SALT LAKE ARTS ACADEMY

Governing Board Meeting Pending Minutes

May 20, 2022 at 3 p.m.

Board Members Present	Board Members Excused
Anneliese Booher	Joy Pierce
Greg Ostrander	Matt Nelson
John Bakken	
Julie Bartel	**Staff Present**
Julie Livers	Deborah Candler
Kelly Goff	Elizabeth Wilson
Leanne Hawken (via Zoom)	Jen Burrow-Sanchez
Lon Huntsman	Jen Guillory
Rob Scott	Katy Andrews
Suyin Chong	Markell McCubbin (via Zoom)
Tatiana Mixco	Moni Schwaerzler
Parent Present	
Misse Betts (via Zoom)	

1. Welcome.

Chair Lon Huntsman welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes from March 18 and April 13, 2022.

The minutes from March 18 and April 13, 2022 were presented for approval.

John Bakken moved to approve the March 18 minutes, and Julie Livers seconded that motion. The March 18 minutes were unanimously approved.

John Bakken also moved to approve the April 13 minutes, and Suyin Chong seconded that motion. The April 13 minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Public Comments.

John Bakken moved to advance the public comment period on the agenda so those present to comment could do so earlier in the meeting. Tatiana Mixco seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Burrow-Sanchez and Elizabeth Wilson asked to be heard. Jennifer offered remarks on behalf of both, asking the Board to examine the salary schedule for teachers, staff and administration, as there is not one in place for the teachers right now. She suggested that a schedule should take into consideration licensure in Utah, degrees, hours for courses taken, years of teaching, and service. Some discussion amongst Board members and staff briefly ensued. Elizabeth Wilson commented that teachers who attain further education should be recognized.

4. Principal's report.

Deborah Candler reported on several issues:

- County data on teenager health, including rates of pregnancy/birth, sexually transmitted infections, and sexual abuse allegations. Some Board discussion ensued regarding the importance of health education and abuse prevention.

- This year, the school conducted teacher and administration surveys. Students measured the classroom climates of their teachers. Teachers were surveyed regarding Deborah. Overall, the surveys have been very positive concerning the teachers, and the surveys and reflections will permit teachers to track growth. Teachers want more time with Deborah in their classrooms.

- There will be another student engagement survey administered next week.

- Concerning enrollment, all grade levels are full, with waitlists. Newly-applying fifth graders may still find some room.

- Jennifer Burrow-Sanchez has worked hard to create a block schedule with 60-minute blocks. Humanities will be a 2-hour block.

- There will be some teacher retirements, and the school will be hiring a Science 6,, Language Arts, and Digital Arts teachers.

- The school will be assessing incoming fifth graders' math and reading abilities.

5. **Policies.**

Lon introduced two policies to consider:

- Fees Policy. The Board approved this policy last June. Lon introduced the policy, but expressed concerns that it might not be clearly-worded. Katy and Moni responded that Matt Nelson drafted it following substantial state-mandated

language. Lon would like to try to revise some of the language to make it more understandable for parents. Katy noted it must be approved by the end of the fiscal year. Deborah commended that this may become moot by next legislative session. In the end, Rob Scott offered to assist Lon in revising it.

- Attendance Policy. Deborah discussed the reasons for the policy. The onus from the State is on the schools for tracking attendance, which becomes very time-consuming. And, a student is counted as a SLARTS student until it is shown they have enrolled in another school. The thrust of this policy is that absences are disruptive, and parents are expected to ensure their kids are in school. Chronic absences are harmful to an education, and more than 5 absences can be something that may be referred to Peer Court and a meeting with student support staff to create an attendance plan.

Lon suggested a joint motion to approve both policies. John Bakken suggested that separate motions are preferred. Katy noted that we may table the Fees Policy vote until the language is revised.

Tatiana Mixco moved to approve the Attendance Policy. John Bakken seconded that motion. The Attendance Policy was unanimously approved.

Katy requested that someone move to postpone approval of the Fees Policy until June. John Bakken so moved. Tatiana seconded that motion. All unanimously approved.

6. Finance Committee Report.

Moni explained that she is required to present the budget in May, but it is not complete and the Board need not vote on it. Moni reviewed the budget documents for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 that had been previously circulated.

Katy added that in June, in addition to approving the budget, the Board will have other finance policies to approve.

The Board engaged in some discussion of UTA passes and fees, including Moni's research on alternative ways to obtain or pay for them. Katy suggested the Board might consider surveying parents on their views on the UTA passes.

Among other points, Moni noted the afterschool program is doing well, and Katy's work on the campaign was also very successful.

Lon inquired about the fee for the 8th grade trip to Lagoon. Katy explained it is a student-funded field trip activity. In reality, anyone who wants to go will get help from the school to attend.

7. Governance Committee Report.

Lon noted the Board will soon lose Matt Nelson, Joy PIerce, and Tatiana Mixco. They will be missed.

The Board is seeking new members, especially someone with a background in finance.

Julie Livers and Kelly Goff may know people interested in serving.

Deborah and Katy thanked everyone for Teacher Appreciation Week help.

Suyin Chong noted that the Teachers' Lounge needs some supplies. Julie Livers stated parent Jennie Stacey may also be helping meet that need. Suyin will head up a committee to address the need.

Lon addressed the subject of Board Chair nominations, and nominated Julie Bartel as incoming Board Chair.

Katy suggested the Board vote on that nomination in September when the Board votes on other new members. John Bakken will continue as Treasurer, and Anneliese Booher will continue as Secretary.

Katy urged the Board to identify any possible new Board members before June 23.

8. Upcoming Meetings.

Katy raised the issue of whether the Board will want to do the upcoming June 23 meeting via Zoom or in person. Given some travel plans amongst Board members and Katy, it was decided the meeting should be held via Zoom.

The September 9 meeting will be in person, likely at Kelly Goff's home.

Lon raised the issue of taking advantage of training materials. Katy and Julie Bartel will work on exchanging materials over the summer.

9. Adjournment.

Lon noted there was no reason to go into closed session. Tatiana moved to adjourn the meeting. Julie Bartel seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.