



Savannah Arts Academy School Council

Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2017

I. Call to order

Julie Allen, chairman, called to order the regular meeting of the Savannah Arts Advisory School Council at 8:30 am on March 8, 2017

II. Roll call

The following persons were present: Julie Allen, Anna Bliss, Gif Lockley, Wendy Marshall, Peter Muller, Michael Nestor, Ned Rinalducci, Tony Royek, Dan Snope, Jennifer Vacala, and Lisa Wilkes. Guests included: Anna Belue, Cindy Hicks, Brendon Tucker, and Ardis Wood.

III. Consent Agenda

a) Approval of minutes from last meeting.

Lisa Wilkes presented the minutes from the last meeting. There were a few suggested changes in the minutes, and the agenda was approved as presented. The corrected version of the minutes will be resent electronically.

IV. Open issues

- a) E-SPLOST II: The roof membrane has been completed. Currently, the crew is working on the downspouts and these should be completed by the end of March. Windows update: the windows need to be laser measured individually. This project has a long time frame- it will approximately be a 270 day project. The side of the building will be done first, due to the fact they are in danger of falling out. The project will probably begin this summer. Work will begin on 3 classrooms at a time, with a span of 1 week per classroom. There will be weekly meetings to update the school on the process. Many thanks to Vanessa Kaigler for helping to streamline this process and make as little impact on classroom disturbance as possible.
- b) Admissions Update: Cindy Hicks updated the council on the 2017-2018 school year process. The February 18th Savannah Arts Audition went well. The lottery was completed on March 7, 2017. There will be 268 new students:

240 freshman, 17 sophomores, 8 juniors, and 5 seniors. The waiting list is approximately 100 students. There will be another email in 2 weeks to finalize all accepted applicants. A question was asked about the lottery process: only SAA and Garrison have vetted auditions. All other schools are a true lottery. SAA received 600 applications, of those 140 were denied due to academic reasons. The SharePoint process on MS went exceptionally well and there were less frustrated parents due to the admission process.

- c) Accreditation Update: Dawn Hadley is working on this process. The first meeting will be on March 27th and the accreditation team will be here March 28-29. Last year, most of the time was spent interviewing parents, staff, and SAA Advisory Council members. Also, they will spend time in the classroom. Afterwards, the committee will provide a flash drive with all the findings to the administration.
- d) Academic Accountability process: Dan Snope updated the council on the announcement of the 2017 Advanced Placement Honor Schools. These schools are named in 6 categories, based on the results of the 2016 AP courses and exams. Savannah Arts received every AP Merit Award available. Our ranking is now (according to US News and World Report) is #59 in the United States. We are still # 4 in Georgia. Senior scholarships are pouring in daily.
- e) GMAS update: SAA has a deficiency in biology that we are currently working on. We are confident that we will pass in the majority of areas. The testing is April 24.
- f) Other school news/issues: Mr. Lockley informed the council that student tardies continue to be a big problem. Also, SAA students are not keeping up with their Beta Club/NHS requirements. Next year, everyone in the freshman class will take the PSAT. Currently, it is an option, not a requirement. Dr. Belue stated that the active shooter drill on January 20th went extremely well. In fact, SAA is being used as a model for other schools. It was a great chance to create some dialogue and awareness with students.

V. New business

- a) Ms. Wood stated that there is a cleanup campaign going on in the neighborhood for the HSF Garden and Home tour. SAA arts students are welcome to participate and volunteer.
- b) Calendar Update: Mr. Lockley updated the council on some upcoming events: Prom, Sidewalk Arts Festival, and the Senior Trip.

VI. Adjournment

With no additional new or old business, the chairman adjourned the meeting at 9am.

Minutes submitted by: Lisa Wilkes, Secretary