



**Sarasota Academy of the Arts  
January 21, 2025  
Monthly Meeting of the Governing Board of Directors  
582 McIntosh Rd- 9:00am  
Administration Office**

**Monthly Governing Board Meeting Minutes**

- I. Call to order: **Called to order 9:08**
- II. Determination of a Quorum: **Confirmed. Present: Members Kennedy, Dembicki, Mizak, Brenneman & Principal Kopacz.**
- III. Approval of Minutes: **Motion to approve unanimously passed.**
- IV. Finances-Financial Report
  1. Review/Discuss reports for approval: **Motion to approve unanimously passed.**
  2. **Jodi and Dan Dembicki confirmed as signatories for all Synovus Bank accounts.**
  3. **Dan and Jody met with Synovus Bank:**
    - i. **Expressed interest in lending for Phase 2**
    - ii. **Warned of financial fraud risks and recommended additional fraud protection insurance from third party insurer, which Treasurer Dembicki will pursue.**
    - iii. **Lease payments have increased, per lease agreement. Member Brenneman to review the lease for this matter. President Kennedy to coordinate a meeting with JFED to try to renegotiate the timeline for lease payment increases. Treasurer Dembicki and Member Brenneman to also attend such meeting.**
- V. Principal's Report
  1. 2025-2026 Re-enrollment for current SAA students is showing most students are returning. One student has noted not returning because of moving.
  2. Current enrollment January 2025 is 198. No clawback this year, and we should see an increase in February MES as the district has enrollment at 187.
  3. Please see the folder placed in the Governing Board Drive labeled 2025 Synovus Loan Phase 2. I have begun placing items in the folder; construction

information will need to come from the Board. I've included the budgets from previous years, and work on enrollment numbers.

4. School site visit with Synovus went very well. Toured the classrooms, the kindergarten sang them a song, and I discussed the phase 2 area.
5. District visit with Millie Wheeler and Kelli Anderson, Office of School Choice school site visit also went very well. They were amazed at the transformation since the first visit when the fences were up and there was a dirt path in front of the school.
6. Our Beta Club students did fantastic at States held in Orlando. Our Elementary Performers won first place. We also placed in Spanish, Art, and Middle school performance. Middle School Beta will go to Nationals in July.
7. SAA will follow the Districts Literacy Week from January 27th to the 31st.
8. The Outside Play area Grant using Donors Choose has arrived, minus the playground. Students are already playing with the hopscotch mats outside, the basketball hoop arrived and will be built this week. Playground should be delivered soon.

VI. Old Business

1. Exterior Signage: Status update: **Installation scheduled for tomorrow, weather permitting.**
2. Phase 2 buildout will be subject of an open working meeting to be held immediately after this meeting.

VII. New Business: **None**

VIII. Public comment period: **None**

IX. Adjournment: **Meeting Adjourned @ 9:35**

Respectfully Submitted, Feb. 17, 2025

Dean Brenneman

Secretary

Governing Board of Directors

Sarasota Academy of the Arts

Approved by vote of Board: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Board Officer