

Aurora Academic Charter School

Special Meeting of Aurora Board of Directors for August 13, 2020 (Virtual)

Board Chair: Arlene Huhn
Recording: Marla Leganchuk

Attendees: Keira Hanrahn, Nokuthula Sithole, Robert Kossick, Shazin Mohamed-Standing, Paul Wozny, Zaida Hirani-Saran, Feliz Amenaghawon

Guests: Ian Gray, Jacqueline Harman, Janet Rockwood, Mary Healy, Peter Dang

1. Call to order at 6:03pm

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 6:03pm, and was held online in compliance with COVID-19 Pandemic social distancing regulations. This special meeting was called to review School re-entry plans

2. Approval of the Agenda – Attachment 1

Motion to approve the Agenda as presented made by: Keira Hanrahan
Seconded by Shazin Mohamed-Standing
Unanimous. Carried

3. School Re-entry/COVID-19 update and plans

Aurora School Re-entry Town Hall Virtual Meeting with Parents, August 10th (6:30 pm) and August 11 (noon and again at 6:00 pm). Robert presented data from the the 3 Town Hall meetings and discussed the volume and type of questions from families.

Uniforms was a common question from families. Discussions around supporting families to encourage 5 outfits for each school day of the week.

Motion to allow “like” uniforms that are similar in colour and style, such as navy blue dress pants and white polo shirts, while COVID pandemic measures are in place, made by Zahida Hirani-Saran
Seconded by: Keira Hanrahn
Unanimous. Carried

Staggered Entry was discussed and along with possible measures to help students and staff ease into and orient within distinctly different learning environments as a result of COVID.

Motion to move that AACS have a staggered entry over 2 days for its students in the 2020/21 school year, made by Robert Kossick
Seconded by: Zaida Hirani-Saran
Unanimous. Carried

4. FOIPP and Privacy Concerns with digital classroom

Discussion around FOIP and impact of having synchronous learning. For Students, Teachers and families. Agreed that decision should be deferred to Wednesday Aug 19th meeting. Directed Paul Wozny to contact Alberta Education legal services team for legal perspective.

5. Aurora future needs and potential access to budget reserves to enhance student learning and flexibility whether at school or at home. Attachment 2

6.

Janet Rockwood and Jacqueline Harman presented the “Needs Analysis for Online Accessible Real-Time/Synchronous Learning during COVID-19 2020/21” and discussed each of the 3 options.

Discussions around flexibility of learning to support families.

Motion that AACs provide parents with the option to attend classes either through in-person or online, made by Zaida Hirani-Saran

Seconded by: Felix Amenaghawon

Unanimous. Carried

Felix Motion that parents have three opportunities (semesters) to switch between online or in-class education for the 2020-21 school year, made by Felix Amenaghawon

Seconded by: Nokuthula Sithole

Unanimous. Carried

Shazin Mohamed-Standing discussed the 2020/21 school budget. Questions were brought up around unexpected costs due to COVID. Discussion around how much funding should be allocated. The Board requested that the Director of Finance with the Secretary Treasurer provide financial forecasting with cash projections and financial recommendations for meeting on Wednesday Aug 19, 2020.

7. Aurora COVID-19 School Re-entry Plan 2020/21 for review (intent to add most current version to the Aurora website on August 14, 2020) - Attachment 3

Dr. Paul Wozny presented on the School Re-entry Plan and Handbook for 2020/21. Discussion around updating document regarding the Student Counselor. Suggested that further clarity is also required to identify what the Personal Protective Equipment requirements are.

8. Aurora COVID-19 Online Learning Program Program Form 2020/21 - Attachment 4

Dr. Paul Wozny presented the Board with the Online Learning Program form. Discussion around clarity of what online learning will look like so that families can make an informed decision.

9. Online learning partnership future potentials i.e. ADLC and/or others - Attachment 5

Ian Gray presented online learning and partnerships with different programs and organizations. Proposition on how we might be able to provide online programming. Discussion around which models would best fit Aurora. Ian recommended a lead teacher (subject dependent) work together to create an online “learning bank”.

3. New Business

4. Next Board Meeting – Wednesday August 19, 2020 6pm

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Zaida Hirani-Saran at 10:34pm