



Kalmiopsis Community Arts High School
Organizational Board Meeting

Monday, October 2, 2023

Board members present: Ryan Forsythe (secretary), Terry Davis, via Zoom: Angie Graves, Amanda Selden-Dixon, Kimiko Maglio (chairperson)

Guest(s): Grace Hughes

Facilitator: Terry / Minutes: Ryan

Meeting called to order at 5:05 pm.

- Welcome and land acknowledgment.
- No additions to the agenda.
- Approval of minutes from August 21 meeting. Motion to approve by Angie. Seconded by Kimiko. Approved.
- Approval of minutes from September 11 meeting. Motion to approve by Angie. Seconded by Kimiko. Approved.
- Public comments. No public comments received.
- Reports
 - Financial Report (Ryan)
 - Expenses, income, checking/savings account balances.
 - Account balances as of October 1 include \$67,215.87 in savings and \$18,075.56 in checking for a total of \$85,291.43. Note that September payroll was not taken out at the time the balance was checked. This should reduce the balance by approximately \$9,540. But the good news is that we are in a very healthy cash balance position at the moment.
 - Grants update/approval requests
 - Carrico Family Foundation. We'd like to acknowledge a \$2000 grant to put toward helping establish a hallmark arts and crafts program. This is part of the same grant that Four Way Community Foundation has already helped with. Once we receive the funding, this grant will put us over the top in funding the \$15,000+ project, so thank you, Carrico Family Foundation!
 - Federal CSP grant. Ryan shared the great news that last week, Kaci learned that KCA had received a 3-year Federal CSP (Charter Schools Program) grant, that could total more than \$350,000 over 3 years. From 22 states, the top 14 schools received funding (by score, KCA's grant application was 6th out of the 14). Our initial application was written before we opened, and there are rules regarding use of funds during planning periods and implementation periods, so we may not be able to access all the funding (for example, the grant can cover rent during planning but since our planning period is over, we can't use funds for rent). There is a zoom information session in a few weeks, so we will learn more about whether we can make changes to what we initially

requested. But this grant could be a game changer for the school, so we are excited about moving forward with this.

- Community and Culture
 - Enrollment Update. This past week we had our first student unenroll. Unfortunately, we did not hear from the student or family on the reason for not continuing at KCA, we just received a request for transcripts from another school. This now puts us at 32 students total: 14 first year, 10 second year, and 8 third year students.
 - Discussion on enrollment limits. Ryan shared that the constraints of our physical space mean we can't handle too many more students without expanding our facilities. In fact, it may be illegal to go above 36 students based on ODE student space requirements. The Teacher Leaders ask the Board to support an enrollment cap of 34 students until such a time as we can physically expand our classroom space (so allowing 2 more students), and then we can post the limit on our website. Kimiko motions to limit our student enrollment to 34 students until such a time as we can expand our physical space. Amanda seconds. Motion passes.
 - Open House October 13. From 2-5pm, we will have a community open house, with snacks, mingling, some live music, a student-led Open Mic period, and more. The staff encourages the Board to attend.
 - Haunted House. With our school located in Hanby Lane, which is the heart of Halloween trick-or-treating in the Illinois Valley, our students want to take advantage and host a haunted house. The plan is for Sunday, October 29 and/or Tuesday October 31. More information will be available as we continue to plan.
 - Thank you cards. We still have so many people we need to thank for their support, so we would like to pursue sending out the thank you cards we had printed. Angie asked about how we would want to sign off and board members shared suggestions. Grace suggests we could provide space and time for the board and staff to sign cards at open house.
- Location/Facilities.
 - Fire inspection. Elishua coordinated our annual inspection by the IV Fire Department. Deputy Chief Ismaili conducted the inspection on September 7 and provided a certificate of inspection. According to the report, "no deficiencies found." The next inspection will be scheduled after 9/07/2024.
 - IVCDO space. We have been in touch with Lindsey Jones, director of IVCDO, which is two doors down from KCA. She is open to talking about us paying a small usage or rental fee to be able to access part of their facilities. It could be a space for teacher leaders to work on curriculum or have a quiet meeting with a student or family. We will continue discussion to see if this makes sense for our staff.
- Governance & Compliance
 - Electing student board members. Our school encourages student voice and our bylaws allow for student board members. We will bring it up to the students in the next week at our community class meeting. Amanda is open to coming in and

talking about what it means to be on our Board. Ryan will reach out to Kaci and Melissa and see what day might be best for her to come to community class.

- Staff Report
 - Website contest. Jesse Dugas and JPS Computers held a facebook contest for a website redesign. Jesse reached out to Ryan last week, indicating that KCA had won the contest. Ryan will be working with them in the next few weeks on our website makeover.
 - Office Manager. Ryan shared the difficulty of Teacher Leaders completing admin work when covering the desk, as the students need to be our priority at that time. When we receive the CSP grant, the Teachers Leaders will be able to access grant funding to cover some of our admin hours, and we would like to redirect some of the KCA education funding toward paying an office manager/desk staff position. Angie agreed that it very much makes sense and that Teacher Leaders shouldn't be taking weekend family time or self-care time to complete administrative tasks. She supports hiring someone who can play the roles of counselor, nurse, office aid, freeing up Teacher Leaders to complete admin tasks. Kimiko agreed that it would be great to have someone at the desk who would serve as a resource that is always there for the students. Terry also shared his support for hiring an office staff.
- Old Business:
 - Fundraisers
 - Cans For Kids. Sept 16 was canceled due to poor air quality. The AQI was over 400. Lindsey Jones clarified that we would still receive some financial support because it was canceled due to no fault of ours. So We would like to extend a huge thank you to IVCDO and their Can Drive program for bring so supportive of youth in the IV. On Sept 30, we did sign up for our 2024 collection dates. KCA will be collecting cans and bottles on March 9 and October 5, 2024.
 - Update on the planned Takilma fundraiser. The event was postponed when we had staff and students come down with Covid. At this point we do not have a rescheduled date.
 - Developing our policy manual. Ryan shared that until we have our own policy manual, we do default to Three Rivers policies. Ryan is hopeful that with the CSP grant, that we will have more time/funding to be able to pursue policy development.
- New Business:
 - Schedule December meeting. Board meetings are the last Mondays of the months, which would make the December meeting on December 25, which is probably not the best date for people. We all agree that December 18 will work. Meeting moved to December 18.
 - Grace Hughes introduced herself, sharing some of her background and experience in the Illinois Valley. She hopes to be more engaged in our community and has been looking for a place to share some of her energy. She knows many of our students and feels KCA could be the right place. She will let us know at the open house for sure if she is interested in joining and the Board vote can occur at the next board meeting (Oct 30).

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Upcoming Meetings

- 5pm Monday October 30, 2023
- 5pm Monday November 27, 2023
- 5pm Monday December 18, 2023