



**Calgary Arts Academy Society  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
April 20, 2021 Meeting Agenda**

In Attendance: Ken McNeill, John McWilliams, Jim McLeod, Doug Frenette, Susan Wright, Josh Dalledonne, Court Ellingson, Neil Tichkowsky, Katherine Taylor, Christy Ford (Guest), Blythe Butler (Guest),

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

With Regrets: Linda Fox-Mellway, Todd Hirsch

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

1. Call to order – 6:00
2. Approval of the Agenda – Considered Approved
3. Approval of March 16, 2021 minutes of Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors – Considered Approved
4. Audit Committee – Neil – The Audit Committee can report that everything is in good keeping. Options for utilizing our accumulated surplus, to be in compliance with Alberta Educations mandate, were discussed. Moving funds to our Capital Reserve was one option. Using it on our SLS deficit for next yeas was another. The last item was to add an audio system for the gym which was approved by the board previously but hasn't been acted on yet.
5. Superintendent Report – Dale – We had two positive Covid tests amongst students. With the CBE and the Catholic boards moving to online, parents concerned about us not doing the same. This is not in our control as we are not in outbreak and continue to have enough staffing to support our programs.

We continue to meet with AB Ed to discuss the 4 items in the superintendent report. There are 2 additional documents. TAAPCS sent a letter to Nicole Williams to address some incorrect information that the minister had shared with superintendents. The other document is the charter school SLS grant review. It has been provided to the deputy

minister. The deputy's intent is very positive, and it appears to be bureaucratic error that is causing the majority of issues.

Alberta Education has asked schools to move forward with piloting the new curriculum. After discussions with the staff, it was clear that staff feel this would not be in our students best interest to implement the proposed curriculum. It doesn't correlate with CAA values and they feel it is not enough to say no, but that we need to oppose it. School Council hasn't heard from any parents that are in favour of the curriculum. Dale explained that the original inspiring education document was moving students towards in-depth learning. With the change in government there was a shift, and they asked for teachers input on the inspiring education curriculum. The government chose long standing bureaucratic experts to do the final edit which shifted it from in depth learning to knowledge-based learning. We feel there could be a political outcome for not participating at all. We sent the feedback link to all parents to fill out the survey and make their opinions known. At this point the Board doesn't see the upside in supporting the curriculum as it doesn't follow our philosophy. It also doesn't have support from our parents, teachers or staff. We want to ensure these perspectives are included in our response.

**Motion 1 – Proposed by All, Seconded by All – To reject piloting the current draft curriculum–**  
Motion Passed Unanimously

There are additional KH Renovations beginning June 26<sup>th</sup> through September. CBE will be replacing the façade of the entire building including windows that haven't been updated yet. The new color scheme will be cream and blue. The following year they will be replacing the roof.

## 6. Advocacy

- Government Relations Committee – Ken – no further update
- Capital Plan/Infrastructure Committee – Jim – We put together a timeline for the portables and hope to have them available for the fall. It looks favourable that we

will receive them. Roman Sus requested a final plan over the Easter break, where we requested 10 buildings and 2 washrooms. We continue to work with Stampede youth campus directors to discuss lot 18, as there is no written commitment for the land. From all indications from Angie we are still moving forward.

- Community Engagement Committee – Joshua – now has a standing date meeting the first Tuesday of every month. This past meeting we focused on strategic planning, and the current charter. It was noted that The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary should be on our radar. Current restrictions make arts placements extremely difficult. May be able to place that in the summer.
7. Governance Committee – John - Very pleased with the committee and all the great contribution everyone is bringing. We met with Silvia Groves and went through the bylaws point by point for discussion. We have consensus and a draft of the bylaws will be ready for the next board meeting. With the plan to have them endorsed at the annual general meeting.
  8. Legal Report – Neil – No further update
  9. Social Media Update – Joshua – No further update
  10. School Council – Michelle - School council is going to the ASCA meeting with a group of parents to continue to defend charter schools. The communications subcommittee sent out a bunch of letters asking for support from other public schools. SOS said that charter schools are intimidating public schools. The subcommittee has since apologized for the misunderstanding. There is lots of chatter on the SOS page; they typically block people with different opinions. Parents have tried to dialog and SOS immediately blocks and removes the posts. School Council will show up and vote for the motions they need. The hope is to unify the charter community to provide a loud voice, but from a voting perspective they are a minority. They haven't released the agenda, if parents aren't there on time, they won't be let in late.
  11. Arts Coordinator – Janice – Graduation is moving forward. It will be in school with no audience. We have partnered with Calgary reads to continue with the book drive. May 3-May 7.

12. Meeting Adjournment – 7:36

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

- May 18, 2021 – Meeting of the Board of Directors