



**Calgary Arts Academy Society  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
May 19, 2020 Meeting Agenda**

**In Attendance**

Ken McNeill, Linda Fox-Mellway, Doug Frenette, Susan Wright, Josh Dalledonne, Kathrine Taylor, Neil Tichkowsky, John McWilliams,

Administration : Dale Erickson, Cole Jordan

With Regrets – Jim McLeod, Todd Hirsch

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

1. Call to order – 6:03 pm
2. Approval of the Agenda – Considered Approved
3. Approval of April 7, 2020 minutes of Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors – Considered Approved
4. Audit Committee – Neil – The audit committee went over the budget and everything looks well thoughtout. The budget includes an increase in students and a reduction in teachers in order to fit within the new funding framework. While the overall education budget has stayed the same, enrolment has increased, meaning that class size will need to increase. The other change is the SLS funding, which is a grant designed to facilitate those students with higher needs. Our current incident rate is 3.4% and 28.8% for severe and mild disability respectively. These numbers are right in line with other jurisdictions in the province. Congrats to the versatility and creativity with the budget.

**Motion 1** – Neil - To submit the 2020-2021 school budget as presented to Alberta Education for approval – Josh Seconded – Motion Passed

Secondly, we looked at the contract/compensation for the superintendent. Two years ago the minister created salary caps on superintendents that negatively impacted charter

schools. With the new minister, an opportunity to reconsider at our current contract is available. The hope is to return our superintendent to his former compensation level with an updated contract.

**Motion 2** – Neil - To approve the superintendent compensation and contract as presented and send a request letter to the Minister of Education. – Doug Seconded – Motion Passed.

5. Superintendent Report – Dale – An update on Grade 10 at Sweet Grass Lodge (SGL). With the land belonging to the Stampede, we will need to use their trades people for any renovations. In the mean time they have offered us a space within SGL on the north side that would be able to house our Grade 10 program while renovations in the south side are under way. The cost estimate for these renovations is \$70,000. It was originally approved by the board to use our accumulated surplus to fund these renovations. With that, we plan to move in June 1<sup>st</sup>, and develop an agreement to move forward. The Stampede may make more space available as we grow our program.

Alberta Ed asked for all schools to provide capital projects that could be put forward to help put people back to work. We applied for 3 things, a gym floor at Knob Hill, a reno of the parking lot at Knob Hill , and for the renovations at SGL. We received approval on the first 2 projects with a budget of \$300,000. We will be doing the construction over the summer.

For the new building, we continue to work with Alberta Education and were asked to resubmit it in the BLIMS document. They have indicated that the minister has not approved growth in our programming, so AB infrastructure has asked us to redesign the school for 300 students.

The government continues to work with schools to create a plan for the Fall start of the school year. We are looking at all scenarios, continue online learning, a partial return of students, as well as full return. We have been very successful in our implementations of online training. We have to make sure the transition is safe. We can't be a location where

staff and students get sick. We will talk about this in future discussions. We are looking to maintain flexibility so we are trying to keep all options open.

Alberta Education has been connecting with TAAPCS to help deal with issues affecting all charter schools. A letter was sent out regarding special-ed funding, PO &M, system administration, transportation, SLS, nutrition, and IMR funding. They have now formed a transportation committee to deal with issues of funding discrepancy. Our ask is for equity not necessarily equality. They seem to be listening.

- Government Relations Committee – Ken – The relationships established continue
  - Capital Plan/Infrastructure Committee – Jim - No further update
  - Community Engagement Committee – Joshua – No further update
6. Governance Committee – John – Doug has joined the committee, and the current priorities are the evaluation process and template for the superintendent role. We are also looking at committees. We want to ensure that all committees have their own mandates. We also want to finish the bylaw review. How can we make the process smoother and remove bottlenecks.
  7. Legal Report – Neil – No further update.
  8. Social Media Update – Joshua – No further update.
  9. School Council – Michelle – Ken talked with Council, and the feedback is that they are very happy with the online programming.
  10. Meeting Adjournment

**INFORMATION ITEMS - \*\* Upcoming School Events:**

- June 16, 2020 – Meeting of the Board of Directors
- June 26, 2020 – Last day of Classes