



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 17, 2020 Time: 6:00pm Location: Media Center

School Board Norms of Engagement 2020 The Board of Aspen Academy will

Tenacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> form cohesion, cooperate, respectfully engage, listen effectively, and remain future minded.
High Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> keep students first, speak with one voice, operate as a governance board.
Integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> always remain respectful to staff, employees, parents, students and other stakeholders, hear all voices before key decisions, maintain oversight, and work together to carry out our responsibilities.
No Excuses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> always assume positive intent, be accountable for self-behaviors and their impact on board activities, be open to clarifying questions, constructive comments and relevant discussions, and read all materials before board meetings.
Kindness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> treat each other with respect at all times, respect time allotted for all presentations at board meetings, and respect each other's time.

• **CALL TO ORDER AT 6:00pm**

In attendance Stephanie Smitley, Misty Schutrop, April Schafer, Andrew Price, Rob Allison, Connie Freitag, Andrew Petrenko, Michael Faulise

Authorizer Comments _____

Community Comments _____

Community members must pre-register to speak at the meeting. Items are limited to those on the night's agenda. The Board Chair has the discretion to hear a community member who has not pre-registered, but items remain limited to those on the agenda.

• **Motion: Approval of Agenda with amendments.**

First Allison Second Petrenko Yes X(6) No _____ Abst _____

ASPEN ACCOLADES (Dr. Freitag): Big accolade to Dr. Freitag and admin team from the board for their work on getting distance learning ready for staff and parents. Thank you! Julie and

Christi for working on the weekend to get info ready for stakeholders. Everyone coming together to help the last 2 days at school. Parents being patient and kind.

Approve the following consent agenda items:

- **Hires - Resignations – Terminations – Non-Renewals**
 - Mara Becks, Para (effective 2-14-20)
 - Maria Mendoza, Para (effective 3-1-20)
 - Cheryl Nogen, Para (effective 3-9-20)

First Smitley Second Schafer Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____

Program Services Committee (Smitley/Silvers-Stewart)

- Director Report: Reading curriculum still looking at cost and asking for more grade levels and more input from staff before making a decision. Science has been piloted by 4th and 5th grade. Teachers really liked it and will get Amplify K-5. Core Knowledge will be used K-5 for social studies.
- Committee Report: The committee met March 4th to review 3 policies up for annual review and one for review per MSBA. Policies 514 and 522 were reviewed but no edits were made. Policy 505 changed the hours that the school is open since the hours changed this school year and wording to reflect the MSBA policy in section VII. D. was made. In Policy 808 the MSBA suggested adding “non-service” dog in section VI. C. Please see minutes on the website for more information.
- Motion: **Approve Policy 505, Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees.**

First Schafer Second Smitley Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____

- Motion: **Approve Policy, 808 Service Animals in Schools.**

First Petrenko Second Allison Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____

Finance & Facility Committee (Allison/Faulise/Schutrop/Price)

- Director Report: There was a small leak in the basement near the math classroom in mid-February. Looks like it was caused by snow by the window flashing and the downspouts were frozen solid. Next year, will keep the snow away from the flashing and

keep salt in the downspouts so they don't freeze. Eagle's Nest fees will increase next year to keep in line with similar services in the community. Fees have not increased in years. Connie is still working on the blocks of time for morning and afternoon. Distance learning (DL) will start March 30th, if we do not go back to school. DL is different from E-learning which is only up to 5 days for things like snow days. Aspen is far ahead from where other districts at this time. SpEd has already met with vendors this morning. DL plan will be placed on the website which is all that is required. Staff will be working at the school the rest of the week and will have 3 ½ days of lessons ready to go for after Spring Break. Staff meetings will be online using Zoom. Penguin Corps has provided 8 computers to families who needed one. There are about 13 kids signed up for school care who are children of health care workers or first responders. Aspen also needs to provide lunch for students on Free and Reduced. Lunches will be shelf ready food parents can come during a certain time and drive up to pick them up. Connie and Diane will be able to continue paying bills, etc with scanners if they need to shelter in place. The documents for the Propel line of credit are finished and signed.

Only a slight change to the Moving Matters contract, removed the mileage fee, increased fee \$10/hour and no minimum fee.

- Motion: **Approve the Moving Matters DAPE contract for 2020-2021.**

First Smitley Second Schafer Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____

Teacher pay scale was increased for the next 2 school years. Some teachers will have a small bump to get them on the scale and some will have bigger bump next year. FY21 budget already includes new scale.

- Motion: **Approve teacher pay scale.**

First Allison Second Petrenko Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____

- Committee Report: Presentation of Financials by David Kloskin. 67% through the fiscal year based on ADM budget of 590, actual is close to 600. DSCR is 1.11, Fund balance is 21%, DCOH is 38. DCOH increased from last month. 59% revenues and 61% expenditures. FY21 will need to be approved in April, fund balance looking to be close to 25% and just over 25% in FY22. Won't need line of credit through at least October but is available if needed. During DL, attendance will still be tracked and state will stay pay. Might need to still pay for the 2 busses. Possible savings from SpEd transportation. I Love to Read fundraiser brought in \$15,500. Only one question on check register about worker's comp payment that are frequently part of the check register.

- Motion: **Approve the February check register.**

First Smitley Second Schafer Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____

Board Elections, Responsibilities & Governance Committee (Smitley/Schutrop)

- Director Report: Discussion - Friends of Education Spring dinner April 21st during next board meeting. If it is not cancelled, Connie will attend and board meeting will go on as normal, electronically possibly. Admin survey was very positive overall. They have seen results and will discuss after spring break. Working on a plan for coaching model.
- Motion: **Due to the declared health pandemic and the declared state of emergency and pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.021, until further notice, all board meetings will be held by teleconference or other electronic means.**

First Smitley Second Allison Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____

- Committee Report: Director eval is on hold in light of current events. Misty will continue to work on it and possibly send to staff late April/May.

Marketing and Community Engagement Committee (Price/Schafer)

- Committee Report: Will try for an online meeting in April.

Strategic Planning Committee (Price/Peterson/Allison/Petrenko)

- Committee Report: Will try for an online meeting in April/May.

- **Adjournment at 6:58pm**_____

- First Smitley Second Schafer Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____