



**DRAFT MINUTES: Advisory Committee on the Arts (ACA)  
November 28, 2016**

A meeting of the ADVISORY COMMITTEE on the ARTS was held at Summit/Fisher Park Public School, Ottawa, Ontario, commencing at 7:05 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Members: Jennifer Boudewyn (AIC), Carl Bovell, Cheryl Carman\*, David Jones\*, Judy Kirsh, Evelyn Michaud\*, Principal Curriculum Services Jennifer Offord, Sophie Reussner-Pazur, Gaby Pancu (Student Senate), Trustee Keith Penny, Margreet Verheuel\*, Luke Zhang (Student Senate)

Regrets: Ariadni Athanassiadis\*, Ingrid Dabringer\*, Susanna Donato (AIC), Sheila White, Michael Wilson

Note: The symbol \* denotes a Voting member.

1. Welcome and introductions:

ACA Co-Chair David Jones welcomed the group and invited everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Moved by David Jones to approve the agenda. CARRIED

3. Co-Chair's Report:

Big event was the Awards presentation. 11 recipients and one lifetime achievement award winner. We had a nice small reception. After the Awards ceremony we had tea and treats. Program was again by Irv Osterer.

David's concern is that we need more people to send us nominations.

We talked about Arts Express where parent driven programs are offered to elementary schools, like lunch time drama, dance and visual art classes. Cheryl mentioned one of the organizers might come to the ACA January meeting.

4. Approval of October Minutes:

Wrong minutes were sent out. Approval at the next meeting of the correct minutes.

5. Business arising from October minutes:

Moved to next meeting.

6. Superintendent's report: Principal Curriculum Services Jennifer Offord:

The OCDSB hand out on the Elementary School Program Framework was discussed. Feedback and comments can be sent to Dorothy Baker. Feedback, which is open to all ages, is also possible on the OCDSB website. The results will be discussed by the board in January, with the final decision January 31<sup>st</sup>.

We discussed school configurations. Where possible the school district is moving towards more standard

configuration models. Geographical situations or school size might be a consideration. We also talked about the elementary program options the OCDSB is looking at. Keith Penny asked for our input. He emphasized this framework is a target. OCDSB will go about it gradually and geographically. We had a discussion on the (non-)advantage of French language programs.

#### 7. Arts Coaches report: Jennifer Boudewyn:

- Jennifer let us know they had a Numerarcy program today as well as two weeks ago. They had good feedback from teachers. Elementary teachers had three workshops to choose from, and could choose two out of the three workshops. 60 teachers per workshop. School could send maximum of two teachers per school. The workshops were up to capacity.
- The AICs are also going to the schools with the focus on music. They have one on one with teachers. Some teachers find it scary to teach arts and need help from the AICs.
- Focus on percussion. Teachers need help using percussion instruments. The AICs have two kits, a loan kit and a kit belonging to the AICs.
- We had a discussion on teaching the recorder and reading music. Teachers are not always comfortable teaching this instrument or have the knowledge.
- 2017-2018 the focus will be on Visual Arts.

#### 8. Break:

Thank you David for the juice and cookies.

#### 9. Trustee's Report: Keith Penny:

- Keith told us he was at the opening of a new school today, the Summerside Public School in Orleans. The arts are alive and well and encouraged at this school.
- Advocacy committee of the OCDSB is advocating for funding, especially now elections are coming. Next year pushing for well-being of students. Measurement of well-being is difficult and complex.
- Keith let us know he is outgoing chair of budget committee. Meeting will take place tomorrow. Keith will ask to come back as our Trustee. ACA hopes so.
- Next year will still be a budget reduction year, but less than this year. OCDSB let Province know trajectory is to have a surplus in the future.
- Keith had question how to go about getting more AICs. He invites the ACA to go to a CoW meeting or other Board meeting to propose hiring more AICs.
- We also talked about how to get teachers with an arts background. Not a lot of people with an arts background go into teaching. We think they'd probably end up in secondary schools as a specialist.

#### 10. New Business:

Judy Kirsh talked to us about the Marjorie Loughrey Grant of \$2000. This is not an ACA award. There are 2 or 3 grants every year, depending on donors. The grant goes to an artist who has to work with a school, a student or students. For an active participation event, organized by a school. Past grants went to e.g. a sensory wall in a school or a pottery week for a class of 20 students with learning disabilities. Schools, K-8, were asked for applications. Deadline May 5<sup>th</sup>. Judy said they are always looking for more donors to help fund the grants.

Student representative Luke Zhang offered to try to update the ACA website. This would be great.

David let us know Sue Baker asked us if we'd like an OCASC representative to attend our meetings. He has let them know this would be very valuable.

#### 12. Adjournment:

Cheryl Carman motioned to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Upcoming ACA Meetings: 2017: Jan 30, Feb 27, Mar 27, Apr 24, May 29.

For information: ACA Co-Chairs David Jones & Evelyn Michaud: [chair@ACAottawa.ca](mailto:chair@ACAottawa.ca)