



**Sarasota Academy of the Arts  
August 20, 2024  
Monthly Meeting of the Governing Board of Directors  
582 McIntosh Rd- 9:00am  
Administration Office**

**Meeting Minutes of Governing Board**

- I. Call to order: **@ 9:02 By Board President Kennedy.**
- II. Determination of a Quorum: **Quorum Achieved. Present: Mrs. Kennedy, Mr. Dembicki, Dr. Mizak, Mr. Breneman & Principal Kopacz..Absent: Ms. Verheul.**
- III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes. **Approved unanimously.**
- IV. Finances
  - A. Review latest Financial Reports. **School was profitable last year.**
- V. Principal's Report
  - A. Enrollment: Sarasota County School District August MES: 187, Beginning 5 day count 202. **As of Today 197.**
  - B. With the increase in enrollment, the principal would like to hire a full time math/science/elective teacher to assist, as the part time position was not filled due to it being "part time". This would increase the salary budget by approximately 24,000. **Board voted and unanimously approved advertising for the full time position, hiring to be contingent upon confirmation of funding.**
  - C. Open House/Back to school night was the largest SAA has seen. It was very successful and the parents appeared happy and excited for the new year. **Thanks to Dr. Mizak for attending.**
  - D. SAA has recently been recognized, by Quality Business Awards, as the 2024 " Best Art School In Sarasota". **Congratulations to Principal Kopacz**
  - E. School Improvement Plan Approval. **Board voted and unanimously approved the plan.**
  - F. Parent's survey has been received. Very good scores across the spectrum with one notable exception: 24% of parents responding to surveys disagree about quality and variety of food choices. **Food is**

**controlled by Sarasota County, so SAA has no ability to influence.**

G. Pellegrino McFarland & Tortora - 06-30-24 SAA Audit Engagement Letter' has been executed.

H. Re: Chilton - Subpoena for School Records.

1. Parents are in a custody battle and the Court has issued a subpoena for school records. Dr. Kopacz has cooperated and supplied requested materials.
2. Custodial parent has accused SAA of improperly releasing records to the non-custodial parent.

VI. Old Business

A. Exterior Signage - Review proposal for Building sign and vote up/down. **Board voted and unanimously approved the version with black lettering.**

B. Playground: Strategize for sponsorship and/or fundraising. **No news to report.**

C. Discuss JFed Summer Camp experience. **No major issues.**

VII. New Business:

A. **Mr. Dembicki is pursuing a potential private donor.**

B. **Board members each to send Venmo \$30 to Ms. Verheul for reimbursement of 23/24 Holiday's Teacher's Gift.**

VIII. Public comment **None**

IX. Adjournment: **10:00am**

Respectfully Submitted 8.20.2024,



Dean K. Brenneman  
Governing Board Secretary  
Sarasota Academy of the Arts

Approved 9/17/24  
By unanimous vote

