



Arizona School for the Arts
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
 Monday, April 29, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
On Campus: Building A, Room 129

Attendance (Voting Members in **Bold**)

Dr. David Garcia, President	P	Alexander (Alex) Laing, Vice President	P	Dr. Heidi Jannenga, Secretary/Treasurer	P
Leola Abraham	P	Michelle Buckley	A	Andrei Cherny	A
Michelle Davidson	P	Betty Hum	A	Carrie Larson	P
John O'Neal	A	Allison Otu	P	Dr. Lorisa Pombo	A
Nonnie Shivers	P	John Snider	P	Annette Zinky	P
Scott Stone	P	Elizabeth (Liz) Guzman, Honorary Arts Faculty	P	Jeffrey (Jeff) Steinert, Honorary Academic Faculty	P
Ian Elder, Honorary Student	P	Ingrid Martinez, Honorary Student	P	Leah Fregulia, Head of School/CEO	P
Leslie Tan Religioso, Development Director	P	Elizabeth (Liz) Shaw, Business Director	A	Carolyn Smith, Executive Assistant	P

Agenda Items

| Call to the Public

| Mission Moment

Alumni Award Recipients

Save the Dates

| Board Recognition

| Discussion Items

Resource Development Committee

- Development Dashboard

Finance Committee

- February & March 2024 Financial Reports

Governance Committee

- Presentation of FY25 Policy Handbooks for Approval in May
 - Community Handbook + Student Code of Conduct

- Employee Handbook
- Master Emergency Response Plan

Executive Director Search

| Consent Agenda

Head of School Report

- Schay Awards
- Honorary Board Member Open Positions

| Action Items

Approval of the March 25, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Approval to submit School Location Amendment with ASBCS to include West building as part of campus

| The Board of Directors may vote to hold an executive session for the purpose of discussing 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. David Garcia called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Call to the Public

David welcomed any members of the public attending the meeting. There were no members of the public present, so David moved to the next agenda item.

Mission Moment

Leah Fregulia shared the names of the Alumni Award honorees who will be featured at Showcase this year. The Rising Star honoree is Jeremy Winkelman ('15) finished medical school at the University of Arizona and has matched with Scripps for his Internal Medicine residency. There are two Distinguished honorees: Daniel Brodie ('00), a Video & Projection Designer with credits on Broadway, and in the worlds of ballet, opera, special events and popular music as well as Avery Williams ('07) who also finished medical school at University of Arizona and matched at Yale for her Interventional Radiology residency. Avery was also a Science teacher at ASA before returning to school to advance her own education.

Leah then reminded the Board of some important upcoming events and their locations as they are at the core of the ASA mission. They included: Senior Recital and Celebration, 8th Grade Celebration, Showcase, and Graduation. She requested that the board members attend as many as their schedules allow.

Board Recognition

David recognized Leslie Religioso and Min Skivington from the Development Department as well as Leah for all the work they have done over the past month to increase the funds raised towards the goal for this year. There has been a recognizable closing of the gap and he commended their efforts.

Discussion Items

Resource Development Committee

Leslie Religioso reviewed the reconciled fundraising numbers as of March 31st. Currently, we are at \$593K which now brings us trending with the same time last year. Leslie is projecting ending the year at an approximate \$800K; this goal is achievable if we realize annual giving by reaching out to lapsed donors as well as meeting Showcase sponsorship and ticket sales goals.

Leslie showed the Board that they are just \$26.7K from their \$150K fundraising goal; David stressed that the Board is yet not halfway to their ask goal for Showcase sponsorships so he requested that they make introductions to Leslie and Leah if they are not comfortable asking for a sponsorship donation directly. Leslie gave kudos to Lorisa Pombo, Allison Otu, Betty Hum, and Annette Zinky for securing and/or making introductions for sponsorship asks and commended Leah for once again securing a presenting sponsorship from the City of Phoenix Arts and Culture Department. Leah then reminded board members that Showcase is a great introduction to ASA and they should invite potential donors even if they are not yet ready to ask them for sponsorship.

Leslie agreed that invitations to Showcase for potential sponsors is important and also asked for a board member to volunteer to speak at an Annual Parent Meeting this week and then reminded the Board that Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6th-10th. David recognized ASA parent Wendy Johnson for organizing lunch for the week but asked for board members to show their support to the ASA faculty and staff by again sponsoring the Friday lunch from Little Miss BBQ; he also invited any member who could to come on Friday to help serve and enjoy lunch with the faculty and staff.

Finance Committee

John Snider noted that the current financial reports are on the Board Portal for review. He reported that with a close eye on expenses this year's budget is balanced and we are on pace to end the fiscal year in a good place despite the lower Average Daily Membership this year. John then reminded the Board that the Federal ESSER 3 grant will be ending this year.

The Business Office, in conjunction with the Finance Committee, started writing the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (FY25) budget earlier than usual this year with a lower number of students. Enrollment for next year looks good, but we will need to see actual numbers of students at the start of the school year. There will likely be one more adjustment to the FY25 budget draft before it is presented to the Board at the May meeting.

John then reported that Elizabeth Shaw will be looking into secure investment opportunities for the schools cash reserves now that interest rates are high; it is an opportunity to increase the reserves that did not previously exist when interest rates were at or near zero percent.

Governance Committee

Leah said that the drafts of the FY25 Community Handbook, Student Code of Conduct, Employee Handbook, and Master Emergency Response Plan are all on the Portal for review. She noted that the changes to the Master Emergency Response Plan were minor and highlighted in the draft and that the others had some more extensive updates, but they were redline versions so all changes are noted. Leah invited the board members to send any comments or corrections to her and then the final version will be voted on at the May meeting.

Executive Director Search

David and Leah reported that the first of the two finalist candidates visited campus the previous Thursday and Friday (April 25th & 26th) to have one-to-one and group meetings with various school stakeholders. The second candidate will be visiting the upcoming Thursday and Friday (May 2nd & 3rd) to have the same stakeholder meetings including the Meet & Greet with Board and Search Committee members. Feedback on both candidates will be collected from the stakeholders and presented to the Search Committee when they meet the week following the second visit.

Consent Agenda

Head of School Report

Leah reported that the enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year continues to increase due to the efforts of Office Administrator Jamie Bledsoe and her team as well as the Development Team. Student retention has moved from 70% to 80%, school tours are full, and we currently have a projected enrollment of 828 returning plus new students. Leah then mentioned that the Schay Award winners will be selected shortly and reviewed that this is an honor bestowed by the Board, in the name of the late Board President Dan Schay, to Seniors at the Senior Celebration who exemplify the Core Values of ASA. Leah also told the Board that three upcoming Honorary Board Member vacancies will be filled for next year as Student HBMs Ingrid Martinez and Ian Elder will be graduating and Academic Faculty HBM Jeff Steinert’s 2-year term is ending; she thanked them all for their service to the Board. She then thanked Board Vice President Alex Laing for agreeing to be the keynote speaker at the Graduation ceremony this year.

Action Items

Approval of the March 25, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Heidi Jannenga moved to approve the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from March 25, 2024. The motion was seconded by Michelle Davidson and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Garcia, Laing, Jannenga, Abraham, Davidson, Larson, Otu, Shivers, Snider, and Zinky voting in favor.]

Approval to submit School Location Amendment with ASBCS to Include the West Building as Part of Campus


Allison Otu moved to approve the submission of a School Location Amendment with ASBCS to include the West Building as part of Campus. Leah Fregulia explained that it may or may not be needed as a result of a pop-in visit from the ASBCS, but she would like to be able to move forward expeditiously should the ASBCS require it. The motion was seconded by Annette Zinky and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Garcia, Laing, Jannenga, Abraham, Davidson, Larson, Otu, Shivers, Snider, and Zinky voting in favor.]

Adjournment

Michelle Davidson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Carrie Larson and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Garcia, Laing, Jannenga, Abraham, Davidson, Larson, Otu, Shivers, Snider, and Zinky voting in favor.]

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Minutes reviewed and accepted on: May 29, 2024

Signed by:  _____, Board Member