



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees

December 10, 2019

Board Members Present: Danal Abrams, Adam Falkner, Randall Iserman, Michele Murphy, Max Osse

Via Videoconference: Laura Blankfein, Laurence Heilbronn

Absent: Matthias Ederer

Board joined by Sara Corona and Elisa Murphy

Seven CSA student representatives shared their commitment and concerns with the board. They are happy to be part of the community with its arts focus. They asked that the school consider adjusting some discipline protocols, especially around lunch, uniforms, and passing times. They would like more opportunities to go outside the building. They asked for snacks and for more one-on-one time with arts teachers and for those struggling with literacy. The board promised to assist school leadership to address the issues soon.

The Meeting was brought to order by Chair, Danal Abrams, at 6:30 and a quorum was found present.

- Trustee Osse moved for approval of minutes from July 2019 meeting; seconded by trustee Falkner. Minutes approved unanimously by voice vote.
 - Enrollment at 274
 - New school budget based on 270
 - Students still changing schools or arriving; 3 new ELL/MLL students just enrolled
 - New initiative to recruit in Chinatown area
 - Continue to hold open houses and information sessions
 - Noted in attrition: length of day, homework, and transition from homeschooling too difficult
 - Attendance
 - Higher than previous years – 94%
 - Problem of chronic absence (>5) by nearly 20% of students – letters to families; positive incentive programs, in tiered action based on accumulated absences
 - Academic/Instructional report
 - First trimester assessments not as high as expected.
 - Building test-taking strategies into lessons; focusing on key strands (e.g. failing to cite evidence); this year's tests more comprehensive
 - High School Placement
 - Departing director has managed all HS applications; auditing by 12/20 to ensure no students missed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 by unanimous voice vote.