SALT LAKE ARTS ACADEMY

Governing Board Minutes

September 24, 2021, at 3 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting - https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86394611882

Board Members Present

Anneliese Booher
Greg Ostrander
Joy Pierce
Julie Bartel
Julie Livers
Kelly Goff
Leanne Hawken
Lon Hunstman
Matt Nelson
Rob Scott
Suyin Chong

Guests Present

Christina Hesley
Darell Catmull

Staff Present

Deborah Candler
Katy Andrews
Moni Schwaerzler
Markell McCubbin
Jen Guillory

Note

Attendance of participants joining during the Zoom meeting may not be recorded above.

1. **Welcome**

   Board President Lon Hunstman welcomes all to the meeting.

2. **Approval of proposed minutes from August 10, 2021**

   Lon Hunstman noted that his comments at the August 10, 2021 meeting concerning the school's mission and vision were his own, not those of the Board. He also noted that there are typos in section 6 of the proposed minutes.

   Kelly Goff moved to approve the corrected proposed minutes, and Julie Livers seconded that motion. The motion to approve the proposed corrected minutes passed unanimously.

3. **Approval of proposed minutes from September 14, 2021**

   Leanne Hawken moved to approve the proposed minutes, and Joy Pierce seconded that motion. The motion to approve the proposed minutes passes unanimously.

4. **Admissions Lottery Preferences Policy.**

   Katy Andrews presented information on this issue.

In the past, SLARTS could only prefer children of faculty or of founders. But following legislative changes, children and grandchildren of Board members, and siblings of school alumni could also be preferred.

The question has arisen concerning how to treat children of faculty who have recently joined, or of other preferred member categories, after the lottery has expired?

Jen Guillory clarified that when they run the lottery, SLARTS tries to ensure the prioritized people are so designated. As other prioritized children are proposed to be added, they are added to the top of the waitlist. Faculty children are put at the top of the list.

5. **Special education policies and procedures.**

Deb Candler, Markell McCubbin, and Katy Andrews addressed the Board regarding the State Board of Education-provided, 73-page SpEd Policies and Procedures template in which SLARTS has outlined its special education policies and procedures, including how the school handles issues of qualification and testing. Approval to the State is due October 1.

Lon Hunstman expressed concern about approving the form when the Board has not thoroughly reviewed it.

Markell responded to clarify that the only things changed from the prior form: our name and how we qualify students (Response to Intervention Method).

Leanne Hawken and Deb offered comments on the Response to Intervention Method, which involves attempting other interventions and services before testing for disability. Leanne states with these understandings, she is comfortable voting on the matter. Markell also notes that we changed who sits on our Student Support Team to include our behavior specialist and School Social Worker.

With those comments, Lon invited a motion. Leanne Hawken moved to approve the form, and John Bakken seconded the motion. All those voting unanimously approved the motion to approve. Lon abstained from the vote.

6. **Finance committee report.**

Moni Schwaerzler reported on a variety of issues, including that the shared Google Folder now contains a Finance Audit Committee folder. The ARP ESSER plan is approved, now awaiting further approval. The ESSR money received will be spent over 2-3 years. Moni also

reviews the fees collected so far, in the categories of 1) school fees, 2) TRAX fares, and 3) fall After School.

A vote is needed to approve $21,340 for consulting/support for Special Education, which is no longer in Central Administration. John Bakken moved to vote to approve the funding, and Kelly Goff seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

SLARTS has exhausted all construction funds. Theatre lights are still in transit, but netting behind basketball hoops has been installed and the pavement on the north side is complete.

Lon Hunstman and Matt Nelson reminded Board members that we have a responsibility to report to the Bondholder. That reporting is complete. It is in the shared google folder for Board members to review.

Moni notes we approved fiscal/audit policies in June, but have since fine-tuned certain language. The additional phrase "detailed instructions are found in the accounting procedures manual," needs to be approved.

Lon invited a motion to add that phrase to the audit review policy. John Bakken moved to add that phrase, and Matt Nelson seconded that motion. The motion unanimously passes.

Moni reports that for After School programming, we cannot use 11-passnger or larger vans. Others using smaller, personal cars who have passed background checks and driving forms online can help.

The September 30 Utah Public Education Financial System (UPEFS) deadline for certain reporting requirements is approaching.

7. School Acheivement Committee Report

Deborah Candler reported. Our RISE data shows a drop from Spring 2019 in language arts, science, and math. But save for math, SLARTS students still score above the state averages. It is presently unclear what these drops reflect, but it may reflect that certain children did not take the test at all, and may be indicative of the emotional/social issues children were suffering as a result of COVID.

Leanne offered comments on issues pertaining to testing conditions, suggesting It should not be assumed the scores accurately reflect abilities.

Deb Candler updated Board on the committee's discussion of homework policies as a school. It is something the committee will continue to research and examine.

Returning to the testing issue, Deb, Katy Andrews, and Lon Hunstman discusssed using the data as a springboard to evaluate the state of our students and patterns in the gaps beyond simply the numbers.

8. COVID update.

Lon Hunstman offered preliminary comments on the magnitude of the issues.

Deb Candler reports SLARTS is not having significant issues. Students are doing a great job wearing masks, in compliance with Salt Lake City's mandate. There has been one incident with one positive student test and potentially exposing other students at lunch, but no one else tested positive.

Katy Andrews addresses the issue of notifications of exposures. It is SLARTS' practice to notify the whole school (indicating the grade level of the child) of an exposure, due to the fact that children don't stay in one single classroom during the school day.

9. Requests to speak.

Darrell Catmull, who sent an email in advance of the meeting, has requested to speak and Lon Huntsman invites him to do so. Mr. Catmull offers comments complimenting the Board but noting that certain divisions have worsened over COVID. He discusses the 5th grade parent gathering which was planned to be held in a parent's home, but had vaccine and/or testing requirements he did not support. Catmull discussed the issue of vaccine shedding, which he believes causes persons to become infected with the Delta variant.

Christina Hesley also asked to speak and commented to thanks Mr. Catmull for his comments, and also thanked SLARTS for how it has handled COIVD responses and discipline issues.

10. Adjournment.

Matt Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting, and Julie Livers seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.