

# Advantage Arts Academy Board of Directors Meeting

**Date:** June 23, 2025

**Time:** 10:00 AM

**In Attendance:** Jodi-Hart Wilson, Suzy Mortenson, Darren Marshall

**Excused:** Crystal Thomas

**Others in Attendance:** Kelly Simonsen, Dawn Benke, Brad Taylor, Heidi Baurele, Hannah Dorius, David Robertson

**Teleconference:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89861035501>

This meeting of the board of directors will be held electronically. If you would like to attend the meeting, accommodations will be made for the public at the anchor location identified.



ADVANTAGE ARTS  
ACADEMY

## AGENDA

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### CALL TO ORDER

Jodi Hart-Wilson called the meeting to order at 10:07AM.

### BOARD TRAINING

- Open and Public Meetings Act Training
- Review Wellness Policy

Heidi Baurele facilitated the Open and Public Meetings Act Training. The Utah Open & Public Meetings Act Training Materials were provided to the board. The board will review the Wellness Policy at a future board meeting.

### CONSENT ITEMS

- May 13, 2025 Board Meeting & Closed Session Minutes

*Suzy Mortenson made a motion to approve the May 13, 2025 Board Meeting & Closed Session Minutes. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

### PUBLIC COMMENT (Comments will be limited to 3 minutes each)

There were no public comments.

**CLOSED SESSION** - to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(l)(d) and to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(l)(a).

*At 10:18 AM Suzy Mortenson made a motion to move into a closed session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(l)(d) via an electronic meeting and to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(l)(a) via an electronic meeting. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

*At 10:52 AM Suzy Mortenson made a motion to leave the closed session and enter the general meeting. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

## **REPORTS**

- Director Report
  - Kelly Simonsen presented the Director Report. Kelly reported on current enrollment and the registration progress over the summer. 395 students are currently enrolled in Advantage Arts Academy for the 2025-2026 school year. The board had no questions.
- Finance Report
  - Fraud Risk Assessment & Annual Commitment to Ethical Behavior
    - Dawn Benke discussed the Fraud Risk Assessment and Annual Commitment to Ethical Behavior. There were no questions or concerns from the board. Dawn explained the specifics of the scoring for the Fraud Risk Assessment. Advantage Arts Academy falls in the “very low risk” category of the assessment. The commitment to ethical behavior must be signed by each board member annually.

## **VOTING & DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Audit Engagement Letter
  - The Audit Engagement Letter was presented by Dawn Benke. This letter will engage Eide Bailly to conduct an audit and prepare a tax return for Advantage Arts Academy. An RFP was conducted by Academica West and Eide Bailly comes recommended for the best price, value, and expertise.
- Amended 2024-2025 Budget
  - Dawn Benke presented the amended 2024-2025 Budget. Dawn presented each line item from the 2024-2025 budget as of May 31<sup>st</sup> and answered the board’s clarifying questions.
- Proposed 2025-2026 Budget
  - Dawn Benke presented the 2025-2026 Budget. This budget is based on 365 students. The revenues and expenses are based on this estimate of 365 students. Suzy Mortenson asked about the net income of the budget if the number of students were to fluctuate. Dawn Benke assured the board the board that the budget was constructed conservatively.

*Suzy Mortenson made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Proposed Budget, 2024-2025 Amended Budget, and approve Jodi Hart-Wilson to sign the Audit Engagement Letter. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

David Robertson entered the meeting at 11:00AM.

- Bond Resolution  
This item was tabled.

- Approve Submission of the UCSFA Application and the Application Deposit  
This item was discussed during closed session.

*Suzy Mortenson made a motion to approve the submission of the UCSFA application and the application deposit of \$20,000. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

- Approve WaFd Term Sheet and Deposit  
This item was discussed during closed session.

*Suzy Mortenson made a motion to approve the WaFd Term Sheet and Deposit of \$10,000 pending terms. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

David Robertson left the meeting at 11:10AM.

- Approve Summer Purchases  
This item was tabled.

- Award RFP for ESP Services  
Kelly Simonsen presented on the RFP for Education Service Provider Services. Kelly stated that she is looking forward to continuing her relationship with Academica West/AW Services. The board had no questions on this item. Jodi Hart Wilson said continuing with awarding the RFP to AW Services is in the best interest of the board and the school.

*Suzy Mortenson made a motion to award the RFP for ESP Services to Academica West/AW Services. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

- Property & Liability Insurance Renewal  
Heidi Baurle presented on the details of the changes in the Property & Liability Insurance Renewal. The rate increases are due to increased school and catastrophe claims. The insurance renewal is included in the proposed budget.

*Suzy Mortenson made a motion to approve the renewal of the property and liability insurance. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

- Paid Parental and Postpartum Recovery Leave Policy  
Heidi Baurele presented the Paid Parental and Postpartum Recovery Leave Policy. This new policy is the product of new legislation. Schools are now required to provide the same leave policy as the state employees.

*Suzy Mortenson made a motion to approve the Paid Parental and Postpartum Recovery Leave Policy. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

- School Land Trust Election Procedures  
Kelly Simonsen presented the School Land Trust Election Procedures. There was an audit conducted earlier in the year and a finding suggested using clearer language in the Election Procedures. The procedures were updated to include 7 members consisting of 4 parents or grandparents, 2 staff, and 1 director or principal. The director is not a voting member of the council.

*Suzy Mortenson made a motion to approve the School Land Trust Election Procedures. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

- Board Member Terms, Roles, & Elected Officers  
The board discussed keeping the current board offices the same and discussed approving Crystal Thomas, Darren Marshall, and Suzy Mortenson for another 3 year term.

*Suzy Mortenson made a motion to approve Crystal Thomas, Darren Marshall, and Suzy Mortenson for another 3-year term and keep all board offices as presently constituted. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

- Director Employment Agreement & Compensation  
This item was discussed during closed session.

*Suzy Mortenson made a motion to approve the Director Employment Agreement & Compensation as discussed in the closed session. Darren Marshall seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

## **CALENDARING**

- 2025-2026 Board Meeting Calendar  
The board discussed the availability for the 2025-2026 school year.

**ADJOURN**

*At 11:30 AM Darren Marshall made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Suzy Mortenson seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Jodi Hart-Wilson, Aye; Suzy Mortenson, Aye; Darren Marshall, Aye.*

DRAFT

**Advantage Arts Academy  
Board of Directors  
Closed Session**

**Date:** 06.23.2025

**Location:** Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89861035501>

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**CLOSED SESSION SWORN STATEMENT:**

At a duly noticed public meeting held on the date listed above, the board of directors for Advantage Arts Academy entered into a closed session for the sole purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual in accordance with Utah Code Ann. 52-4-2(1)(a) and to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(l)(d).

I declare under criminal penalty under the law of Utah that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed on the 23rd day of June 2025.



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Jodi Hart Wilson, Board President