



ARKANSAS
ARTS ACADEMY
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Arkansas Arts Academy School Board Agenda
Tuesday, May 12, 2020, 6:30 pm
Through Technology

1. Call to order at 6:30 pm
2. Establish quorum / Roll Call: Howard Alsdorf, Tony Beardsley, Asele Mack, Cara Riley and David Russell
3. Comments from the Public: None
4. Consent Agenda
 - Approve minutes from April Regular Meeting
 - Enrollment Report
 - April Financials
 - A motion was made by David Russell to accept the Consent Agenda Items as presented, a second by Tony Beardsley and the motion was carried in 4 – 0 vote.
5. New Business
 - Principal Reports
 - Heather Wright: Celebrate the Arts will be held next week, 30 seniors came by to pick up their diplomas in their cap and gowns. Teacher appreciation week was a success and the staff celebrated with the Game of Games and the treats from the PTG.
 - Matt Young: The drive through parade was very successful. Working on plans for Kindergarten Graduation drive through with pictures. On line, learning is a learning curve. Our PTA for Teacher Appreciation put signs in our Teachers yards. There will be a Spirit Night at Tacos for life.
 - Increase in Meal Prices: Due to the minimum wage increase at the beginning of the year, we will need to increase meal costs to \$3.05 for lunch and \$2.00 for Breakfast. A motion was made by Cara Riley and a 2nd by Asele Mack to approve the meal cost increase for the school year 2020-2021 and the motion carried in a 4 – 0 vote.
 - Sports Program: The Board discussed that there would be no school funding for Athletic programs at AAA. Board Members discussed their concerns that we were moving away

from a focus on our Arts Programming by continuing with Basket Ball and Soccer. Some students that are great artists are choosing to participate in sports rather than the Art of their choice. There were concerns about missing class time and utilizing our busses for sports functions. Matt Young shared a presentation that spoke on School Pride and how our school was getting more visibility through athletics by having a 190 of our students participate at All State competitions with 4 qualifying for All State and one of our players named MVP and 7 of our students being recruited by colleges.

Mary Ley shared that sports was taking away from our Charter to be a K-12 school of excellence in Arts and Education working towards a National Art School recognition.

Howard Alsdorf shared pros and cons of athletics. Questioned how athletics were being funded and the need to get back to our roots prioritizing funding for our arts programs.

Tony Beardsley agreed with Howard to get back to our roots in Art and to stay focused on our Arts programming.

Cara Riley shared that traditional schools offer sports but we have a long waiting list of students that wish to pursue Arts education.

Asele Mack shared that we are missing an opportunity to capitalize on our brand. And doesn't think sports is what we need to focus on.

David Russell shared that our Charter is written to be an Art School. He felt that we need to focus on National Recognition as an Arts School and that he agrees with not doing sports.

There was a motion by Tony Beardsley to discontinue Basketball and Soccer and continue with Mountain Biking (NICA), Archery, Cross Country and Individual sports on a case by case basis and a 2nd by Cara Riley and the motion passed with a vote of 4 – 0

- Financial Contract with APSRC: Mary Ley discussed continuing with our APSRC contract to provide our financial services. The contract will cost \$45,000 for the 20/21 school year. A motion by David Russell to continue our contract with APSRC and a 2nd by Tony Beardsley and the motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.
- Aaron Jones discussed the opportunity to paint a mural in Bentonville at the Gooseberry Pie Shop. Gentry Dillenger a high school senior will be working with Aaron to complete the mural. Gooseberry Pies offered our students the opportunity to have a practical application for their art before the Covid 19 shut down to on site learning.
- Update on Search Committee: The position announcement is being finalized and the plan is to present the position for a nationwide search by the end of May, start screening interview the first week of June and by mid June doing second interviews. With the goal

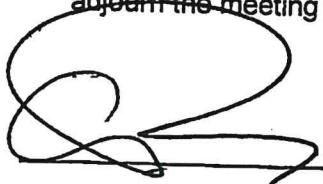
of having the finalists come to Rogers for their final interviews in July. Tony Beardsley said he has been impressed with the search firm and they ask for a salary range to include with the announcement. The Board discussed somewhere between

- \$116,000 - \$130,000 and agreed on a range of \$115,000 - \$125,000.
- Discussion of items since publication of the agenda:
- The policy of not allowing Board members to have family on staff was brought up to be revisited at next month's meeting. Mary Ley will bring a proposal next month.

8. Executive Session

- Personnel: Hiring/Renewal/Promotion/Demotion/Transfer/Non-Renewal/Termination:
Mary Ley Resignation: A motion was made to accept Mary Ley's resignation and paying Mary her daily rate until mid-August when the new Superintendent should be starting by David Russell and a second by Tony Beardsley and the motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.

9. Adjournment: A motion was made by David Russell and a second by Tony Beardsley to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm and the motion carried with a 4 – 0 vote.



Dr. Cara Riley



Date