



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 9th, 2024 Time: 6:00pm Location: Aspen Media Center

School Board Norms of Engagement 2024 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, Michael Faulise, Andrew Price, Lilya Tsibulko, Rob Allison, Kristin Carlson, Melanie Jiskra

Student Board Representative Report by Ayah – 2nd grade is working on subtraction with regrouping. 3rd grade started learning multiplication facts. 5th grade is working on hands-on investigations on matter with physical and chemical reactions. There is a band concert tomorrow night. 6th grade PE had a guest who taught a kick-boxing class. Middle school had an out of uniform day for those scholars who had 20 Super Thinkers. The entire school will be watching a movie on December 20 for their Super Thinker reward and having Unity Day.

Authorizer Comments _____

Community Comments Chris DiCapo spoke to his resignation on the agenda.

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 as amended.**

First Smitley Second Faulise Yes X(6) No _____ Abst _____

- Motion: **Approval of Minutes** (November 18th, 2024).

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

ASPEN ACCOLADES (Mrs. Jiskra): To the 4th grade team for their extensive work on the medieval projects! Students did a fantastic job presenting their project boards and replicas. To the 1st grade team for holding the annual Fall Fest with applesauce making, crafts and games.

Approve the following consent agenda items:

- **Hires**
 - Barb Lofgren, para (effective 12-2-24)
 - Tavon Cummings, para (effective 12-5-24)

First Tsibulko Second Smitley Yes X(6) No _____ Abst _____

Program Services Committee (Smitley/Carlson)

- Committee Report: The committee did not meet.

Finance & Facility Committee (Allison/Faulise)

- Motion: **Approve Special Education paraprofessional Tier 2 position.**

First Tsibulko Second Smitley Yes X(6) No _____ Abst _____

- Committee Report: Committee met prior to board meeting. Presentation of Financials by Nate Winter – 42% through the fiscal year. 645 enrollment. 41% revenue, 38% expenditures. Beginning balances can now be official after final audit.

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

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

- Motion: **Approve the FY24 audit.**

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

- Motion: **Approve the Compete level Niche partnership option.**

First Smitley Second Carlson Yes X(6) No _____ Abst _____

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

- Motion: **Approve Eric Sandberg to replace Julie Martini as an emergency director replacement, per policy 310.**

First Carlson Second Smitley Yes X(6) No _____ Abst _____

- **Motion:** Approve the following: The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) requires that school districts annually designate an Identified Official with Authority to comply with State Access Control Security Standard 1.0 which states that all user access rights to Minnesota state systems must be reviewed and recertified at least annually. The Identified Official with Authority will assign job duties and authorize external user's access to MDE secure systems for their local education agency (LEA). The Board recommends to authorize Melanie Jiskra to act as the Identified Official with Authority (IOWA) for Aspen Academy 4184-07.

First Price Second Smitley Yes X(6) No _____ Abst _____

- Committee Report: The committee will meet in January. The board is looking for a parent board member to complete the term due to the resignation. Former board member Bryce Hotzler did not have the time needed to commit to being a board member.

- Motion: **Approve the resignation of Chris DiCapo effective 12-3-24.**

First Smitley Second Faulise Yes X(6) No _____ Abst _____

Community Engagement Committee (Mohamed/Price)

- Committee Report: The committee met last week and discussed the Niche report and sent to finance for consideration.

Strategic Planning Committee (Price, Mohamed, Allison, Faulise)

- Committee Report: Climate survey was shared with the board. Lots of information. Will go to PBIS, THINK committee and staff.
- **Adjournment at** 6:30pm
- First Smitley Second Faulise Yes X(6) No _____ Abst _____