



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Thursday, August 26, 2021 - 5:00 -- 7:00 p.m.**  
**Perpich Center for Arts Education**  
**Virtual Meeting**

*Mission: to provide all Minnesota students the opportunity to develop and integrate their artistic and academic abilities to their highest potential.*

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
**APPROVED – MINUTES – APPROVED**

**CALL TO ORDER** Board Chair Brobeck called the meeting to order at 5:10p.m. On a Call of the Roll members identified to be present were: L. Brobeck, L. Childers, S. Grans-Korsh, P. Hustoles, P. Khosravi, L. LeCuyer, Y. Lee and J. Workman

**ACTION:** **CONSENT AGENDA** - The consent agenda consists of non-controversial items the Board may adopt routinely. Any single member may remove an item from the consent agenda by requesting removal at the time the consent agenda is moved for adoption. Items to be approved by consent:

Approval of the Minutes, Board of Directors Meeting, June 24, 2021

Receive Agency Budget and Financial Reports, periods ending June 30 and July 31, 2021 – Thomas Johnston, Finance Director

The Board Secretary responded to a request for information from Member Grans-Korsh who moved approval of the report. A second was supplied by Member LeCuyer, there was no additional discussion and on a Call of the Roll with each member voting in favor, the Consent Agenda was approved.

**INFORMATION:** Executive Director's Report – Dr. Rick offered Members with a review of activities on behalf of the agency that included recent study of the Open Meeting Law to review and confirm the agency's adherence in light of the recent expiration of the Governor's pandemic related emergency powers and how vaccination and/or testing will pertain to members' future attendance. Rick and Human Resources Director Ekpe Akpan responded to questions from Members Workman, Lee and LeCuyer on the subject. Dr. Rick described additional activities including attendance in webinars supplied by the State and MSBA and progress toward filling the Professional Development and Resources Director vacancy. The position description has been updated and is being reviewed and audited by Minnesota Management and Budget. On determination of classification and salary range, a recommendation will be supplied to the Board for its review and action; on approval, the position will be posted. Members viewed a slideshow that gave them a 'tour' of the Dorm and new furniture purchased for the main floor Common Room and common areas on each occupied wing/floor of the building.

A text of Dr. Rick's report was included in the meeting packet provided to the members and made available to the public.

**INFORMATION:** Arts High School Update – Principal Conn McCartan briefed the Board on professional development supplied to faculty in the approach to school start, student tours and orientation as they arrived on campus, new faculty members that have joined the staff, the first student art opening of the year that mounted on September 2 and steps that have been put in place to minimize breakout infections among students. Demographics provided by McCartan included: 173 students to start the year, 62% from greater Minnesota, approximately ¼ of the students are from diverse backgrounds. McCartan responded to questions from Members Hustoles and Khosravi.

A text of McCartan’s report was included in the meeting packet provided to the members and made available to the public.

**INFORMATION:** Professional Development & Resources: Educator Needs Assessment – Dr. Rick shared the purpose behind the previous 2017 assessment survey and how it was used and expressed his enthusiasm for working with the Statewide Arts Outreach Committee to update and offer this survey again.

**INFORMATION:** OLA 2017 Audit Report – Dr. Rick reviewed the Recommendation and Responses document that has tracked the agency’s work in resolving the findings of the 2017 Finance and Program audits. Rick responded to a question from Member Grans-Korsh.

**INFORMATION:** Finance Primer & Business Services Update – Finance Director Thomas Johnston shared a Business Services update including entry of all budgets into the State’s accounting system, billing for student fees, etc. have been sent and, we are now receiving calls for inquiry on financial assistance. Facilities updates were made over the summer including the reconfiguration of some Dorm and Arts High School spaces, the installation of water stations that provide the ability to fill water bottles and the continuation of enhanced cleaning procedures.

Following this update, Johnston delivered a slide deck providing a primer on how the State Budget Process works and how efforts within that framework result in the Agency’s biennial budget. Johnston responded to questions from Members Khosravi, Hustoles and Grans-Korsh.

**INFORMATION:** Committee Reports:  
Board Development – The Board Retreat date, time and meeting format are changing to occur immediately following the Board’s September regular meeting; updates will follow as the meeting date approaches.

Human Resources – The annual Board Self-Assessment Survey will be published and sent to the members soon. Members are encouraged to complete and submit their responses on this annually required survey as soon as possible.

**INFORMATION:** Board Member Discussion:  
Travel & Events – Board Member Forum

Member Khosravi offered that travel related to his occupation is building again with most trade shows and venues continuing capacity limits and masking required indoors.

Member Grans-Korsh will be speaking to a meeting of Minnesota State Engineers on the topic of the tax benefits of energy efficiency. She also expressed a desire to see the former Perpich Foundation revitalized and returned to active status.

Member Hustoles will be traveling in September and unable to attend the meeting and retreat activities on September 23.

Chair Brobeck requested that the Board Members receive information and an invitation to attend the upcoming student Dedication event on Monday, September 27.

Member Lee shared information on her work to promote and conduct Healing Circles with Indigenous and African-American communities in the metropolitan area and an upcoming event that is open to community wide participation on September 27.

Member LeCuyer shared that the Central Minnesota Arts Board hosts an event to discuss race and the arts on the fourth Thursday of each month from 4 – 5:30pm. Details are available to any interested board member.

**INFORMATION:** Open Forum/Public Comment – No member of the public rose to address the body.

**ADJOURNMENT** Having concluded the business of the board as represented by the meeting agenda, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:34p.m.