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# August 28, 2023

Salt Lake School for the Performing Arts Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Board Chair, Doug Keefe convened the meeting at 5:36 PM.

Meeting style: On-Site

**Attendees Included:**

Board Officers: Doug Keefe; Kari Plaster, Steve Barth

**In Attendance:**

Board Members:

Tina Gillman

Kyla Plaster

Tracy Evans

Administration:

Angela Pontius

Emily Andersen

Bethany Hansen

**Absent**

Kit Anderton

Ilana Harrus

Kristi Swett

**Review and Approval of Past Board Meeting Minutes**

Steve moved we approved the July meeting minutes, Tracy seconded. All approved.

**Administrative Report**

**Core Academic and Concurrent Enrollment Implementation, including Highland Relationship**

Enrollment today is 165. October 1 is the important deadline. Core academics in-house is our most effective retention tool. 46 of them are Highland hybrid which means most are with us every day all day. 4 are part-time enrollment, possibly home schooled. We have 10 students concurrently enrolled at SLCC or U of U, and we have 8 enrolled in Fashion Design. We pay for our students to attend concurrent classes.

Our formal Highland and Charter Authorizer relationship with SLCSD is for one year. We’ll be reviewing all academic options for our students during the coming year.

Concurrent enrollment remains an issue, those applying at U of U, classes are in-person. Meet Mon.-Wed. or Tues.-Thurs. which is the same as ours. Stacy is working with her now. At SLCC, we had one major issue and that is now resolved. They accidentally applied to SLCC as a SLCC student. This got worked out though. In the future, would you be willing to add a third school, say Westminster. This is possible, could be Utah Tech. as well. This could be online.

**School Opening Week Report**

First week went really well. Students all excited to be here. Assembly on Friday afternoon in the lobby was very exciting. The kids want to set new traditions for SPA. Most are here all the time.

Stacy and Kim have worked very hard on schedules and making changes. Linda Lasway is the person at Highland helping and is working closely with Stacy. Two outstanding issues being worked on. We have the lab here on the first floor and the second lab is getting ready this week.

**Status of New Hirings**

Emily Andersen is here as the new Assistant Principal. Coming from an online Charter where she had 14 years there. Background is in English, Literature and History as well as Curriculum Development and building academic programs. What we want to do is very doable. The immediate observation is that she sees a strong arts program and an underpinning on academics. National Honor Society: this is something Emily is helping with.

ELA Teachers, Literature and Math

Hired 2 Success Coaches in the Labs

Hired Willie Burton as Campus Safety and Security. He was at West before this.

Taylor Christopherson is in the main office

Stacy, new counselor: moved from Hawaii, background in mental health and psychology at the Doctorate level. We have a special relationship with SPED Co.

Anthony new music teacher, moved from Michigan

**Performing Arts Venue Partnership Status: Westminster**

Short story is that everything looks great for this to work. Mr. Smith went over and looked at everything. This is in the contractual review process. Range of things being performed there: Musical Mean Girls; Dance Conservatory Show; Musical Theatre Showcase in May; Dance Dept. Show; Vocal Ensemble Show. Shooting for all of the groups to have at least 1 performance there. In May, we will be there a lot.

As for performances at SPA location, we will either be performing on the Second Floor or the Fourth Floor. We think about 97 people on 4th Floor. The lobby can easily fit over 100. Have our SPA on the Road Kit. This is what we used for the assembly on Friday.

Pushing Department Chairs to take the lead on additional performance spaces. We feel set for this coming year.

**New Building Renovation and Moving Status**

We need the wood in the Wood Shop. Adam will store it until we have a place to put it. Adam Day is letting us use his trailer. He is from the SLCC Grand Theatre.

District is knocking down the old school in September.

New School Renovations: there are some great things. Replaced carpet and desk. Two new rooms on the second floor. The third floor was gutted and every classroom had work done. New flooring in all of those. Lots of work including new dance floors and cabinets. No work on this level. Nathan has painted his own studio.

We are struggling with the AC. We have a unit that has a compressor that doesn’t work. There are rooms that have work done where they removed the sensor. When you remove the sensor it blows hot air.

Some things that aren’t done yet. Cara’s fourth floor shop spaces, haven’t seen dust extractor, don’t have the electrical worked out yet. It is a sauna up there right now. We aren’t sure what is causing that.

John Sheldon wants to help us, he owns JRS Construction, our contractor. He is struggling with subs right now. Upstairs on the fourth floor is the most frustrating. Our contract is $250K. On the fourth floor it was presented that we needed one circuit versus 5 circuits.

Compressor is just shy of $14,000. Now a 40-day delay in getting the compressor. It is under $25,000, if we spread it out would be $137 per month. We want to go back to Tyler and Jordan. Doug, Kari and Angela should coordinate a meeting with Tyler and Jordan.

Steve moved we approve to spend $25,000 in addition to the original amount. Tina seconded, motion passed. Governance Committee will make decisions under this cap. This includes the $6,000 estimated additional electrical expenditure. Angela, Doug, and Kari will call John tomorrow to further negotiate with the contractor.

Mr. Bowden painted our parking lot for free. Parking signs were a huge discount, etc. They have done a fantastic job!! The Other Side Moving Company did a fantastic job.

Wes has really done a fantastic job with some support by Nathan. He has gone above and beyond. We are using our phones as a PA system, and our morning announcements happen through our phones. We will use them as the bell system. We love Wes!!

The number is the same. Google maps works if you put in SPA. Apple doesn’t work yet.

Working as well with LunchPro: Max is our breakfast and lunch guy. Breakfast 8:15-8:40. Lunch is from 11:45 to 12:15 and we ask at beginning of each day who is planning to eat hot lunch today. They pay $4.00 lunch, breakfast is $2.50 or ala carte items.

**Marketing, Development and Fundraising Plans and Strategies**

November 11th fund raiser by invitation only. Should get the list of attendees and have them go directly to them. Harmons may donate food. We will have tickets and raffles as well. David asked PTO to help him as well. David covers fund raising and Lindsey will be with us through December for Marketing support. Tina will be doing the raffle, or if you have an Air B&B that could be rented. Board members are being requested to go out and get some nice things we can send out. We should use the PTO Network to help with this. Tracy could get a ticket package from Hale Center Theatre, as an idea.

**PTO Report**

Kyla: need to organize a carpool. We got interest at the initial open house and we had 30 people who signed up. Kyla is working off of that list. We will reach out to them, but we will ask the school to reach out to everyone as well. We kind of need a carpool coordinator.

Historically, we had bylaws and officer positions and department reps. Filling these positions is our next step right now. There are 4 of us: Mike Risley, Kari Beattie, myself and Shawn Gershif (sp?). Karen Keefe said she could help us as well.

We need to send out something on the fee that is intended, like $15.00 per person.

Want to send an email to get volunteers to help with the spreadsheet. They really want to be involved.

We are all new to PTO. There is a calendar on the website.

**Board Membership and Officer Openings – Planning and Recruiting**

Steve is not long-term. Kit is terming out as he has been involved for 9 years, the term limit. Doug is going on year 8. We will have 5 openings. We can redevelop the Board.

Need to replace Doug over the next couple of years. Steve is Vice-Chair, but will be leaving shortly. Kari is Secretary and there is no Treasurer. Parents of current kids are really important. We need both PTO and Board involvement. Third priority for new Board members is diversity in every way.

We could use an Attorney and should tap into higher education as well. We could also use performing arts people. Start with the Governance Committee. Let parents know at one of our first performances.

Volunteer Opportunities to Support – working with Kyla to do that. Angela can’t do this. We have a few things on the list for tonight.

Youth links for kids: we can use them (Steve Barth), same with National Honor Society. Voice Ensemble is $125. Shakespeare is $250.

Next Meeting Scheduled – plan for third Monday of the month at 5:30. Will be Sept. 18th, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02.