PERPICH
TEACHING IN AND
THROUGH THE ARTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, April 23, 2026 - 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Perpich Visitor's Center / 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
MINUTES - APPROVED

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair P. Hustoles called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

On a call of the roll, members attending in-person were: P. Hustoles, and T. Wollenzien. Members attending virtually were: S. Grans Korsh, D. Hastings, P. Khosravi, N. McComb, B. Melville, D. Moen, S. Sampson, and J. Yusty-Rojas. Members S. Finnegan, M. Haley, E. Orfield Johnston. D. Pierre-Toussaint, E. Winslow, and N. Laven were absent. A quorum was declared present.

ACTION: Approval of Meeting Agenda
The agenda was presented as posted. B. Melville moved to approve the regular meeting agenda, P. Khosravi provided a second. On a call of the roll, all present members voted in favor and no votes against. The motion carried.

ACTION: Consent Agenda
The Consent Agenda consisted of the Approval of the Minutes, Board of Directors Regular Meeting, March 26, 2026 and the March 2026 Finance Report. P. Khosravi moved to approve the consent agenda. D. Hastings provided a second. On a call of the roll, all present members voted in favor and no votes against. The motion carried.

ACTION: FY25-26 Special Revenue Fund Budget Adjustment
The FY25-26 Special Revenue Fund Budget Adjustment was added to the Consent Agenda for special approval. The budget adjustment includes a previously omitted $10,000 summer school allocation within the Student Activities Fund. D. Hastings moved to approve the consent agenda. P. Khosravi provided a second. On a call of the roll, all present members voted in favor and no votes against. The motion carried.

INFORMATION & ACTION: Deep Dive – Board of Directors Bylaws Review
Executive Director, Allegra Smisek, presented the board bylaws and proposed amendments. A. Smisek reviewed the role and purpose of bylaws in governance, board membership structure and responsibilities, committee composition and quorum considerations, compensation and reimbursement policies, roles of standing committees and task forces, agenda-setting and meeting notice requirements. Discussion focused on committee size limits and quorum concerns. It was noted that current committee sizes exceeded bylaws limits and required adjustment.

ACTION: Amendment one applies to Section 3.2, b.1 (Number and Appointment of Committee Members): Removing "and no more than six" from the record. T. Wollenzien moved to approve amendment one. P. Khosravi provided a second. On a call of the roll, all present members voted in favor and no votes against. The motion carried.

The Board continued discussion regarding agenda posting timelines. Members noted the balance between adequate preparation time and practical constraints for staff as well as the importance of avoiding last-minute additions that limit informed decision-making, with the general consensus that five days is ideal, but three days is acceptable.

ACTION: Amendment two applies to Section 4.3, a (Distribution of Agenda): Changing "five" working days to "three" working days prior to each regularly scheduled Board Meeting. B. Melville moved to approve amendment two. S. Grans Korsh provided a second. On a call of the roll, all present members voted in favor and no votes against. The motion carried.

Additional review of the board bylaws included requirement of meeting minutes to be completed within 30 days of adjournment, regular meetings are held monthly (except July), the annual meeting occurs in February; discussion raised potential alignment with January board appointments and a recommendation was made to revisit timing of the annual meeting in the future. Due to amendments made during the meeting, the Board agreed to distribute the updated bylaws via email and defer final approval to the May 14, 2026 board meeting.

INFORMATION: Professional Development Resources Report
PDR Director Dr. Wendy Barden's written report was included in the board packet. Positive progress was noted and upcoming activities anticipated. No action required.

INFORMATION: Arts High School Report
Principal Rebecca Bullen's written report was included in the board packet. Highlights include continued enrollment tracking and reporting improvements, recognition of student engagement, including arts programming and outreach. Appreciation was expressed for detailed demographic reporting. No action required.

INFORMATION: Board Chair Report
Chair S. Grans Korsh's written report was included in the board packet. Chair S. Grans Korsh provided updates and remarks, including appreciation for staff and committee efforts, emphasis on tracking and utilizing per diem compensation, encouragement for board members to actively support enrollment efforts, fundraising initiatives and organizational branding.

ACTION: Resolution – Authorization for EDIAM Access
A resolution was presented to authorize the Executive Director to manage user access to the Education Identity and Access Management (EDIAM) system for Perpich staff and faculty. S. Grans Korsh moved to approve the EDIAM Resolution. T. Wollenzien provided a second. On a call of the roll, all present members voted in favor and no votes against. The motion carried.

INFORMATION: Fundraising Task Force Update
Committee Chair, S. Grans Korsh presented the following highlights:

- Successful $15,000 grant secured from the Minneapolis Foundation
- Exploration of additional grant opportunities (e.g., Hennepin County)
- Emphasis on leveraging board networks for fundraising
- Identification of alumni engagement as an untapped resource
- Board members were encouraged to share contacts and opportunities

INFORMATION & ACTION: Board Development Committee Report
Executive Director Allegra Smisek requested approval of the **Wellness Policy Update**. Items noted were designation of Assistant Principal as Wellness Coordinator, compliance with federal nutrition standards and restriction of non-compliant food marketing. On a call of the roll, all present members voted in favor and no votes against (no motion required as it came from committee).

INFORMATION: Government Relations Committee Update
Committee Chair, P. Hustoles reviewed highlights, including active legislative engagement, including meeting with Senator Karin Housley, positive response from legislators, continued outreach to over 40 legislators and encouragement for board members to engage with their local representatives.

INFORMATION: Budget and Finance Committee Update
Committee Chair, P. Khosravi's update noted ongoing budget planning and refinement as well as recognition of staff efforts in financial management.

INFORMATION: Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee Update
Committee Chair, D. Hastings noted the following key priorities:

- Audit current enrollment practices
- Improve branding and awareness statewide
- Enhance data collection on enrollment barriers
- Explore website improvements and outreach strategies
- Engage alumni as ambassadors
- Emphasis placed on long-term strategy and board member involvement

BOARD DISCUSSION
Board members shared updates, including participation in statewide arts initiatives and evaluations, attendance at Arts Advocacy Day, networking opportunities with policymakers and arts leaders, upcoming arts events (e.g., Art in Bloom at the Minneapolis Institute of Art).

ADJOURNMENT
With no further business, Vice Chair P. Hustoles adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.