its charter?
3. Do the students, parents, teachers and community members see the school as being effective and successful?
4. Is the school financially viable?
5. Are innovative approaches to student learning being used, effective and shared?
6. Is the school governed effectively?
7. Is the school being administered effectively?

The evaluation states that Calgary Arts Academy meets all of the above criteria.

Commendations:

1. Commitment to the charter,
2. Stakeholder support,
3. High student achievement,
4. Continuous improvement
5. Board of directors,
6. Professional development,
7. Character development and citizenship education,
8. Encouragement of student responsibility of their learning.

Recommendations for Consideration:

1. Charter update and Research focus,
2. Aligning learning outcomes and Arts Immersion planning
3. School Website,
4. Student record,
5. PowerSchool registration software, (AE noted is one of the best)
6. Facilities.

Required Changes: None

AE states there are more commendations but had to limit it to a few.

One of the evaluators was Dr. Robert Kelly, specifically picked to be on the panel because of his Arts and Education knowledge and work. AE encouraged the school to review his report and specifically the areas where he talks about “creativity”.

This was the end of AE presentation and opened up the conversation to the floor.

The Board Co-Chairs congratulated Admin and asked that they pass along the congratulations to the rest of the staff.

In an effort to stoke the fires with a little bit of humor, a Facility Committee member asked if the Facilities 'Recommendation' could be moved to 'Required Changes' because then the Government would have to help us do something about it?

It was asked of AE, to what depth of research does AE expect CAAS to go to for the purpose of preparing formal findings of our arts immersion program for sharing and is there any funding that would come with it?

Response: AE would like us to create a model of continuous practice and creative design as part of Recommendation #2, recognizing that creativity is complex which is why it needs design. AE looks to CAA as leaders in this field. Oh, and there is no extra funding.

On another note, it was asked of the AE representatives if they were aware of any legislation disconnect, with the coming of the new *School Act* and where we are now that would impede our efforts in fundraising for a new school ourselves?

Response: AE said there were no legal impediments to doing our own fundraising and were also looking forward to the new *School Act* so that things like permanency for Charter Schools could finally be deployed.

The Board advised the AE representatives that at the behest of the Ed. Minister, the CAA Board would become more pro-active again to meet MLA's to talk about CAA's future with the Stampede.

Next steps:

- Celebrate and share the results of the evaluation,
- Review the recommendations,
- Robert St. Onge will meet and review progress,
- The evaluation will get rolled into the AERR and 3 Year Plan.

This is the end of the AE Charter Evaluation section of the agenda. The representatives of AE left at this point.

Break 18:59 – 19:10

5. Consideration of Consent Agenda

MOTION: that the Consent Agenda be filed

Moved by: Rob

Carried

6. Decision Items

a) 2011-2012 Budget

MOTION: that the Budget be approved as presented

Moved by: Rob

Seconded by: Frankie

Carried

7. Reports submitted at meeting

a) Governance Committee

Pat

- The new School Act goes back to the public after second reading, the question is; are we prepared with questions?
- The Governance Committee Chair has indicated it is time to do a policy review, will coordinate with Superintendent
- The Board will source a "Board Evaluation" model from Foundations for the Future Charter School

8. Discussion Items

a) Stampede update

- Stampede was a little taken aback from the AB. Ed. Minister letter advising that there was no financing for this project at this time. Stampede officials treated this as "don't be alarmed", come up with ideas to deal with the issue.
- Stampede would also like to begin the process of comparing potential donor lists for awareness purposes as we are in a period where we should to begin formally advocating with potential donors.

b) Education Act Changes – no further comments

c) Committees

- Time to set up sub-committees? i.e. Facilities
- Governance Committee has some work to do
 - Lead in the development of the Strategic Plan with awareness as to how it will tie in with the 3 Year Plan
 - Recruit new Board members
 - Interview existing Board members
 - Lead in bringing evaluations to the CAA Board and employees,
 - John Gulak will join the Governance Committee
 - Lorie Abernethy will find a facilitator for the Sep 17, 2011 Board retreat

9. Other Information

- a) Portables – are ready and we are waiting for the key
- b) “Don’t Drop the Ball on Education” – an initiative from parents and Alberta taxpayers to meet at the Alberta Legislative Assembly May 29, 2011 to voice concerns of AB. Ed. budget resources.

10. Adjournment – 19:45

(To be APPROVED at the June 21, 2011 meeting)

Teri Basi, Board Secretary _____ ORIGINAL SIGNED _____

Todd Hirsch co-Chair _____ ORIGINAL SIGNED _____