

Arizona School for the Arts  
Emergency Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Conference Call in:  
425-436-6327

Code: 685489 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2020 – 10am

<i>Present: (voting members in bold)</i>					
<b>Javier Cárdenas, President</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Anthony Dietz, Vice President</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Carlos Contreras, Secretary/Treasurer</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Ed Novak, Past President</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>John Snider</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Alexander Laing</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Betty Hum</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Marcia Mintz</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Kevin Allen</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>David Garcia</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Allison Otu</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Karen Lugosi</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Ed Finn</b>	<b>P</b>	Eden Lewkowitz, Honorary Academic Faculty	<b>P</b>	Dana Bender, Honorary Arts Faculty	<b>P</b>
Emma Popish, Honorary Alumni Member	<b>P</b>	Leah Fregulia, Head of School/CEO	<b>P</b>	Marion Donaldson, Development & Marketing Director	<b>A</b>
Sara Maline Bohn, Principal	<b>P</b>	Jessica Wooley, Executive Assistant	<b>P</b>		

**Call to Order**

Javier Cárdenas, Board President, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Discussion Items**

Javier began the meeting by stating that Arizona government has mandated statewide school closure through March 27<sup>th</sup> and the Board’s decision today would be regarding school closure following that date. Javier asked Leah Fregulia (Head of School/CEO) and Sara Maline (Principal) to provide further insight as to how potential school closure would impact ASA’s education model, students, and staff.

Leah announced that ASA has done an analysis on the number of instructional minutes that are required for the school year and that the school has already met the yearly required minutes for both middle school and high school. This means that ASA would not need to extend the school year to compensate for any closure.

Leah also informed the Board that many free online platforms have become available for use for remote, online instruction. A survey was sent out to all ASA families inquiring if each student had access to internet and a device. Any students without access to these resources will be contacted by the school for assistance obtaining devices and internet. ASA would designate a date for students to return to campus to collect their belonging and materials before beginning remote instruction. Following Spring Break, ASA students would have an additional week off from classes, during which ASA faculty would plan online curriculum.

Leah also stated that most basic business and office duties could function remotely, so the ASA office would be closed until March 27<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, custodial staff would continue to work on campus unless a government mandate was issued that requires them to stay home.

In regards to curriculum, Leah expressed her confidence that ASA could sustain online curriculum indefinitely to finish the school year if needed. Javier asked what online instruction would look like for arts classes and Leah responded that video instruction could be utilized and that arts instructors will likely focus on music theory. Dana Bender, Honorary Arts Faculty, informed the Board that there is already discussion among arts faculty about using online platforms such as Zoom for instruction. Honorary Academic Faculty, Eden Lewkowitz, added that he believes the transition to online teaching would be easy for academic staff, as they are already utilizing online programs such as Canvas. Additionally, the academic department chairs are proficient with online programs and

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could offer support to other faculty members. Emma Popish, Honorary Alumni Member and ASA teacher, shared that ASA faculty have already begun to make plans for online instruction and plan to collaborate for cross-curricular teaching between academics and arts.

Vice President, Tony Dietz, raised a concern regarding students with disabilities and whether or not online instruction will be the best fit for them. Leah responded that the SPED team is working closely with our students' needs, following IEP's and maintaining FAPE and will continue to monitor and adjust how curriculum is delivered in order to ensure those needs are met. When asked about students who may rely on school lunches for meals, Leah responded that the school will be checking in on our homeless students to ensure they have access to food and that information about free food programs in Arizona will be sent to all families. Phoenix Union High Schools are offering free breakfast and lunch to anyone under 18.

Leah informed the Board that the online Board Portal will be available for meetings moving forward and will provide members with online access to important meeting documents. When asked about emotional support for students during school closure, Sara responded that our Student Support Staff will be available by phone on an appointment basis. Students will request phone appointments through their respective team leaders.

The Board agreed that it is important to have our staff, parents, and students prepare for indefinite school site closure, but to re-evaluate decisions on a weekly basis in order to adapt to the evolving state of our community.

### **Action Items**

*Approval to close school site indefinitely with review for possibility of return.*

Ed Novak moved to approve. Karen Lugosi seconded the motion.

Ed Novak reframed motion to provide further clarity, including details regarding state and federal mandates as well as school closure language.

*Approval to keep school closed through March 27 as mandated by the state. Parents, students and teachers shall be notified to prepare to begin online learning on March 30th, which may last through the end of the school year. The Board will continue to evaluate and monitor the situation on a regular basis and follow all state and federal mandates as they may be issued. Finally, the physical school site is closed and will continue to be closed with exceptions to pick up required materials or books and instruments left behind before spring break. Students and parents will be notified regarding dates and times when they may come and pick up those materials, books and instruments.*

Ed Novak moved to approve. The motion was seconded by Karen Lugosi and passed unanimously. (Cárdenas, Dietz, Contreras, Novak, Snider, Laing, Hum, Allen, Garcia, Lugosi and Finn voting in favor.)

### **Adjournment**

Ed Novak made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Karen Lugosi and passed unanimously. (Cárdenas, Dietz, Contreras, Novak, Snider, Laing, Hum, Allen, Garcia, Lugosi and Finn Voting in Favor.) The meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Minutes reviewed and accepted on this date \_\_\_\_\_.

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Board Member.

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