

The School of Arts & Enterprise – Meeting of the Governing Board Minutes
July 23, 2025

Attendees:

NAME	PRESENT
Mark Skvarna	Ab
Joshua Swodeck	X
George Charney, D.O	X
Jeffrey Seymour	X
Martha Rivera	X
Dr. Denise Davis-Cotton	X
Guests	
Paul Treesuwan	X
Robert Shields	X
Dennis Nguyen	X
Roger Scott	X
Richard Vasquez	Ab

I. Call to Order, Establishment of Quorum, Approve Virtual Meeting, & Agenda Approval	<p>Joshua Swodeck called the meeting to order:</p> <p>Motion: Joshua Swodeck Second: Jeffrey Seymour</p> <table><tr><th>Member</th><th>Aye</th><th>Nay</th><th>Abstain</th></tr><tr><td>Skvarna</td><td>Ab</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Swodeck</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Charney</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Seymour</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Rivera</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Davis-Cotton</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Skvarna	Ab			Swodeck	X			Charney	X			Seymour	X			Rivera	X			Davis-Cotton	X			12:02 PM
Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain																											
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Swodeck	X																													
Charney	X																													
Seymour	X																													
Rivera	X																													
Davis-Cotton	X																													
II. Public Comment	-No public comment.	12:01PM																												
III. Open Session	A. No action taken	12:02 PM																												
IV. Consent Agenda	<p>A. Minutes: June 24, 2025 B. Approve Employee Handbook C. Approve Check Registers: May 2025 D. Approve Balance Sheet Detail: May 2025 E. Approve P&L: May 2025 F. Approve Restricted Funds: May 2025 G. Approve Cash Flow Report: May 2025</p> <p>Motion: George Charney Second: Jeffrey Seymour</p> <table><tr><th>Member</th><th>Aye</th><th>Nay</th><th>Abstain</th></tr></table>	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	12:03 PM																								
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V. Action Items	<p>A. Approve Interim Title Change – Paul Treesuwan - Current titles are presenting challenges to execute director authority. Proposing to change current title to Interim Co-Director.</p> <p>Motion: Dr. Denise Davis-Cotton Second: Jeffrey Seymour</p> <table><tr><th>Member</th><th>Aye</th><th>Nay</th><th>Abstain</th></tr><tr><td>Skvarna</td><td>Ab</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Swodeck</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Charney</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Seymour</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Rivera</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Davis-Cotton</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>B. Approve Interim Title Change – Rob Shields - Current titles are presenting challenges to execute director authority. Proposing to change current title to Interim Co-Director.</p> <p>Motion: Dr. Denise Davis-Cotton Second: Jeffrey Seymour</p> <table><tr><th>Member</th><th>Aye</th><th>Nay</th><th>Abstain</th></tr><tr><td>Skvarna</td><td>Ab</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Swodeck</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Charney</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Seymour</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Rivera</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Davis-Cotton</td><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>C. Approve Chromebook Purchase -300 devices currently out of use. Original plan was to roll over slow replacement and repairs. State testing specs have been published and we aren’t in compliance. Approval of this will also bring us compliant under William’s Act. Seeking approval for a \$86K contract. -Dr. Davis-Cotton: Is there federal funding being utilized for this purchase? -Title IV funding is being applied to some of these resources.</p> <p>Motion: George Charney Second: Jeffrey Seymour</p>	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Skvarna	Ab			Swodeck	X			Charney	X			Seymour	X			Rivera	X			Davis-Cotton	X			Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Skvarna	Ab			Swodeck	X			Charney	X			Seymour	X			Rivera	X			Davis-Cotton	X			12:04 PM
Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain																																																							
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<p>D. Approve Steel Deck Purchase -Purchase for CTEIG to build up facilities. Asking to purchase equipment to allow us to save money in the long-run by no longer needing to rent equipment. Seeking approval for a \$26K. CTEIG Grant funded.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: George Charney Second: Dr. Denise Davis-Cotton</p>				
	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
	Skvarna	Ab		
	Swodeck	X		
	Charney	X		
	Seymour	X		
	Rivera	X		
	Davis-Cotton	X		
<p>E. Approve Board Calendar Revision -Stakeholders have voiced current time is held during working hours. Would allow better stakeholder involvement. Infrequency meetings call for a lot of Special Board Meeting. Important to keep a monthly cadence for transparency in our future. -Swodeck: Raised concern for Board Member availability. -Seymour: Requested a poll of all Board members to seek what's feasible. -Davis-Cotton: Presented concern for conflict with teaching schedule. -Swodeck: Motioned to move to a Discussion Item and bring back to a vote at another Board Meeting. Poll will be held for Board Members and stakeholders. Upon review of results, will act accordingly.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Joshua Swodeck Second: George Charney</p>				
	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
	Skvarna	Ab		
	Swodeck	X		
	Charney	X		
	Seymour	X		
	Rivera	X		
	Davis-Cotton	X		
<p>F. Approve Cellphone Policy</p>				

-Adopting LAUSD cellphone/technology policy. It hasn't worked out due to inconsistency. Banning cellphones will allow us to better enforce usage. Students will be allowed to have it on their person, only to be utilized for emergency situations under staff adult supervision. There's support from staff in moving the policy forward but some concerns of efficacy.

-Swodeck: Raised a safety concern. What is protocol for instances of campus lockdowns, etc.

-Davis-Cotton: Inquired if stakeholders are being consulted for new policy.

-Treesuwan: Leadership will be hosting 2 parent meetings to discuss the new policy. Open to receiving questions and concerns from all stakeholders. 1:1 Chromebook purchase will allow students to have a device on them.

Motion: George Charney
Second: Dr. Denise Davis-Cotton

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Skvarna	Ab		
Swodeck	X		
Charney	X		
Seymour	X		
Rivera	X		
Davis-Cotton	X		

G. Approve Attendance Policy

-Seeking approval from the Board to approve new policy. Revising SARB requirements. Similar to PUSD, new proposal will allow only 6 absences to be excused without a doctor's note per year. A lot of resources available to our students for mental health issues, both on site and community based. Independent Study will be approved for 3 instances per year. Saturday School will now require parent attendance.

Swodeck: Raised a concern from an equity perspective, stating students/families who live off the grid don't have access to Medi-Cal. Putting responsibly on families to incur an extra expense to visit a local clinic, may not be equitable. Encouraged the preemptive work be frontloaded for these circumstances.

Motion: Jeffrey Seymour
Second: George Charney

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Skvarna	Ab		
Swodeck	X		
Charney	X		
Seymour	X		
Rivera	X		
Davis-Cotton	X		

VI. Discussion Items	<p>A. Review Fiscal Policy</p> <p>- Existing Fiscal Policy currently requires Contracts or Purchase Agreements above 25K be approved by Board of Directors. Question from the floor as to what extent does the Board want to exercise oversight.</p> <p>CSMC: There's gray area in language; \$15K – \$24K invoices/purchases requires CEO approval. Doesn't specify who holds true authority for invoices over \$25K. Certain events, by the time everything was invoiced, surpassed the \$25K threshold. Seeking to get clarity from the Board between contract/consulting services and cash disbursements or if certain threshold is required for Board approval.</p> <p>Charney: Raised the question of frequency of anticipated purchases or agreements. Inquired about how many times had Board of Directors negated these requests.</p> <p>Treesuwan: Between 8-20 times a year. Stated no recollection of Governing Board denying a purchase or agreement.</p> <p>Swodeck: Stated if invoice or purchase was something already budgeted, comfortable allowing school leadership to have that authority. If the expense wasn't in the original budget or it surpasses the projected amount, then the Board should be involved. A snapshot of major expenses to be highlighted during review of financials would help identify and monitor such expenses.</p> <p>Shields: Increasing frequency of Board Meetings would facilitate Board being involved in fiscal transparency.</p>	12:50 PM																												
VII. Adjournment	<p>- George Charney motioned to adjourn the meeting</p> <p>Motion: George Charney</p> <p>Second: Jeffrey Seymour</p> <table> <tr> <th>Member</th> <th>Aye</th> <th>Nay</th> <th>Abstain</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Skvarna</td> <td>Ab</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Swodeck</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charney</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seymour</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rivera</td> <td>Ab</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Davis-Cotton</td> <td>Ab</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Skvarna	Ab			Swodeck	X			Charney	X			Seymour	X			Rivera	Ab			Davis-Cotton	Ab			1:00 PM
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