

# **CAA School Council Meeting Minutes**

## **December 3, 2019**

### **Attendance:**

#### CAA Administration:

Michelle Stonehouse, Principal  
Rhonda Morrison, Elementary Campus Administrator  
Dale Erickson, Superintendent  
Ken McNeill, Board Member  
Josh Dalledonne, Board Member

#### Executive Member Attendance:

Christy Ford, Chair  
Lisa Ferris, Vice Chair  
Stephanie Westlund, Secretary

Additional School Council members present: 20

Total parent attendance: 23

Quorum established. (Quorum minimum = 4 School Council members, including at least 2 executive members)

### **1. High School Update – Ken McNeill and Dale Erickson**

Prior to the beginning of the CAA School Council Meeting, Ken McNeill and Dale Erickson spoke about the plans for the CAA high school.

#### **Brief History of CAA – Ken McNeill**

2001: Got together to discuss starting an Arts Immersion charter school

2003: CAA opened its doors

2008: Started discussion with Calgary Stampede about creating a partnership

2011: Partnership with Calgary Stampede became official

2017: Opened Youth Campus in October - at this point, the Board started focusing on creating a high school and met with various government ministers.

#### **Dale Erickson**

Meeting held with Minister LaGrange in late August 2019 – current Alberta government is supportive of Charter Schools.

CAA Board is firmly committed to pursuing a high school and is working actively to obtain government approval.

At this time, we have to meet requirements from Alberta Education, Alberta Infrastructure, and the Minister of Education in order to move forward with a high school. We are asking to build a new building on the Youth Campus. To this point, a public charter school has never been allowed to build a new building. (The current Education Centre was considered a renovation of a historic building.) Accordingly, the Board has produced a Capital Plan (2020-2027) that outlines plans for a new building and for accommodating growth – which could eventually be up to 100 students per grade, for a total of 1,200 students. In addition, the Board produced a three-year capital plan as required by Alberta Infrastructure.

At this time, we have been offered temporary space in the Sweetgrass Lodge building located on the Stampede grounds, which would also begin our relationship with Treaty 7. This facility would allow CAA to begin Year 10 and Year 11. It has a capacity for approximately 60 students and so CAA would have to limit the number of students to no more than 30 in the first year (although no interested students currently attending CAA would be turned away; we could not, however, accept new students at this time). What is being proposed involves both teaching core subjects that would enable all graduates to attend post-secondary institutions as well as individualized programming in pure art form instruction, which would take advantage of all the youth programming available at the Youth Campus.

Calgary Stampede has allocated a city block of land for CAA. CAA has applied for portables as temporary space and would eventually build a new middle school. The proposal is currently with the Alberta government.

*Parent Question:* When would the high school come into effect?

*Answer:* We are awaiting approval from the Alberta government. If we receive approval, we could begin with the Grade 10 cohort next year.

It would be helpful if parents could write letters to the Alberta government (including Minister LaGrange) that describe why it is important for our children to continue their CAA education with a high school focused on Arts Immersion, pure art form instruction, and community engagement.

Please send a copy of your letter to the school.

**Josh Dalledonne** (Board Member heading up Community Engagement Committee) Parents form the base of the CAA community. Josh is currently seeking community organizations with which to partner as the high school plans continue to take shape. Parents with ideas are welcome to contact Josh.

**2. Welcome & Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Christy Ford at 7:24 p.m.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda made by Christy Ford. Lisa Ferris seconded the motion. Agenda approved.

**4. Approval of Minutes from November 5, 2019, Council Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes from the November 5, 2019 Council Meeting made by Christy Ford. Lisa Ferris seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

**5. Chairperson's Report – Christy Ford**

- Great November – Food bank drive was run by the Spirit Club at the Knob Hill Campus and School Council at the Education Centre – very successful
- The Mitten Tree currently underway at both schools – please donate mittens, hats and scarves that will be given to Inn From the Cold
- Loonie/Toonie Drive is happening at both schools (all funds raised will go towards helping families in our community)
- Art Cards are now finished – made a profit of approximately \$900, which will go

towards the Christmas Family fund

**6. Principal's Report – Michelle Stonehouse**

- We are in the full swing of Jubilee rehearsals. Students are excited and a bit tired, and staff is excited. Rehearsals have been going very well and it seems like students are ready
- Year 4 to 9 students have submitted their entry into the CBC Music Class Challenge and have made the shortlist. Winners will be announced in a few weeks.

**7. Updates:**

**a) Parent and Student Workshops - Christy Ford**

60 surveys were returned and the Parent and Student Workshops committee is currently sifting through the responses. If anyone has any ideas of what they'd like to see, please let us know.

**b) Staff Dinner Jubilee night - Christy Ford**

Staff dinner is organized for Jubilee and will be delivered to both campuses and the Jubilee.

Next year, we are thinking of adding an option for parents to purchase food through Healthy Hunger to take home at school pick-up on the night of the Jubilee performance.

Parent question: At our previous school, we had a family potluck. Could we do something like this at CAA?

**8. New Business**

**a) Tech Sale December 10<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Knob Hill**

We will be holding a technology sale on December 10<sup>th</sup> to sell off older-model iPads and iPad minis, which will range from \$75 to \$225. There will be a list of the model and operating system information for each technology item.

**9. Parent Discussion and Questions**

None

**10. Adjournment**

Christy Ford: Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.