



**Calgary Arts Academy Society
Meeting of the Board of Directors
April 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

In Attendance

Ken McNeill, Jim McLeod, Linda Fox-Mellway, Neil Tichkowsky, Susan Wright, Doug Frenette, John McWilliams

Administration: Dale Erickson, Janice Nigh, Cole Jordan, Michelle Stonehouse

With Regrets: Kathrine Taylor, Joshua Dalledonne, Todd Hirsch

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

1. Call to order – 6:00 pm
2. Approval of the Agenda – Considered Approved
3. Approval of February 11, 2020 minutes of Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors – Considered Approved
4. Audit Committee – Neil – CAA has received the final payment from the youth campus from the government. This has been a huge help, considering all the changes with budgets and finances this year and next.

Cole and Dale met with Alberta Education to discuss the new funding framework, more specifically the SLS funding grant. The choice is to receive the funding (\$179,000) as presented or to stick to the old funding model and get grant money for each student with a severe coding. This was discussed at great length with the board.

Motion 1 – Neil - To accept the recommendation of the superintendent to receive SLS funding as provided in the new funding manual – John Seconded – Motion passed - one abstain.

Balance sheet is fine right now, and we are seeing some savings in some areas due to the schools shutting down. The admin team is looking at how those moneys will be allocated. Doug - is our excess cash in a mutual fund? Cole- currently the money is in a high interest savings

account. Doug will call Cole to discuss on how we can maximize the return on this money. The government and our policies regulate the types of investments that are available to be made. Linda would like to see the provincial guidelines on this. Neil will to put forward a statement to address how we could proceed with the money.

5. Superintendent Report – Dale – We have 15 high school students registered with a couple that are still waiting to complete the registration process. We have begun planning for the 15 students and planning the curriculum. With the 15 students, Stampede has said that we can use the classroom that is currently at Sweetgrass Lodge. We are working with Stampede to clear up any rent payments or utility costs and we will be associated with Sweetgrass Lodge. High school curriculum planning has begun as Artists are writing those as a side project. The goal is to make it distinctly different and engage with community partnerships.

Staffing: we took several approaches to handle the 14% budget reduction from Alberta Education. We were able to use our remaining substitute teacher budget, and used a combination of layoffs, terminations, and resignations to reach our goal. We offered temporary layoffs to those staff who wanted it and had a very positive response. We evaluated all staff to see who would be least impacted by a layoff. Students without technology have been loaned computers.

Transportation fees will be used as a credit at a rate of \$200 for full time riders and \$125 for part time riders. Grade 9's will also receive a \$25 credit/refund for fees that were allocated to graduation. This approach was agreed to by the Board.

John is very impressed with the process and how it was managed. It seemed very clear and fair.

6. Advocacy

- Government Relations Committee – Ken – Any work with Global Public Affairs has been suspended at this time.

- Capital Plan/Infrastructure Committee – Jim – No further update.
 - Community Engagement Committee – Joshua – The approach has been to reach out to the arts community to see how they can engage with the high school proposal. Now that the high school has been approved, the committee will work with the Artists to connect with the community about engaging with students next year.
7. Governance Committee – John – No further update.
 8. Legal Report – Neil – No update currently. Neil we will need to send a letter due April 30th to Alberta Education outlining any legal liabilities. Cole will send the templated request letter to Neil.
 9. Social Media Update – Joshua – No further update.
 10. School Council – Michelle – No further update.
 11. Arts Coordinator – Janice – No further update.
 12. Meeting Adjournment

INFORMATION ITEMS - ** Upcoming School Events:

- May 19, 2020 – Meeting of the Board of Directors