

PVPA Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2021

Beginning Time: 6:pm Ending Time: 7:15

Jun

8

Board of Trustees Meeting

[More details...](#)

When June 8, 2021, 6:00-9:00 PM (EST)

Where <https://zoom.us/j/95164196408?pwd=YzVYdUJwSlZrUDhWbTNYOHRvcmlZ6dz09>

General Public:

The Public will continue to participate in Board meetings via the same Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/95164196408?pwd=YzVYdUJwSlZrUDhWbTNYOHRvcmlZ6dz09>

Meeting ID: 951 6419 6408

Passcode: PVPA2020

Documents included: Board Minutes 5.17.21 , Strategic Action Plan

Members present: Melinda Winter, Jim Barnhill, Andrea Nathanson (Remote), Sean Moore (Remote), David Potter , Neal Hede, Shino Yoshen , Jake Rosenblum, Erin Linehan (Remote), Tonya Ward (remote), Jenyka Spitz-Gassnola, Marty Espinola (Remote)

Members absent: Tonya Ward, Latrina Denison

Other present: Brent Nielsen

Mission Statement: *PVPA offers its students intensive exposure to the performing arts within the context of an excellent college preparatory curriculum.*

Stated by: Jake Rosenblum

Topic: **Public Comment**

David Potter: I thought the graduation was awesome.

Topic: **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings**

Motion to approve minutes: Jenyka **Seconded by:** Shino

Summary of Discussion: no discussion

List of documents and exhibits – [Board Minutes 4 13 .21.pdf](#)

Decisions and Actions taken: Erin listed in minutes, needs to be removed

Minutes **passed with edit**

Vote record: David Y, Jake Y, Jim Y, Neil Y, Sean Y, Shino Y, Mindi Y, Jenyka Y, Tonya Y, Erin Abstain, Andrea Y

Topic: **Executive Director Report**

Summary of Discussions: Brent – apologies for no written report, very busy time

- Graduation, High School musical, at least 300 students rotating through in-person attendance, all MS students
- We've learned a lot, added structures, teacher work day June 14 we will reflect on what is worth keeping from this year
- Senior Prank happened the night of our last meeting
- Senior Night and Prom combined, Jenyka organized and supervised, a great night
- Mem Day Wknd, faculty and staff volunteered to deliver lawn signs to seniors
- Graduation the rain held off, didn't show the pre-recorded Grad Show due to impending rain, was a fantastic evening
- Catalyst and Head Gear filmed final productions, WOFA show happened in theater, the Odyssey performance staged around the building outside, Girl from Mars staged reading of student-written musical
- Long interview on WRSI with students and Frank Newton
- Tomorrow night a screening of original films by PVPA students
- This is the last week of the school year, Th/Fri are half days, Monday is a work day for teachers
- Accepted Student days on Friday and Saturday, run by Charlotte
- MCAS testing happened
- Many new positions are currently advertised – many applicants for Dir of Curr/Inst , Dir of Arts, and Dean of Students
- Less applicants for Dir of Arts position, please share this around if you might know an interested applicant
- Looking for board members to be on hiring committees
- Also looking to fill – Sch Social Worker, temporary position with ESSA funds, hoping to fund it differently in the future
- Restoring full-time school psychologist position
- PE HealthWellness position

- Still looking at class requests from students to identify which departments may need more FTEs to fill

Questions/Comments: none

Topic: Finance Committee Report

- Andrea – no update, budget set and no meeting happened

Internal Stakeholders

Students – Jake (alumnus!) – Many thanks to all who helped with graduation, a special occasion in a very weird year – we are incredibly grateful

Staff – Erin: in-person learning is awesome, I think our remote students are struggling a bit

- Only major challenge for teachers is the switching of rooms each block, not ideal
- Adding same thought of gratitude for special graduation ceremony
- Appreciation for Frank and Mary, award winners
- Odyssey and Girl from Mars both appreciated greatly
- Teachers (and students) looking forward to re-charging for next year

Jenyka – graduation and senior night went well, many smiles, grateful to work closely with Austin and many others who assisted with these evenings

- Struggle with process related to anti-racist work, so much work still to do, but really proud of the work that has happened – the Strategic Action Plan looks good and was great that the committee reached out to create a community -wide effort, for me and others it means a lot to have the issue included in the Strategic Action Plan

Governance Committee

Jim : sorry about the Doodle poll getting out so late, Jake helped with technical difficulties, please respond by June 13th

- Quick survey now – the most popular 2 dates are weekdays – hands raised to prefer 6 starting time instead of 6:30
- Weekends 9 – 1:30 or 10 – 2:30 / 9 o'clock start time is preferred
- I move to nominate the list of board candidates shown in the document –
 - o Pres David Potter Vice Pres Marty Espinola
 - o Treas Andrea Nathanson Sec Jake Rosenblum
- Neil – is everyone nominated ready and willing to do the job?
- Jim – the Governance Committee checked with all the candidates

- Marty – please clarify that I am not eligible until July
- Jake clarifies that one

Vote: Tonya Y, Erin Y, Marty Y, Andrea Y, Sean Y, Jenyka Y, Jake Y, David Y, Jim Y, Neil Y, Mindi abstain, Shino Y

Motion carries

Jim – nominees for trustee: I move the election of trustees is stated in Governance Report for 2 years:

- David Potter, Andrea Nathanson, and Jake Rosenblum
- Sean is termed out and not eligible, Jim has retired and the remaining terms are still ongoing
- Only discussing parent and community trustees, Gov Comm only nominates these
- Staff/Teacher trustees are nominated by staff/teachers
- Students nominate student members
- Jim retiring at the end of the month

Vote: Jenyka Y, Jake Y, Jim Y, Mindi Abst, Neil Y, Shino Y, Erin Y, Marty Y, Andrea Y, Sean Y, Tonya Y

Motion carries

Shino – Gov Committee wants to recognize Erin for the work done this year – our understanding is that you will announce & facilitate the process of electing the next representative from faculty/staff

Marcy – election of representatives has not been done this way in the past, the Business Office runs the elections

Mindi – the election has been held when the new staff has been on campus so that people who are here get the chance to vote for their rep

Erin – to clarify, when Marcy spoke about the Business office running elections it is how it's been done, this past year we ran the staff elections at the beginning of the year because the prior year June was crazy – but my role is being requested to speak to the faculty and staff to encourage and recruit the new rep- then Marcy runs the election - new staff in Sept won't get to vote but they don't know what they're voting for anyway, and I think the onboarding and the retreat is very important for the new rep to attend

Jenyka – this would have to happen quickly because we only have 4 days left

Erin – I can send an e-mail, I will not be running, I've already sent an email to start thinking about it, I can send an email tomorrow with a deadline by Friday to let me know so Marcy can run the vote on Monday Staff Day

Mindi – staff should run this and it sounds like they are set to do so before they leave for the year.

Marcy – propose to have this vote on Friday, it's a short time but para-professionals and permanent substitutes will not be present on Monday. A fair process would be to vote on Friday

Mindi- good point

Jenyka – I can send out a Google form tomorrow and share results

Jim – thank Mindi for the tremendous amount she has done for this school, and did receive the Leadership Award which she deserved

Erin – Mindi has been at every single event in the last 4 years – thank you – there have been a lot of rough moments and Mindi you are there every time there's trauma – the re-opening, when we lost our head of school, you were there – it's clear to me that you love PVPA, so thanks

Jake – as well as thanking Mindi , we wanted to recognize 2 individuals at their last board meeting this meeting. Sean Moore – a compassionate and level-headed leader, thank you for your dedicated service

Jim Barnhill – enthusiastically and expertly offered his insight and expertise in some difficult times and we thank him for his service

Strategic Action Plan

David – the document is done, thanks to the efforts of so many people. Loris Bjorkman worked from the beginning, Jake and Shino were much-needed infusions of energy,

Erin – really proud to see this document from start to finish it has changed a lot

Neil – will it be provided to Head of School candidates

Marty – yes, along with all other important documents, statistics, etc

Motion to accept the SAP as submitted : Neil, second: Erin

Roll call vote: Andrea Y, David Y, Erin Y, Jake Y, Jim Y, Jenyka Y, Marty Y, Mindi Y, Neil Y, Sean Y, Shino Y, Tonya Y,

SAP Passes unanimously

- thanks to the committee, difficult circumstances, greatly appreciate the hard work
- it will be posted with the rest of the board documents online

President's Business

- graduation was lovely, Jenyka and Austin did a great job

Public Comment

- Shannon M – echoing what has been said about the latest events at PVPA – it is a performing arts school and I am appreciative of that , looking forward to the fall and things getting back to more normal

- Brent – thinking about the fall and some sense of normalcy – the expectation from DESE is that we will return full time in person all students and remote learning will not be an acceptable primary mode for learning – expecting no distancing requirements

Adjourn at 7:15