

The Chicago High School for the Arts Board of Directors Meeting

November 16, 2020 at 4pm

Location: Online, via Zoom

To attend via video conferencing, please reach out to Paul Cook (pcook@chiarts.org) or Ursula McGregory (umcgregory@chiarts.org), who will send the appropriate information.

Welcome / Call to Order / Roll Call

Cynthia Plouché

Executive Session

- In accordance with section 2(c) of the Open Meetings Act (the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or legal counsel for the public body)
- In accordance with section 11 of the Open Meetings Act (Litigation, when action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent)

Approval of Minutes of September 14, 2020 Meeting

Head of School Report

Terri Milsap

Information & Presentations

Artistic Director Report

Tina Boyer Brown

Finance / Treasurer Report

Christine Gallagher

PSO Report

Liza Pappas & Janette Cortes-Duewel

Action Items

Bylaws Proposed Revisions

Head of School & Principal Salary

Committee Reports

Public Participation

Board/Head of School Other Items

Alumni EAR Comm Update

Chris Falcon

Student Performance

Adjournment

Next Board Meeting:

January 11, 2021

ChiArts Board Meeting November 16, 2020

The Chicago High School for the Arts
Board of Directors Meeting
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Online - via Zoom
Minutes for November 16, 2020

Present (on call): Duffie Adelson, Carlos Azcoitia, Lesley-Ann Brown-Henderson, Inger Burnett-Zeigler, Warren Chapman, Janette Cortes-Duewel, Chris Falcon, Carol Friedman, Christine Gallagher, Deirdra Lucas, Jim Mabie, Kay Mabie, John McCambridge, Liza Pappas, Cynthia Plouché

Absent: None

Others Present: Tina Boyer Brown (Artistic Director), Paul Cook (Executive Assistant), Colette Crouse (PSO Communications Chair), Abbey Cullen (Assistant Principal), Shanan Egger (Finance), Ron Grais (Foundation Chair), Ursula McGregory (Executive Assistant), Terri Milsap (Principal & Head of School), Omar Tabbara (Teacher), Andrew Van Herik (Teacher), Various Parents

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, Cynthia Plouché ("Cynthia") called the general assembly to order at 4:02 p.m. Paul Cook ("Paul") took the roll call.

Closed Executive Session

As noted in the Agenda, Cynthia suggested a move into a Closed Session, in accordance with Section 2(c) of the Open Meetings Act (the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or legal counsel for the public body), and Section 11 of the Open Meetings Act (Litigation, when action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probably or imminent). The Closed Session occurred; no votes or actions were taken.

Approval of Minutes

Cynthia requested approval of the June Board Meeting minutes. Chris Falcon ("Chris") made a motion to approve the minutes as is, Carol Friedman ("Carol") seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Head of School Report

Terri Milsap ("Terri") shared her report, starting with a focus on Attendance numbers. Terri noted that Attendance remains strong, but she is a bit concerned about Engagement. All students now have the tech equipment they need, as well as internet access.

Terri shared that, at the requirement of CPS, some schedule changes have been implemented, regarding class time length, days of classes, etc. Some parents and students have expressed concern over these changes. Board Members asked questions, to gain a better understanding of the changes.

Terri shared some other updates: hiring / personnel changes & advisory restructuring.

Information & Presentations

Tina Boyer Brown (“Tina”) shared the Artistic Director report. The *Free Verse* programming continues online, although some difficulties had occurred concerning music copyrights. Tina also shared updates on other productions: Freshman Preview and the School Play. Connections Week is complete, and went very well. Applications for the Class of 2025 are underway; all applicants will audition virtually.

Christine Gallagher (“Christine”) presented the Treasurer report. Year to Date expenses are slightly lower than expected due to delay in school year, but are expected to be made up within the fiscal year. The external audit is mostly complete, and results were generally as expected. Christine requested a motion be made that would allow Christine to approve the completed financial reports prior to sending them to CPS (in place of full Board approval of the reports); Warren Chapman (“Warren”) made the motion, and Duffie Adelson (“Duffie”) seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed. Christine confirmed that there are no updates to the PPP Loan status, and she will continue to provide updates as they occur.

Liza Pappas (“Liza”) gave the PSO report. The PSO is still working to partner with a vendor to sell ChiArts Spirit Wear. They have started a series of monthly virtual “Chit Chats”, to build community. Liza offered support to the administration for the difficulties in finalizing the recent schedule changes, and also asked for further info in an effort to improve the situation.

Action Items

Cynthia talked through the proposed changes to the Bylaws: language noting that School Board meetings are subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Cynthia requested a motion to approve these changes; Kay Mabie (“Kay”) made the motion, and Duffie seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Cynthia shared that the Executive Committee is reviewing the compensation for the role of Principal & Head of School. No action or vote was taken on this topic.

Committee Reports

No committee reports were given.

Public Participation

Cynthia reviewed the Public Participation policy, and then opened the floor for Public Participation. Three parents / guardians (J. Kemper, K. Carlton, & S. Bowman) offered comments about the difficulties with the recent schedule changes, and asked for ways they could assist in voicing their concerns to CPS. Andrew Van Herik, Teacher, voiced concern about the current lack of counselor support for the students.

Adjournment & Student Performance

Cynthia requested to adjourn the meeting at 5:27 p.m. Warren made a motion to adjourn, and Jim Mabie (“Jim”) seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed. Following adjournment, a video of Senior Dancer Lily Kennebrew was shared with the Board for any who wished to stay and watch.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren Chapman
Secretary