

Advantage Arts Academy

Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Monday, October 23, 2023

Anchor Location: 6171 W. 11800 S.; Herriman, UT 84096

Board Members Present: Suzy Mortenson, Kim Dohrer, Darren Marshall

Board Members Excused: Jodi Hart Wilson, Crystal Thomas, Doug James

Others Present: Kelly Simonsen, Janese Robinson, Dawn Benke

This board of director's meeting was held electronically.



ADVANTAGE ARTS
ACADEMY

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

- Suzy Mortenson called the board meeting to order at 10:04 AM. It was noted that there was not a quorum in attendance and only reporting items would be discussed.

CONSENT ITEMS

- August 21, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes
Tabled due to lack of quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- This is the second public comment for changes to the 2023-2024 Fee Schedule. There was no public comment.

REPORTS

- **Director Report**
Kelly Simonsen provided the director's report. She discussed administrative goals, instructional highlights, recent community engagement and looking ahead to upcoming events. The school's ongoing Academic goals are increasing student reading achievement. They have held BOY grade level meetings to discuss student reading levels. She discussed being able to offer reading interventions for grades 4-6 this year as well as the younger grades that were offered the previous year. Kim Dohrer asked if the school received any funding from Beverly Taylor Sorenson grants. These funds were received and were used for a BTS specialist salary. Dawn Benke provided an estimate as to how much money was received through the grant. Kelly Simonsen also discussed enrollment. She discussed the methods they are using at the school to help families want to enroll. She will be developing an action plan to further the school's enrollment numbers. She asked the board for suggestions on how to increase enrollment numbers. It was suggested that she find 3 parents that she likes and ask them what they like about the school and what they think she can do to help boost enrollment numbers. Dawn Benke reported the Oct 1 enrollment numbers this year was at 323, last year it was at 332, the year before was at 349. Teacher retention – lead/mentors. The school has worked to improve teacher morale. Kelly has been developing a mid-year staff survey and would like to send that out in the next month. She would like to share this with

admin and the board to address any concerns and set goals. Kelly is trying to establish a school culture of high behavior expectations. The goal is to address student needs rather than having a punitive system. They are implementing research-based interventions. This includes parent meetings, consent forms, intake meetings, connections with parents, and building action plans for support. Some of the instructional highlights from this year are, the school has 70 students that have been identified as ELL students. She has staff that has helped with this specific population, and they are seeing a lot of wonderful growth in the ELL learners. They are also offering a theater/specialty class that they have added this year. They have increased their literacy progress monitoring as well. They have set up an assessment team to progress monitor students. School engagement events so far this year – pizza with the principal night, 160 people at the family art night, flag retirement with members of the US Army and many other activities. The school made roughly \$6800 from the fall carnival fundraiser. The school will be planning a family dance night for free for families. They will also be planning an event in December with Santa.

- **Finance Report**

Dawn Benke provided the finance report. These financials are as of Sept 30th this is 25% through. Local revenues are up mainly because there is a church renting space, fees and spirit wear has already been paid. State Revenue is slightly higher than budgeted. The state budgeted slightly high, but after the Oct 1 count, the school will start to see it go down according to actual enrollment. Federal Revenue is now reimbursement based. Expenses are low (Aug to July, normal). Supplies are high but that's normal because everything is purchased at the beginning of the school year. On the balance sheet – operating cash is down because the school is waiting on fed receivables from last year the rest of the receivables should come in this month. Some of this number is also sales tax. Fixed assets are up from last year because the school purchased an oven last year, so depreciation will change. They discussed that the budget might need to be adjusted after December once everything is caught up from the Oct 1 count and the actual enrollment.

Dawn Benke left the meeting at 10:26 PM.

VOTING ITEMS – Discussion and voting of all items was tabled due to lack of quorum.

- 2023-2024 Fee Schedule
- LEA-Specific Licenses
- Snow Removal
- Special Education Policy and Procedures Manual Amendment
- Rescind Learner Validated Program Policy
- Policy Amendments
 - Attendance Policy
 - Bullying and Hazing Policy
 - Fee Waiver Policy
 - Student Conduct and Discipline Policy
- These items were tabled due to the lack of quorum.

CALENDARING

- The next regular board meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2023. Timelines for tabled agenda items were reviewed and a make-up board meeting was scheduled for October 25, 2023, at 3:30 PM to address the voting items.

CLOSED SESSION

- Tabled due to lack of quorum.

ADJOURN

- *Suzy Mortenson made a motion to adjourn the reporting board meeting.*
Board meeting adjourned at 10:33 AM.