

**New Mexico School for the Arts (NMSA)
Parent Association Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2014**

I. Call to Order

President Charles Hoy called the meeting to order at 11:20 am.

II. Roll Call

In attendance:

Susan Steinman, Warren Steinman, Karen Conley, Shelley Robinson, Jake Cohen, Charles Hoy – President, Joey Chavez, David Sandoval, Kris Redecker, Renée Martínez, Melissa Binder and Tom Osgood.

III. Minutes from May 3, 2014 Meeting

This item was not covered and will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

IV. Review, Revise and Approve Agenda

The following changes to the agenda were proposed and approved by President Hoy:

- Jake Cohen proposed a discussion on making the graduation more open to guests.
- Melissa Binder proposed a discussion on the high level of stress on students.

V. President's Report

Charles Hoy met with Riis Gonzales to discuss year end parent contributions to the Arts Institute. \$15,275 in PA contributions were received to support the donor match! Total parent contributions this school year including student art fees are over \$100k.

President Hoy asked how the PA can become more visible in the school. Some ideas mentioned by attendees included: social media presence, parent picnic, communicating all that the PA does during the year, parent education, class social receptions for parents, providing a venue for parents to give input (advisory) into school, use of a survey to collect input from parents.

The school Site council has parent representatives on it. A suggestion to have a PA representative attend each Site Council meeting to share PA interests was made. Joey Chavez mentioned that each art department is drafting a 5 year plan and that perhaps the PA should also engage in some planning. A recommendation was made to hold a special PA planning

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meeting to focus on longer range plan. It was suggested that incoming freshman parents be invited to join the PA and participate in planning activities.

The PA made a decision to hold a small group planning meeting to start the planning process on June 24, Tuesday, starting at 6:30 pm.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Shelley Robinson will be meeting with Christi Heald to transition PA Treasurer duties. Joey Chavez asked for Shelley to sign off on payment of prom photo expenses. The PA Account Balance Sheet for May-June 2014 shows a balance of \$5,614.07. Additional expenses against the balance are \$700 for graduation reception expenses and \$1,500 for advertising.

VII. New Business

A. NMSA College Placement - Acacia McCombs

Acacia will teach senior seminar next year which will help students prepare for college applications. Each senior will produce a self-reflection that will be used in part for college matching. Assistance with college essays will be provided and art departments will help with the auditions and portfolios. NMSA does not have recording equipment so individual recordings are done with resources outside of the school. A survey of alumni is planned to collect information on college placement including success in being accepted into their first choice school and financial aid awards. Acacia share the following data on college enrollments for this year's seniors:

- 42% of seniors this year enrolled in in-state colleges
- 27% of seniors this year enrolled in arts specialty colleges
- 14% of seniors this year enrolled in community colleges

NMSA has made an employment offer to a new college counselor. NMSA offers a Financial (Financial Algebra) literacy class that in part covers college financials and debt scenarios. Acacia is establishing a web site to allow students and parents to share college information and resources.

B. President and Vice President Elections

Karen Conley made a motion to elect David Sandoval as Parent

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Association President. Tom Osgood seconded the motion and the motion carried with unanimous consent.

Jake Cohen made a motion to elect Charles Hoy as Parent Association Vice President. Tom Osgood seconded the motion and the motion carried with unanimous consent.

Karen Conley made a motion to elect Shelley Robinson as Parent Association Treasurer. Jake Cohen seconded the motion and the motion carried with unanimous consent.

C. Spanish Market Parking Lot Fundraiser

Joey Chavez will serve as the primary organizer of the fundraising event on the weekend of July 26 and 27. A volunteer sign-up sheet is available and will be emailed to Mr. Chavez.

D. Beginning of the School Year Picnic

This event will start at 5 pm on August 11. Parents will provide food for the potluck and sign up online. The PA will provide beverages for the event.

E. Best Monthly Meeting Time for the PA

Joey Chavez is not able to attend meetings after school during the school week. This topic will be discussed at the June 24 PA planning meeting.

VII. Administration Report - Joey Chavez

Student registration is scheduled for August 4 and 5. The PA will provide snacks; sell t- shirts, license plate frames and mugs; and collect parent volunteer forms.

A breakdown of enrollment for the new school year follows:

Visual Arts - 15 freshman, 18 sophomores, 17 juniors, 12 seniors (62 total)

Theater - 17 freshman, 15 sophomores, 14 juniors, 14 seniors (60 total)

Music - 15 freshman, 13 sophomores, 17 juniors, 11 seniors (56 total)

Dance - 3 freshman, 9 sophomores, 9 juniors, 9 seniors (30 total)

Grand total is 208

VIII. Parent Department/Committee Reports

New parent liaisons for each department will be nominated and elected closer to the start of the new school year.

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IX. Extension of Meeting Time

Karen Conley made a motion to extend the meeting time by 10 minutes. Shelley Robinson seconded the motion and the motion carried with unanimous consent.

X. Graduation Attendance

The Greer Garson Theater was the graduation venue this year and each student was allowed 9 guests. Many students and adults were not able to attend. The Santa Fe Convention Center has been used in the past and allows for more guests however the student enthusiasm for this venue is not high. It was suggested that all juniors should be able to attend the graduation as a stepping stone to their senior year. Katie Phebus is the organizer of the graduation and should receive this feedback from the PA. Next year's graduation is scheduled for May 30, 2015

XI. Visual Arts Student Participation in ArtSpring

Ideas from the PA on how to increase the participation of Visual Arts students with the annual ArtSpring event are encouraged. During ArtSpring this year, the only event that focused on Visual Arts students was the senior art show. The rest of the Visual Arts students felt excluded from the showcase event at the Lensic. The students were expected to do work at school on the day that all the other students were rehearsing for the Lensic event, even though regular classes were not held.

XII. Schedule for Next PA Meeting

The next meeting will be held on July 19, 2014 at 11:00 am at NMSA

XIII. Meeting Adjournment

President Hoy adjourned the meeting at 12:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Renée Martínez, PA Secretary