



**Sarasota Academy of the Arts
Monthly Board Meeting
May 21, 2024 - 9:00am
582 McIntosh Rd
Administration Office**

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

- I. Called to Order @ 9:00am
- II. Determination of a Quorum: All Board Members and Principal Kopacz in attendance. **A quorum was maintained.**
- III. Minutes from last month: **Approved by unanimous vote.**
- IV. Finances-Financial Report: **Approved by unanimous vote.**
- V. Principal's Report
 - a. Teacher Appreciation Week went very well, with good parent/student participation including food, cards, flowers, etc. for teachers.
 - b. Beta Gala was held successfully.
 - c. State Testing Update: Current period of Student Performance Testing is ongoing until this Thursday. Generally high marks so far.
 - d. 8th Grade graduation will be at the Meadows, 6pm, Thursday, May 23rd. There will be a dinner theater/show put on by the students.
 - e. Summer Schedule, Deep Cleaning and Jewish Federation (JFed) Camp: Normally SAA would have a Deep Clean of the entire building interior performed before the start of the school year. But this summer JFed will be on site 7am-7pm Mon-Fri for the duration of their summer camp – which ends immediately before the start of SAA school year. So, the only opportunity for a Deep Clean this summer will be BEFORE the JFed summer camp – leaving the school in less than pristine condition at the beginning of the SAA school year. Principle Kopacz will decide as to whether a Deep Clean is worthwhile under these circumstances and when/if it will take place.
 - f. Enrollment: County has approved an enrollment budget for 173 students for the 24/25 school year. As of now we have 202 applicants and at least two more potential applications in the pipeline. The most critical aspect of this is a significant potential increase in Kindergarten enrollment - which could require hiring another teacher. The Board considered the potential for attrition between applications and actual student enrollment, and weighed that against SAA's long-term growth plan, generally improving trends school-wide, and a growing community awareness of the new SAA physical facilities and resources. **The Board unanimously voted to submit a request to County for an increased enrollment budget based upon 187 students – splitting the difference between 173 and 202 – as a reasonably likely projection.**

- g. Playground information: Holland Enterprises, a local landscape contractor, has submitted informational materials regarding playground design and potential costs. The Board vice president will review the materials for inclusion in future planning discussions on the matter.
- h. Superintendent's visit: The Sarasota County Superintendent of Schools toured the entire facility and observed SAA in operation first-hand, including actual Performances by students. This is a first for SAA and is believed will result in increased awareness and support for SAA at the County Level.

VI. Old business:

- a. ~~Digital Leadership evaluation form needs to be completed and approved by Board: See item G, below.~~
- b. SAA Governing Board Training: All Board Members have fulfilled the requirements for Florida Charter School Governance Training. Principal Kopacz will submit required documentation.
- c. Lease discussion amendments: **The Board unanimously voted to approve a Second Lease Amendment between SAA and JFed concerning: JFed summer camp, SAA exterior signage, Event-specific sub-lease of facility, and Release of specific playground requirements & naming rights.**
- d. Building signage: Principal Kopacz is evaluating options for stainless steel individual letters to be mounted on the building cornice, to the left of SAA entrance, facing McIntosh Rd. The Board Secretary will measure available space and forward to Principal.
- e. Playground: Strategize for sponsorship and/or fundraising: **Board tabled this topic for future discussion.**
- f. Endowments for SAA: Through Florida Charter School Governance Training, the Board has learned that private-sector fundraising may include endowments as well as project-specific and general-use donations.
- g. Florida School Leader Assessment for Charters – Forms for evaluating Principal Kopacz are complete and will be submitted no later than June 27th.

VII. New Business: None

VIII. Public comment: None

IX. Adjournment **10:10am**

Respectfully Submitted May 21, 2024,

Dean Brenneman
Board Secretary
Sarasota Academy For The Arts, Inc.



A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by the date 6/18/24. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'D. Brenneman'. The date is written in a simple, clear font.