



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Thursday, June 12, 2025 - 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**  
**Perpich Center for Arts Education**  
**Zoom Meeting**

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

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**APPROVED – MINUTES - APPROVED**

Chair S. Grans-Korsh called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm. On a call of the roll, members identified as present: L. Childers (virtual), R. Doyle (virtual), S. Finnegan (virtual), S. Grans-Korsh, M. Haley (virtual), N. Laven, R. Salazar (virtual), T. Wollenzien.

**ACTION:** Approval of Meeting Agenda – Member T. Wollenzien moved to approve the regular meeting agenda. Member M. Haley provided a second. On a call of the roll with each member voting in favor and no votes against, the meeting agenda was approved.

**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:

- a. Approval of the Minutes, Board of Directors Regular Meeting, May 15, 2025

Member T. Wollenzien moved to approve the Regular Agenda. Member M. Haley provided a second. On a call of the roll with each member voting in favor and no votes against, the Consent Agenda was approved.

**INFORMATION /ACTION:** Board Chair Report – Board Chair Sally Grans-Korsh thanked the committees for meeting over the past month and addressed each member of the Perpich Leadership Team for their efforts to support Perpich and the Perpich Board of Directors. Board Chair S. Grans-Korsh also recognized Lola Perpich who recently passed, for her work in the arts in the State of Minnesota. And recognized LaTia Childers for her contributions to the Perpich Center for Arts Education by presenting her a plaque for her years of service.

On behalf of the Development Committee, Chair S. Grans-Korsh proposed a change to the August Board meetings schedule by combining the August Board meeting and Board Retreat to one day and the board retreat to take place from approximately 10:30 am to 3:30 pm and the board meeting be held from approximately 3:45 to 5:00 pm. Member T. Wollenzien motioned and Member M. Haley provided a second. Clarification was sought from Member R. Doyle. On a call of the roll with each member voting in favor and no votes against, the motion was approved.

**INFORMATION:** Executive Director’s Report – Executive Director A. Smisek highlighted numerous May events at Perpich as well as reported on the open meetings with Perpich faculty and staff and provided an in-depth overview of the meeting results. The Perpich community provided positive feedback regarding sharing of information and appreciate the implementation of new ways to create community, i.e., sharing board meeting materials with staff. Executive Director A. Smisek also updated the board on the work by the Executive Team of processing these results. Executive Director A. Smisek provided an update on progress of the strategic plan enrollment objective and

the additional work of the team and additional funding needed toward this implementing this goal. Board Chair S. Grans-Korsh thanked Executive Director A. Smisek for the information. Member N. Laven requested clarification if the Executive Director is seeking board action. Executive Director A. Smisek is requesting priority, directional feedback only. Member N. Laven questioned other avenues of recruitment through statewide education focused conferences. Executive Director A. Smisek affirmed this has been the work of Admissions Director A. Johnson. Member N. Laven encouraged the Professional Development and Resources team to provide information while travelling statewide. Executive Director A. Smisek provided additional updates on the strategic planning goals and progress in the Legislature. Board Chair S. Grans-Korsh recognized Human Resources Director A. Thabet for his exemplary work with addressing a former student request.

Questions and comments from members R. Doyle, S. Grans-Korsh, T. Wollenzien, and N. Laven were addressed.

Executive Director A. Smisek noted the resolution for continued membership for FY25-26 participation in the Minnesota High School League. Member R. Doyle moved to support membership in the Minnesota State High School League. Member M. Haley provided a second. On a call of the roll with each member voting in favor and no votes against, the motion was approved.

**INFORMATION:** Professional Development and Resources Update – Dr. Wendy Barden, PDR Director, provided an update on the planning work of the Professional Development and Resources team. The Comprehensive Arts Planning Program (CAPP) and reported awardees will be announced in the coming week. Dr. Barden further reported on numerous activities including a selected student recipient for the statewide *Minnesota Reflective Artist Award*. Dr. W. Barden and a member of her team will present the award at the student’s high school. Dr. W. Barden responded to questions from Board Chair S. Grans-Korsh.

**INFORMATION:** Arts High School Report – Rebecca Bullen, Arts High School Principal – Principal R. Bullen highlighted Perpich student awards included in her May report, including the Golden Valley Rotary Club award given to a Perpich student. Principal R. Bullen provided student support information as well as Perpich promotional opportunities and potential alumni contributions. Principal R. Bullen provided information regarding student recruitment efforts. Principal R. Bullen shared Perpich’s designation from the national Arts Schools Network.

Principal R. Bullen responded to questions and comments from Board Chair S. Grans-Korsh and member S. Finnegan.

**INFORMATION /ACTION:** Board Development Committee – Committee Chair R. Doyle provided an update on the work of the Board Development Committee including bylaw revisions, policy updates, and began Board Retreat Planning. The Board Retreat will focus on strategic planning, community building, and shared understanding of the role as a Board of Director. The next meeting of the Board Development Committee will focus on detailed retreat planning and welcomed options and suggestions from board members by email to [rebekah.doyle@pcae.k12.mn.us](mailto:rebekah.doyle@pcae.k12.mn.us) for consideration by the Board Development Committee.

Committee Chair R. Doyle noted the second readings of Perpich Policy 418: Drug-Free Workplace / Drug-Free School and Perpich Policy 419: Tobacco Free Environment / Tobacco-Free School presented for approval. Committee Chair R. Doyle requested comments or questions. Hearing none, R. Doyle motioned to approve Perpich Policy 418 and Perpich Policy 522 and that they be published in the appropriate and necessary electronic communication. Member T. Wollenzien provided a second. On a call of the roll with each member voting in favor and no votes against. Perpich Policy 418: Drug-Free Workplace / Drug-Free School and Perpich Policy 419: Tobacco Free Environment / Tobacco-Free School were approved.

Committee Chair R. Doyle addressed the first reading of Perpich Policy 514: Bully Prohibition Policy and noted the Development Committee reviewed the policy in detail and requested confirmation

of some of the language changes recommended by the committee to ensure they would not conflict with statutory requirements. Additionally, Minnesota School Boards Association model policy language was replaced with Perpich-specific language.

Committee Chair R. Doyle addressed the first reading of Perpich Policy 522: Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Grievance Procedure and Process and asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, Perpich Policy 514 and Perpich Policy 522 will be brought before the board for action at the June 12 meeting. The Board Development Committee is scheduled to meet on June 4, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

**INFORMATION:** Government Relations Committee – Absent Committee Chair P. Hustoles, Executive Director A. Smisek provided an update on the work of the Government Relations Committee, including ideas around inviting legislators to campus and leadership and advocacy planning for the 2025-26 legislative session. Perpich Board Members are encouraged to check Perpich email over the next several weeks in the event action is requested from board members.

**INFORMATION /ACTION:** Statewide Arts Outreach Committee – Committee Chair T. Wollenzien provided an update from the May 8 committee meeting. Dr. Wendy Barden provided an update, reviewed Tier I and II educator licensure impact, and discussed a potential need for a needs assessment survey in the next year or two. The next meeting of the Statewide Arts Outreach Committee is scheduled for June

**INFORMATION:** Budget and Finance Committee – Absent Committee Chair P. Khosravi, Finance Director J. Toop provided an update on the work of the Budget and Finance Committee. Committee members are closely monitoring legislative action and any implications on Perpich. Finance Director J. Toop provided details regarding dorm funding implications and the need for action prior to the end of the 2025-26 school year. The Committee was provided with several scenarios and will reconvene on June 05 for additional discussion.

**INFORMATION:** Board Discussion – Board Chair S. Grans-Korsh opened the floor for board discussion items including open forum or future board meeting agenda item ideas. The next meeting of the board is scheduled for Thursday, June 12, 2025. Board Chair S. Grans-Korsh reminded members the Perpich High School Graduation Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 23 and will be livestreamed on Facebook for members who are unable to attend. Chair S. Grans-Korsh asked if any members are aware of potential board candidates from District 8, to please send information to Executive Director A. Smisek.

**OPEN FORUM:** Member T. Wollenzien shared he will miss the June 12 board meeting as he is attending Aftercon, a national conference for the Americans in the Arts.

**ADJOURNMENT** With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.