



Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School

Minutes

Governance Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Friday February 24, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Location

Zoom

Committee Members Present

EJ Lafleur (remote), LATRINA DENSON (remote), Shino Pichette (remote)

Committee Members Absent

None

Guests Present

Brent Nielsen (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Shino Pichette called a meeting of the Governance Committee of Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School to order on Friday Feb 24, 2023 at 6:10 PM.

C. Read Mission Statement

Shino read statement.

D. Approve Jan 4 Gov Mtg Minutes

Shino Pichette made a motion to approve the minutes from Governance Committee Meeting on 01-04-23.

LATRINA DENSON seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

LATRINA DENSON Aye

Shino Pichette Aye

EJ Lafleur Aye

II. Governance

A. Discussion: End of Remote Participation Guidelines

Latrina can lead the meetings. Meeting will all be in person.

B. ByLaw Updates Discussion

Board received our report and requests well.

Shino hasn't done all the updates that are needed yet. Needs to be done.

C. Review of new policies presented by Head of School

Enrollment Policy Discussion:

- Can we add wording about it being a temporary update? Or say something about only accepting 12 graders (to the lottery) in extenuating circumstances that the student's school is closing (without an option, not a merge).

--- we need to have more detail. At least this detail.

- Should we potentially allow students who move to be accepted into a 12 grade lottery? There is some debate and disagreement among the committee about whether we should allow this or not.

--- When students are moving from a school that was similar... this wouldn't necessarily apply to students who weren't in a similar school. It should be students who were already arts focused, not just kids who don't want to go elsewhere.

- We can't think of any other extenuating circumstances that we can think of.

- Brent joined at 6:30pm. Brent clarified that we aren't going to be allowed for special circumstances for 12th graders.

--- It would have to be open to anyone in the state, with preference to folks in our region.

- Does the Gov Committee want to request that this change go back to regular after a certain amount of time?

--- How is enrollment? Because we do want to stay at our 400 enrollment goal. Brent reports that enrollment is much stronger this year than past years. We currently have wait lists for 8th and 9th grade. We used to have wait lists for every grade. The current 7th grade took 3 lotteries, but the incoming 7th grade class seemed stronger (we had twice as many applicants this year as last year).

--- Do we have data on student retention and why people leave or not accept an offer? We don't have good data. It seems like maybe sometimes students don't accept because transportation is a barrier. Some kids want to get out of their district for middle school, but return for high school. We have more sibling applications this year than previous years which means people are likely happy.

--- We all feel comfortable letting Brent decide when, if needed, to remove this allowance for accepting 12 grade students into the lottery.

Parking Policy:

- The parking policy and off-campus privileges policies have been decoupled.
- The reason is just to make it clear that consequences will be serious.
- There are currently no parking passes, and we need to move toward that.
- Everyone from the gov committee is alright with adding this.

III. Other Business

A. Confirm Monthly Meeting Time

We'll wait to schedule the next meeting until we get our new members, we want to be sure they can attend.

IV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shino Pichette