



Arizona School for the Arts

Board of Directors Minutes

Monday, December 14, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Zoom Meeting: 892 9014 8734 Passcode: 262121

Attendance (voting Members in bold)					
Dr. Anthony (Tony) Dietz, President	P	Carlos Contreras, Vice President	A	Dr. David Garcia, Secretary/ Treasurer	P
Dr. Javier Cárdenas, Past President/RDC Chair	P	John Snider, FIC Chair	P	Alexander Laing	P
Betty Hum, GC Chair	P	Marcia Mintz	P	Kevin Allen	P
Allison Otu	P	Karen Lugosi	P	Dr. Ed Finn	P
Dr. Heidi Jannenga, TC Chair	P	John O'Neal (Pending)	P	Ricky Livoni, Honorary Academic Faculty	P
Aaron Thacker, Honorary Arts Faculty	P	Jesús López, Honorary Alumni	A	Leah Fregulia, Head of School/ CEO	P
Sara Maline Bohn, Principal	P	Elizabeth (Liz) Clark, Vice Principal	P	Monica Anthony, Arts Director & VP of Student Services	P
Dr. Drew Maxwell, Operations Director	P	Elizabeth (Liz) Shaw, Finance Director	P	Leslie Tan Religioso, Development & Marketing Director	P
Carolyn Smith, Executive Assistant	P	Marc Wancer, EFF	P		

Agenda Items
Call to the Public
Mission Moment – “Resilience”
Board Recognition
Discussion Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Development Committee • Development Dashboard • Health and Wellness Council Review of Community Health Benchmarks • January Return to School Plan • Compliance: Mask Policy, Travel & Quarantine
Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology Committee • Governance Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HOS Evaluation in Executive Session ○ Membership – Yetta Gibson and Dr. Hazem Hnaide • School Fees
Presentation – Chamber Singers and Tax Credit
Action Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of November 23, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes • Approval/Confirmation of School Opening Plan for 3rd Quarter beginning January 4, 2021 • Approval of Mask Policy Revisions • Approval of COVID related policy amendments relating to quarantine
The Board of Directors will vote to hold an executive session for the purpose of discussing specific personnel matters pursuant to: ARS §38-431.03 (A)(1) Personnel

The Board of Directors may vote to hold an executive session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice from the Board's attorney on any matter listed on the agenda pursuant to: ARS §38-431.03 (A)(3) Legal Advice

Minutes

Board President Dr. Tony Dietz called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Call to the Public

Tony welcomed the members of the public attending the meeting and after a review of Open Meeting rules asked that any wishing to speak regarding an agenda item put their names in the Zoom Chat. As no member of the public came forward, Tony moved to the next agenda item.

Mission Moment

Leah Fregulia shared a video created by ASA Choir Teacher, Jessica Elder. "Resilience" by Justice Choir is a joint project by 5th and 6th grade Vocal Foundations and 7th and 8th grade Mixed Ensemble combining quotes, visual art and a performance of the song, "Resilience". Monica Anthony explained that Justice Choir is a group putting together vocal arrangements for online learning; Jessica chose the song "Resilience" for her students as inspiration.

Board Recognition

Tony recognized Betty Hum and thanked her for her generous holiday gift from Lula's Garden to the members of the Board and Senior Leadership Team.

Discussion Items

Resource Development Committee / Development Dashboard

Committee Chair Dr. Javier Cárdenas noted that it has been a challenging fundraising year but the school is thankful for every contributor who has made and fulfilled a commitment. The RDC continues to make gratitude calls and Javier invited other members of the Board to participate in making these calls. Javier went on to say that while it is important to have commitments from student families, it is critically important and a community expectation, as a non-profit organization, to have one hundred percent participation from members of the Board, which has not yet been achieved.

Javier introduced the Board of Directors Engagement Toolkit created by Leslie Religioso and added to the Board Portal for the members' use. It is a handy guide to the CARES Act and year-end giving, and Tax Credit Donation. Javier then introduced one of two videos that was made as a creative way to help make donation requests. The second video will be added to the Board Portal and sent to Board members via email. Javier added that the RDC is working on setting up a formal fundraising training with Jerry Diaz to help facilitate how Board members make asks. Leslie reiterated the request that the Board members take a look at the Toolkit as it is an easy way for them to copy and paste messages in their social media and let them know that she and Min Skivington are available for help and support. Tony added that the Tax Credit donations are vital because they aid in paying stipends to the teachers who help with extracurriculars and it also helps pay for Life Skills classes. It is one of the easiest donations to make because donors get the donation back through tax credit so he would like to see one hundred percent Board participation. Tony also commended Javier and Leslie for the Toolkit for its creativity and ease of use.

Health and Wellness Council Review of Community Health Benchmarks / January Return to School Plan

Tony reviewed the ADHS Benchmarks as well as the most current ADHS Dashboard which shows the current cases and positivity rate per 100,000 in the Substantial range while hospitalization remains in the Moderate range, trending toward Substantial if not already there because of the two-week lag in data. The numbers for the ASA specific zip codes were also well into red zones in all areas. Using a modeling tool provided by Karen Lugosi, these numbers translate into positivity likelihood on the ASA campus. Currently, going into a Hybrid model with ten students per class, there is a 40% chance a positive student will be in any class, an 80% chance a teacher will have a positive student and a 100% chance a positive student will be on campus.

Javier noted that as of this morning, Arizona has 11,795 positive cases making Arizona's positivity rate number one in the nation. As AHA has a number of healthcare professionals on the Health and Wellness Council as well as the school's ethos to be socially responsible, it falls upon us as a community to continue that responsibility and maintain socially distanced activities and mask wearing. Hospitals are becoming overwhelmed and some ICUs are full. The HWC also recommends that ASA follow the county guidelines with respect to quarantine with modified language from the CDC being adopted by the county. The vaccine will be available for healthcare providers soon as they are in Group 1A;

educators (faculty and staff) are in Group 1B. For practical purposes, educators will likely receive the vaccine sometime in January, with a second dose 2-3 weeks later; immunity should occur approximately 2-3 weeks after the second dose, bringing immunity around March.

Javier said he wanted the Board to have realistic expectations of the models and what they mean for the teachers. At the November 23rd meeting the Board voted that the third quarter begin in the Orange model with the option to go to Red at the Administration's discretion, considering the trend of current community spread. When the Board makes the decision to return to campus, they are to be sure they have all the provisions available to students, faculty and staff; we have excellent procedures and mitigation strategies in place, but when we return it should be with full PPE to help prevent spread. Javier also thanked HWC member Dr. Rebecca Sunnenshine who had a great role in advancing the committee's discussion and knowledge. Dr. Heidi Jannenga added that she learns something at each meeting and is impressed that the group cares so much about the health and welfare of the school. Javier rejoined that the HWC considers not only physical health, but mental and social health when they make their recommendations.

Committee member Dr. Hazem Hnaide joined the meeting and reiterated that the numbers are trending upward and the ICUs in the hospitals at which he attends are at full capacity. The county has surpassed the July positivity numbers so we are now in the county's highest peak. The last time he checked, all of the markers that the county uses for school opening are in the red; we are still heading in the wrong direction. Most of the rise can be accounted for by people getting together at social gatherings without proper precautions. Hospitals are filling up as a result, they are better prepared with PPE, but people coming to hospitals with other illnesses are not being treated or transferred in a timely manner as a result. Knowledge of how to treat the disease is greater, and supported by therapeutic drugs, they are better able to keep patients of mechanical ventilators and shorten hospital stays. There are also drugs available to help keep high risk patients out of the hospital and the vaccine is available as of today. Maricopa County is working with the five major hospital systems to help distribute the vaccine; Phase 1A of distribution should be completed in the next two weeks and 1B availability will be in January.

Tony asked if any members of the Board had any questions regarding the information presented by the HWC or any further questions regarding the school models presented at the November meeting as they would be voting to affirm the return to school plan decision made last month later in the meeting; no questions were forthcoming.

Compliance: Mask Policy, Travel & Quarantine

Leah presented the Student Mask Policy which has been updated by the school's legal counsel. When it was presented at the August Board meeting, it was for informational purposes only. At this time the policy -- with a change to the minimum age of mask requirements from five to two as well as the added exceptions for physical activities and band practice -- is to be ratified by the Board.

The ASA Mitigation Plan which was ratified by the Board in August has some changes in quarantine requirements that come as recommendations from the Health and Wellness Council in line with CDC guidelines. The changes include clarification of the number of days of quarantine after symptoms appear of a Covid-like illness or a confirmed case of Covid and an increase from one day to seven days after a negative Covid test with no Covid symptoms. Javier further clarified that day of exposure is day zero and a negative test must occur on day five from exposure and the return would technically be on day eight from exposure. Leah said that language reflecting a test on day five and a return on day eight would be added to the policy and that the changes would be proposed with the added language when it came up for vote later in the meeting.

Tony added that even though we are currently in an online learning model, any positive Covid case is being tracked and information is being disseminated by Dr. Drew Maxwell; he and the staff are doing an excellent job keeping up on all policies.

Reports

Technology Committee

Committee Chair Dr. Heidi Jannenga reported that a lot of work is being done to prepare for when the school does eventually come back on a Hybrid model. The digital classroom in Main 111 & 113 is now complete with the possibility of the addition of some microphones or switching options. Heidi's company, WebPT was able to donate some computers to the school after an upgrade at the firm; they have been very useful to the faculty. WebPT will be doing this again and Heidi made an appeal to the Board to do likewise should the opportunity arise at their companies. Cox has been upgrading the internet speed in the neighborhood to 10GB; the new 1GB systems will be installed at ASA by Cox. Heidi wanted to remind everyone as we think about the future Hybrid model is to make sure we are seeing teacher input, and that we prepare for bandwidth issues, that Chromebooks batteries are tested and that we have capacity to charge them

at the school for students who come unprepared and most importantly that we keep equity in mind between students learning on and off campus in an effort to make the experience as good as possible for all.

Governance Committee

Tony began by letting the Board know that they would be going into Executive Session later in the meeting to discuss the Head of School evaluation. Betty Hum then reported that the Governance Committee has two excellent potential Board members who have indicated their interest in joining the ASA Board of Directors. Tony concurred that we are very lucky to have Yetta Gibson, news anchor at CBS 5 and Channel 3, and Health and Wellness Committee member Dr. Hazem Hnaide both in the pipeline for Board membership next year.

School Fees

Tony introduced the topic of school fees and mentioned that it was something that the Board must approve. Leah showed the Board a list of the club fees and went over the minor changes and let the Board know that the general school Activity Fee that all students pay at the beginning of each school year would remain \$150.00.

Presentation – Chamber Singers and Tax Credit

Leah told the Board that each year Dana Bender's ASA Chambers Singers perform at the annual Phoenix Community Alliance luncheon, changing the words to a familiar holiday song to highlight the Arizona tax credit in a fun way not just for ASA but for all schools in the Downtown area.

Action Items

Approval of Minutes – November 23, 2020

Javier Cárdenas moved to approve the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from November 23, 2020. The motion was seconded by Betty Hum and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Garcia, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Mintz, Allen, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

Approval of School Plan for 3rd Quarter Beginning on January 4, 2021

Javier Cárdenas moved that based upon a review of current community health conditions; AZDHS, MCHD, CDC and AAP guidelines; faculty, staff, and parent input; and in the interest of optimal student learning, ASA implements the plans for operating in the ORANGE Learning Scenario beginning January 4, 2021 with the option to move to RED as conditions allow, and will remain in compliance with all requirements outlined in Executive Order 2020-51. The motion was seconded by Marcia Mintz and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Garcia, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Mintz, Allen, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

Approval of Mask Policy Revisions

John Snider moved to approve the ASA Student Mask Policy Revision. The motion was seconded by Karen Lugosi and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Garcia, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Mintz, Allen, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

Approval of COVID Related Policy Amendments Relating to Quarantine

Javier Cárdenas moved to approve the ASA Mitigation Plan amendments relating to quarantine with additions to the language specifying the language discussed earlier regarding exposure: negative testing no earlier than day five after exposure and a return to school on day eight after exposure and a negative test result. The motion was seconded by Karen Lugosi and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Garcia, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Mintz, Allen, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

Approval of SY2021-22 School Fees

Betty Hum moved to approve the School Year 2021-22 school fees. The motion was seconded by Marcia Mintz and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Garcia, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Mintz, Allen, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

Executive Session

At 6:38 p.m. Javier Cárdenas moved the Board of Directors commence an executive session pursuant to ARS §38-431.03 (A)(1), in order to discuss Head of School/CEO annual evaluation. The motion was seconded by Betty Hum and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Garcia, Snider, Allen, Mintz, Hum, Otu, Lugosi and Finn voting in favor.]

Executive Session ended at 6:49 p.m.

Adjournment

Ed Finn made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Betty Hum and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Mintz, Allen, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Minutes reviewed and accepted on: 01/25/2021

Signed by:  _____, Board Member