



**Calgary Arts Academy Society
Meeting of the Board of Directors
April 12, 2022 Meeting Agenda**

In Attendance: Ken McNeill, Doug Frenette, Susan Wright, John McWilliams, Lorraine Becker, Josh Dalledonne, Natalie Lau (School Council)

Administration: Cole Jordan, Michelle Stonehouse, Dale Erickson, Cheralyn Doell

With Regrets: Neil Tichkowsky, Mallory Graham, Jim McLeod, Court Ellingson,

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

1. This Day in History - Jim
2. Call to order – 6:12
3. Approval of the Agenda – Considered Approved
4. Approval of March 15, 2022 minutes of Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors – Considered Approved
5. Audit Committee – Doug – We reviewed the financials and with the SLS funding we have had an infusion of \$400,000. We are exploring areas that need address as we look to spend from our unrestricted reserve. The first area is to move ahead with a bonus to staff (\$60,000) in recognition of working so hard through COVID. We are investing \$10,000 for speech therapist for the remainder of the year as well as \$30,000 for new technology and \$4,000 for science equipment. We continue to talk about retirement benefits and looked at a model that will work for all uncertificated staff. We are in a position where we can increase their wages in a way that is sustainable over time.
Finally we are moving ahead with the audio improvements with installation targeted for the summer.

Motion 1 – Doug - To approve the year-end staff covid bonus, in recognition of the conditions worked throughout the last year. – Susan Seconded, Motion Passed

6. Superintendent Report – Dale – We have explored a lot of avenues for capital planning. We do not have any solution yet and neither does the Government. If nothing changes by the end of April, we will ask school council to write a letter to government. We will then need to make a decision based on our current available space. Out in the community if you know of any spaces for lease, please let us know. The City of Calgary are also looking for us. There are other charters that are waiting to hear from government, but we feel we are in the most desperate position. We need to complete a feasibility study for the modulars at Knobhill. If approved, the hope is the modulars would be installed by Christmas. The feasibility study will determine the infrastructure requirements. This could be \$40000-\$80,000 cost. Normally we would get that money upfront, but the government is not willing to do that at this time, so we are asking for board support. With registration, we have about 80 families waiting to know where their students are going to be.

Motion 2 – Doug - To approve the hiring of a company to do a feasibility study with a maximum budget of \$80,000 - John Seconded – Motion Passed.

The capital planning and infrastructure committee will reach out to community partners to help find more options.

7. Advocacy

- Government Relations Committee – Ken – Joe Ceci will tour the school on May 17 followed by lunch. Generally speaking, the NDP are afraid of privatization, we need to remind them that we are a public school. From a TAAPCS perspective they have sent out fact sheets and have asked members to continue to spread correct information. They are doing all they can. Ken has also called the ministers office and is still waiting to hear back.
- Capital Plan/Infrastructure Committee – Jim
- Community Engagement Committee – Joshua - Kudos to Cheralyn for getting everything together with the Arts Panel. Charter Advocacy and TAAPCS were a

topic of conversation. Should TAAPCS be THEE advocacy voice? Individual Charter schools in Alberta are not great at telling their stories online. But it is also dangerous to speak definitively about all charter schools. It is important to talk about our place within the ecology. It has been difficult to get charters engaged in this work.

8. Governance Committee – John – The Committee met last week, and Torin has stepped up to Co-Chair the committee. This should help drive the discussions and action items forward. We are looking at the Foundation bylaws, as well as looking at the alumni supports and connection. We continue our work with policies, and diversity. Torin brings great clarity and focus to the group.
9. Social Media - Mallory – We have completed the audit and the analysis, and our jumping off point is ahead of other charters. That allows us to position ourselves as leaders. We can really fight miss information using these tools. We hope to build out content streams to help focus on our strengths. We will put these into a calendar and start pushing posts regularly.
10. Arts Coordinator – Cheralyn – Engagement has increased significantly with a number of events. Our next arts panel is fully booked. Laramie Project is a play that year 10 and 11s are presenting on Tuesday May 24 at the Central Library.
11. School Council – Michelle – The main concern for parents is space. The council is working on May Days for this year, with grade 6 leadership group as vendors. It's a huge event for us. Live music. Artisans from the parent community. Each of you will receive a hand made invitation from students as they want to see the whole board attend.
12. Meeting Adjournment – 7:35

INFORMATION ITEMS - ** Upcoming School Events:

- May 17, 2022 – Meeting of the Board of Directors