



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 27, 2023 Time: 6:00pm Location: Aspen Media Center

School Board Norms of Engagement 2022 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 6:02pm**

In attendance Brandy Mosser, Melanie Jiskra, Chris DiCapo, Andrew Price, Rachel Mong, Michael Faulise, Stephanie Smitley

Authorizer Comments _____

Community Comments _____

Community members must pre-register to speak at the meeting. Items are limited to those motions 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**

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

- Motion: **Approval of Minutes** (January 23, 2023).

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

Student Body Board Representative Report – Michael Martyn reported that Mr. Miller’s class celebrated Valentine’s Day, 100th Day of School, dressed up as old people. Mrs. Torvik – learning about Ancient Egypt, went to Science Museum, baby Moe arrived, welcome to Mrs. Dalsin. Mrs. Wiese – moving 2-22 day to 3-22 due to snow, I Love to Read Month and the read-a-thon. Penguin Corps – 4 students led class when Mr. Keroff had to leave for an emergency, students will have an opportunity to take the LPI certificate exam in May, guest speaker in club also. Mrs. Tieman – I Love to Read Month, adding pickles to their pickle jar, Kindness Day. Mrs. Tyler – talent show today, several students going to the Youth Writers Conference, thank you to the planning committee for a great month. Ms. Burndt is almost finished with ACCESS testing. NJHS – reading with K and 1st students, helped Mrs. Milton with skit for I Love to Read assembly. 6th – going to Eagle’s Bluff in March, 8 students chosen for Honor Band and a few for Jazz Band. 7th – Social studies is having their Economics sale with money going to an outdoor basketball hoop, students going to the Youth Writing Conference, Addie Shurts was in a Children’s Theater play. Accolades: Students of the Month, Dare2BReal sold lollipops for Valentine’s Day.

ASPEN ACCOLADES (Mrs. Jiskra): Big thank you to the I Love to Read Committee for putting on I Love to Read Month! Thank you to the parents that helped decorate the lobby and volunteered for the book fair and conference meals. Thank you to Julie Martini for running a very smooth lottery.

Approve the following consent agenda items:

- **Hires - Resignations – Terminations – Non-Renewals**
 - Dana Holmes, Confidential admin assistant (effective 1-31-23)
 - Emily Dalsin, long-term sub (effective 2-14-23)
 - Shania Lindsey, para (effective 2-23-23)
 - Lydia Cedarberg, Confidential admin assistant (effective 2-27-23)

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

Program Services Committee (Smitley/Mosser/DiCapo/Finnerty)

- Administration Report: Winter data presentation by Dr. Haley-Strub
 - Lots of bright spots in the Winter data. Students K-8 took FastBridge reading and math, 4-8 took mySaebres for SEL in January.
 - Reading: K went from 59% to 73% at low risk earlyReading, big increase in letter sounds. 1st stayed the same at low risk, decreased high risk. 2-8 aReading, big jump 72-77%, 94% 2nd graders grew! 5 grades grew compared with only 2 last year.
 - Math: K went from 71 to 79% low risk earlyMath, 1st stayed the same with 83% in low risk! 2-5 aMath – stayed about the same at 76% with big increases in 2nd and 3rd grade for low risk/exceeds categories. 6-8 stayed about the same at 72%, 9% increase in exceeds in 8th! 4 grades grew compared to 3 last year.

- Students showing great growth from Fall to Winter in Reading: 100% of K, 96% 1, 94% 2, 85% 3, 81% 4, 73% 5, 75% 6, 74% 7, 76% 8. Math: 99% of K, 65% 1, 95% 2, 88% 3, 79% 4, 77% 5, 73% 6, 63% 7, 72% 8.
 - K-5 have implemented strategies in Reading and/or Math to increase achievement ranging from new curriculum, small groups, more intentional and accelerated instruction and more phonological awareness and practice.
 - Thank you, Dr. Erin!
- Committee Report: The committee did not meet.

Finance & Facility Committee (Allison/Faulise/Price)

- Administration Report: Keeping an eye on legislation for increase spending in education, moving to the formal writing phase.
- Motion: **Approve the Curriculum Coordinator position.**
 First Price Second Mong Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____
- Motion: **Approve the Technology Paraprofessional position.**
 First Mosser Second DiCapo Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____
- Committee Report: Presentation of Financials by Nate Winter. 58% through the fiscal year, budget based on 640 enrollment, revenue at 59% (lease aid should be coming in March), expenditures at 58% (playground equipment and snow removal, big expenditures this month). Nate will review special education expenditures in March with Kelly and Jodi.
- Motion: **Approve the January check register.**
 First Smitley Second Mong Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____

Board Elections, Responsibilities & Governance Committee (Smitley/Mong/Finnerty)

- Committee Report: The committee met to determine the board election timeline. The election will conclude on May 11th, ballots will be accepted by drop-off or mail May 1st-11th. Information asking for candidates will go out on March 1st. Applications will be due March 30th with candidate packets going out around April 11th. There are 3 parent board members and 2 community members up for election. The committee also reviewed 3 policies, making only small word changes.

- Motion: **Approve Policy 410 Family and Medical Leave, 1st read.**
First Mong Second Mosser Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____
- Motion: **Approve Policy 413 Harassment and Violence.**
First Smitley Second Mong Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____
- Motion: **Approve Policy 414 Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse.**
First Price Second DiCapo Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____

Marketing and Community Engagement Committee (Price/Faulise/Mong/DiCapo)

- Committee Report: The committee did not meet. Will meet in a few weeks with new marketing employee.

Strategic Planning Committee (Price/Faulise/Allison/Mosser)

- Committee Report: The committee met and reviewed objectives 1.1 and 1.2. In April, the committee will review objectives 4 and 5.

Closed Meeting

The Open Meeting Law, Minnesota Statute Minn. Stat. § 13D.05; 13D.05, subd. 2 states that a public body may close a meeting for labor negotiations. During the closed meeting, the Board will discuss the employment agreement of Melanie Jiskra. Accordingly, pursuant to the law I have cited, I will hereby entertain a motion that this meeting be closed for the purpose of labor negotiations.

- **Motion to close the meeting.**
First Mong Second Mosser Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____
- **Motion to open the meeting.**
First Smitley Second Mosser Yes X(7) No _____ Abst _____

- **Approve Michael and Andrew to present an agreement to Melanie Jiskra with parameters discussed in the closed session.**

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

- **Adjournment at 7:23pm**

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