

The Chicago High School for the Arts Board of Directors Meeting

June 8, 2020 at 3pm

Location: Online, via Zoom

To attend via video conferencing, please reach out to Paul Cook, who will send the appropriate information.

Call to order	Ronald Grais
- Approval of Minutes of April 20, 2020 Meeting	
Announcements & Board Business	Ronald Grais
Executive Director's Report	Jose Ochoa
Principal's Report	Terri Milsap
Managing Director of Conservatories' Report	Tina Boyer Brown
Finance Committee	Christine Gallagher
- Budget approval for FY21	
- Vote to adopt	
Development Committee	Johnny Merrifield
PSO Update	Peter Doyle
New Business	
Public Participation	
5:00 pm Adjournment	
Next Board Meeting:	
To be determined	

ChiArts Board Meeting June 8, 2020

The Chicago High School for the Arts
Board of Directors Meeting
3:00-5:00p.m.
Online - via Zoom
Minutes for June 8, 2020

Present (on call): Warren Chapman, Steven Collens, Elissa Efroymsen, Lori Faversham, Carol Friedman, Christine Gallagher, Ronald Grais, Sandra Guthman, Francina Harrington, Betsy Holden, Shruti Jayaraman, Samera Ludwig, Kay Mabie, Gary Metzner, Liza Pappas, Jonathan Plotkin, Cynthia Plouché, Neal Zucker

Absent: Duffie Adelson, Dana Berkowitz, Erin Clifford, Peter Doyle, Sondra Berman Epstein, Mirja Haffner, John Hart, Angela Huang, Tom Hurvis, Alan Jagiello, James Mabie, Sylvia Neil, Winston Soh, John Yonover

Others Present: Tina Boyer Brown (Managing Director of Arts Conservatories), Paul Cook (Executive Assistant), Shanan Egger (EAB), Johnny Merrifield (Director of Development), Dara Miller (Teacher), Terri Milsap (Principal), José Ochoa (Executive Director), Megan Sauve (Development Manager), Omar Tabbara (Teacher)

Quorum: Yes

The meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of The Chicago High School for the Arts (“ChiArts”) was held pursuant to a Call & Notice served on all Directors. Board Chair, Ronald Grais (“Ron”) called the general session to order at 3:07 p.m. Paul Cook (“Paul”) took the roll call.

Approval of Minutes of April Meeting, Announcements, Board Business

Ron requested approval of the April Board Meeting minutes. Francina Harrington (“Francee”) motioned to approve the minutes, and Betsy Holden (“Betsy”) seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed. There were no further announcements or Board business.

Executive Director’s Report

José Ochoa (“José”) shared his report. There were many challenges to finishing the school year, and Jose expressed gratitude to all who supported the school during this challenging time. Plans are underway for a Virtual Graduation.

There have been many positive instances of students, staff, alumni coming together to support the fight for racial equality.

Principal’s Report

Terri Milsap (“Terri”) shared her report. Even with all the challenges posed by the school’s closure, we’re still anticipating a 97% graduation rate, thanks to the diligence of teachers, students, and staff.

Remote Learning, under the guidelines of ISBE, posed many challenges to students and teachers. We are working on plans to address any learning gaps which are the result of Remote Learning. One additional instructional support that we’re planning to purchase is a system / program called IXL, which focuses on Math and English.

José offered a large thank you to those who helped our students who didn't have access to wifi or a portable device. Approximately 1/3 of our students received some assistance with technology, which made Remote Learning more possible.

Terri shared that, unfortunately, no guidance has been put forth from CPS as to what the Educational Model will be in the fall (In-person, Remote, Hybrid, etc). Planning for various contingencies is underway, with the hope that CPS will offer more information sooner rather than later.

Managing Director of Arts Conservatories' Report

Tina Boyer Brown ("Tina") shared her report, highlighting the accomplishments of the students during the last few weeks, and commending the Arts teachers for all their hard work. Tina will be doing some summer research regarding Arts Teaching for the fall - what is needed, what is possible.

Tina spoke about Virtual Programming / Virtual Productions - our recent online programming reached more audience members than any of our in-person events has reached. Tina will be working with Mark Bracken and the Arts Department Heads to investigate ways to further refine our abilities to produce Virtual Productions.

Tina plans to work with the Arts Department Heads to continue the work around anti-racism and anti-bias in our school.

Finance Report

Christine Gallagher ("Christine") shared the Finance report. As FY20 wraps up, Christine shared that FY20 will most likely be where we expected it to be - we will be coming in at a loss, excluding any impact of the PPP Loan.

Thanks to the work of many, the FY21 Budget is essentially complete. CPS Public Funding is expected to be slightly higher than this past year, and break even is expected. Under Private Funding, break even is also expected.

José added that even though we have received our public funding numbers from CPS, we still haven't received our costs from CPS. Last year (and most years) we received that info later in the year, which resulted in changes to the budget. So even though the budget looks complete, there will likely be some necessary adjustments once we receive all the info from CPS. Shanan Egger ("Shanan") shared that the State of Illinois is not anticipating increases in Education funding.

Christine then led the vote to approve the budget. All voted in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

Development Report

Johnny Merrifield ("Johnny") presented his report. He highlighted some of the Marketing materials that had been recently created and distributed, as well as some of the recent Social Media activity. Although it has been a very strong year for fundraising, we still fell a bit short of the goal.

Elissa Efroymsen ("Elissa") shared the current thinking about Fall Salon, that it is a virtual event. Elissa and Sandra Guthman ("Sandy") talked about Kerfuffle - that there will be two plans, one for a virtual event and one for an in-person event, depending on the state of the pandemic. Many Board members offered ideas for these events: ways that the

events could be meaningful, enjoyable, and true to the spirit of ChiArts. More brainstorming and planning will take place over the summer.

PSO Report

Liza Pappas (“Liza”) reported that the PSO donated the remainder of their fundraising monies. The PSO recently held elections for officers for next school year, as well as for a new Board Representative (Peter Doyle has completed his term). The hope is that next year there will be a parent fundraising event, since this year’s was cancelled.

Public Participation

Ron opened the floor for any Public Participation. There was none.

Conclusion

Ron requested to adjourn the meeting at 4:05 p.m. Sandy made a motion to adjourn, and Cynthia Plouché (“Cynthia”) seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren Chapman
Secretary