



**Calgary Arts Academy Society
Meeting of the Board of Directors
June 19, 2023 Meeting Agenda**

In Attendance: Ken McNeill, Jim McLeod, Doug Frenette, Susan Wright, Neil Tichkowsky, Joshua Dalledonne, Mallory Graham, Ross Pambrun, Andrew Wiswell (CAA Foundation), Torin McNeill (Governance Committee)

Administration: Cole Jordan, Michelle Stonehouse, Cheralyn Doell, Juleta Severson-Baker, Alyson Moore, Kim Hoey

With Regrets: Court Ellingson, Lorraine Becker, John McWilliams

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

1. This Day in History – Jim
2. Introduction to Ross Pambrun
3. Call to order – 6:13
4. Approval of the Agenda – Considered Approved
5. Approval of the May 16, 2023, Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors Minutes – Considered Approved
6. Audit Committee – Neil – As the year conclude we are still pushing to add more students. We currently have 590 students with our target being 700. The biggest need is in our Kindergarten.

The work completed by the admin staff and the secretary treasures was well done. We successfully managed the higher operating costs with the new building, our transportation nearly broke even, while we were short a driver for the first half of the year. The Government also gave us \$100,000 for the planning of a new school building. I thank the audit committees diligent work on focusing spending on enhancements for the student experience. One great example of this is that we have purchased a bus to help move students to the Erickson Centre to utilize the resources and spaces there. Are we going to name the bus and Doug is looking into getting a decal for the bus.

7. Superintendent Report – Michelle – We continue forward with the partnership with Contemporary Calgary. We had a great meeting with the Alberta University of Arts (AUA), and they are excited and open to lots of possibilities. Juleta is going to be the main contact moving forward as we look to further this connection. We are going to host a student in residence this coming year while also looking into dual credit course opportunities. Students will also be able to take workshops with AUA. John and Jim have offered to help build the program with AUA.

I met with Mother Earth Charter to secure a partnership with them, we will be able to send students up there for a 3 day cultural experience where they will be emersed in indigenous teaching. We brought Sonya in to speak to our staff about inclusive learning and we look forward to her coming back in the fall.

The final thing is that Laura Bicknell had arranged a meeting with Mark Werklund and Kathleen, to discuss our leadership in the arts program. What we do is unique compared to other programs and they encouraged us to apply for a grant. It would help fund to fund bringing in different artists, last year we had 23 different artists contribute to the program. The deadline is July 15th and could result in \$25,000 over the next 2 years if we are successful.

TAAPCS – TAAPCS seems to be on a bad path in terms of communication, seemingly trying to ensure some people are not in the know. There has been little attempt to explain their actions or the direction they are going. During the SGM this budget narrowly passed with the big item being that the Executive Director salary is moving from \$63,000 to \$100,000 without any indication of what the FTE would be.

8. Advocacy

- Government Relations Committee – Ken - The future leadership in education is uncertain, we are back to relationship building with new Minister, DM, Chief of

Staff. We will need to continue to shore up our support with NDP as we are bipartisan. We had toured Janet Eremenko, and Joe Cici, this past year and have developed positive relationships with them. Court Ellingson was successful in his election campaign and we expect that he will resign from the board.

Showcases this year were outstanding once again. From the k-1's puppetry in pink shirts and bunny ears, to the 4-5's stampede grandstand show and midway, to the high school's fabulous play at Cardel Theater. They were all wonderful.

Graduation was fantastic with great introductions, a fabulous valedictorian, and the inaugural Dale Erickson Legacy Scholarship presentation of \$2500 for 2 Students. The dinner at Heritage Park was a great venue, It was all first class. It was great to see the sense of belonging and amongst all the students.

- Capital Plan/Infrastructure Committee – Jim – The major initiatives this year were a focus on Rosscarrock opening, and to continue our pursuits to build a new school on stampede campus. With Rosscarrock we spent \$330,000 and the minister gave us \$120,000, and Rosscarrock opened minutes before students arrived. The school has really revitalized the neighborhood. With the new school we are facing some challenges, including the loss of a potential site with the new arena. Dale has continued discussions with stampede and the government a we try to find a new solution. The great thing is we have a great school and we can continue our growth with Rosscarrock.
9. Governance Committee – Torin – Co-chair, We are focusing on current policies to be sure the school in line with legislation and our updated bylaws. We have contracted Dale to do some initial work on these policies. The Committee also looks at finding and vetting potential new directors and ensure that we are representing the public. We are happy that Ross has agreed to join the board this year. Lastly, we want to make sure our board is accountable. We are looking at a self-evaluation to help facilitate that. We want to be sure we review key roles like the Superintendent as well.

10. Growth Committee - Mallory – We started the year focusing on the pillars created last year with the plan to increase enrolment by 130 students. We created a brochure that went out to Rosscarrock and Knob Hill communities. Our social media posts had phenomenal responses; they are the best social metrics that I have ever seen. Our name is out in the community. Our growth numbers are good. We will continue to focus on the pillars and grow the student body. Next year we plan to have a .2 dedicated to social media to help facilitate the growth.
11. Arts Coordinator – Cheralyn – We have a great foundation with the Leadership in the Arts program. As we continue, these partnerships will grow in such wonderful and unique ways. It was nice to see all the performances and the graduations where I can build on all the lessons learned from there. It will be exciting this year to use more Social media to showcase what arts immersion learning is. We are also excited to look at what our past students have been doing and highlight those successes.

Our theme for next year is “The Art of Community”

12. School Council – Michelle – The spring fair was fantastic it went off without a hitch. There were carnival games, face painting, artisan markets, the adult choir sang, the band played. It was a great end to the year. We had an end of the year meeting with the council in an effort to provide more education on what the different roles are, and how they can all function together so we are primed for a great start to the year in August.
13. Michelle’s Stories – Michelle –
14. Meeting Adjournment - 7:42 - It was a great year. We transitioned from Dale to Michelle and we are very pleased with how this has worked out. We honored Dale at the Jubilee and we are confident he appreciated it. Thanks to Kim and Alyson and Juleta for their leadership and for guiding their incredible staff. I’m always amazed at the creativity and confidence our kids have. You are building up people that will succeed. Cheralyn thanks for all you do beyond the school to make the community a true partner. We also have a level of stability with our facilities that we haven’t known for a while. In terms of Board succession, Neil will assume the role Board Chair in November. Thanks

to all board members and community volunteers who bring your passion and commitment to the vision of the school in preparing students for an uncertain world.

Thanks to Ken for his steady hand and his championing of the school.

INFORMATION ITEMS - ** Upcoming School Events:

- Pancake Breakfast – September 1, 2023
- Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors - September 19, 2023