

## SUZUKI CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday November 23, 2021

Via ZOOM due to COVID-19

**Please note the meeting will be recorded.**

Present: Nicole Palmer, Treena Gish, James Garrison, Jenelle Clark, Melissa Rothwell, Christine Garcia, Eric Taub, Tara Beland

Administration: Lynne Paradis, Judith Mbeleke

Public Members: Susanna So.

At Suzuki Charter School we acknowledge that we are on Treaty No. 6 territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene and Nakota Sioux. We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We also wish to honor the Elders, Knowledge Keepers and traditionalists who have gone before us and those who continue to walk with us today.

1. Call to order at 6:03p.m. by Board Chair Palmer.
2. Approval of agenda.

**Motion 21:52: Moved by Eric Taub that the Board approve the agenda as circulated. APPROVED.**

3. Approval of the minutes from the October 12, 2021 Board meeting. (E)

**Motion: 21:53: Moved by Tara Beland that The Board approve the minutes from the October 12, 2021 Board Meeting with amendments. APPROVED.**

4. Reports
  - Board Chair
  - Superintendent (E)
  - Secretary Treasurer (E)
  - Bursary Committee

**Motion: 21:54: Moved by Tara Beland that The Board accepts the Board Chair, Superintendent, Secretary Treasurer and Bursary Committee reports as presented. APPROVED.**

5. The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools. (TAAPCS).



Director James Garrison provided an update to the Board on the activities of the TAAPCS Priorities Committee.

6. The Annual Education Results Report 2020-2021 and the Three-Year Education Plan 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 (AERR)

The final Annual Education Plan and Results Report (AERR) for the 2020-2021 school year was presented to the board.

**Motion: 21:55: Moved by Eric Taub that The Board approves The Annual Education Results Report 2020-2021 as presented.**

**APPROVED.**

7. Covid-19 – A review of the Covid-19 risk management plan and SSCS Covid-19 mandatory vaccination policy.

The Secretary Treasurer provided an update to the board on the risk management plan and administrative procedure for Covid-19 mandatory vaccination and made a recommendation for an extension to the deadline for Suzuki School to continue covering the cost of Covid-19 testing from December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 for unvaccinated staff members.

After extensive discussion on the subject The Board decided to move this item to the December Board meeting pending outcomes from alternative cost-effective testing options. As most Board members were in favor of an extension on condition that a less costly testing option was made available, it was recommended that the Secretary Treasurer investigate alternative less costly testing options which will provide the basis for a final decision come the December Board Meeting.

8. Board PD

Vice Chair Treena Gish gave an extensive slide show presentation on school finance basics which covered a comparison of the current Weight Moving Average (WMA) funding model compared to the previous model where funding was determined mostly by enrollment projections, as well as a year over year picture of revenue and expenses including enrollment numbers painting a general picture of the deficit budgets Suzuki School has been operating on. This highlighted the need for advocacy for funding increases from the Government for the future.

9. Audited Financial Statements (AFS).

Finance Committee Chair Director Gish and Secretary Treasurer Mbeleke presented the AFS for the year ending August 31, 2021.



**Motion: 21:56: Moved by Jenelle Clark the board accepts the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending August 31, 2021 as presented.**

10. Fall Update Budget 2021 -2022. (E)

The Finance committee presented the Draft Fall 2021-2022 Update Budget to the board.

**Motion: 21:57: Moved by James Garrison that the board approves the Fall 2021 expenditure budget in the amount of \$3,702,734.32 and that the board is fully aware this is a deficient budget. The board approves the use of \$207,612.32 from the accumulated surplus from operating to be used for the shortfall.**

**AND**

**Motion: 21:58: Moved by Tara Beland that the Board approves the Transportation Grants to Parents to be set at \$487.70 per student for the 2021-2022 school year for students that qualify for the grant as per Alberta Education Act and are attending school in person.**

11. Educational Research

The Superintendent provided current information in the field of Educational Research. The items covered included:

- A highlight on an upcoming book by Dr Jackie focusing on critical thinking and student socio-emotional wellbeing.
- Suzuki School is currently working with the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta on a research project relating to improving airflow quality with the objective of substantially reducing the risk associated with music instruction for wind instruments because of Covid-19.  
Suzuki will be applying for a grant through The Alberta Research Network to cover this project. The objective will be to identify the impact of airflow and water droplets on the spread of Covid-19.

12. Dates for upcoming Board Meetings

December 14, 2021 &  
February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Moved from February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Motion: 21:59: Moved by Eric Taub that The Board approves the above dates for the December 2021 and February 2022 Board meetings.**

13. Board Work Plan. (E)

Board Chair Palmer recommended the Board completes a PD in February and begin Strategic Planning in April or May.

14. Correspondence.

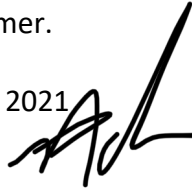
15. Comments from parents, staff and public – None.

16. In camera (Land, Labor, Legal/Law) – None.

17. Adjournment 8:35p.m. by Board Chair Palmer.

Approve by Board Motion on December 14th, 2021.

Signature of Nicole Palmer, SCSS Board Chair:



Signature of Judith Mbeleke, Secretary Treasurer:

