



Minutes
Board of Directors of Friendship Academy of the Arts
September 29, 2025

Location: Friendship Academy of the Arts Intermediate Site 3320 E 41st St
Minneapolis, MN 55406

Roll Call:

Board Members: Lorna Pettis, Brenda Hill, Janice Phillips, Terrie Costello, Lena Stackhouse Rogers

Guests: Kerry Kliman, Tyler Aliperto, Dr. Charvez Russell, Elaina Cates, Verlon Stevenson

I. Call to order

Motion to call meeting to order at 6:08pm by Janice Phillips; Seconded by Lena Stackhouse Rogers; approved unanimously

II. Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by Terrie Costello. Seconded by Brenda Hill; approved unanimously.

III. Minutes for August 18, 2025 were reviewed.

Motion to approve minutes for August 18, 2025 by Brenda Hill; Second Lena Stackhouse Rogers; approved unanimously.

IV. Authorizer Communication

Mrs. Kliman shared notes about staff updates at our authorizer, Pillsbury United Communities. These staff updates are not expected to have an impact on our contract renewal with PUC.

V. Executive Director Report

- I. See report included in Board Packet for full information
- II. Budget and Finance -
 - Freedom School funding released (\$194,651) for Fund 4 Revenue
 - 1st Restaurant fundraiser successful – Cane’s on 9/18



- Awaiting final numbers
- 2nd restaurant fundraiser (The Howe) on 10/13
- III. Talent and Hiring -
 - Actively hiring: MTSS Interventionist, 1 full time FLEX teacher, 1 SPED teacher (maternity leave beginning in January)
- IV. Professional Development -
 - 10 days of PD in August
 - First day: Introduction of authorizer goals and past performance metrics
 - Sessions were explicitly aligned to our 3 current school year priorities:
 - Academic Growth, Positive & Intentional Interactions, Data Driven Decision Making
 - Week 1: Laying the foundation for 3 priorities
 - Week 2: Differentiation, Work Time, and larger school-wide initiatives
 - Open House
 - September 23rd Professional Development
- V. Enrollment
 - 199 students (91% of our 219 enrollment goal)
- VI. Family & Community Engagement
 - September 17th classroom night and October 15th Conferences
- VII. Academics
 - NWEA data will be shared at our next meeting
 - MCA data from 2024-25 was shared and compared with similar schools nearby
- VIII. Wellness Policy
 - Decision: FAA will maintain the current wellness policy, however we will add that this policy is “encouraged” compared to mandated when it comes to food parents are bringing in to students
 - Families will be encouraged to seek approval from the Leadership Team and their classroom teacher to bring in birthday items such as cupcakes.

VI. Committee Reports - Motion to approve reports by Janice Phillips. Seconded by Brenda Hill. Approved unanimously.

See reports included in board packet



- a. Marketing Committee Report
- b. Fundraising Committee Report

VII. Finance Report - Motion to approve by Terrie Costello. Seconded by Darlene Riley. Unanimous approval.

VIII. Contracts

I. Right Response LLC 2025_Services Agreement.doc.docx.pdf

- Motion to approve by Janice Phillips; Seconded by Brenda Hill; Unanimous approval.

II. Heart and Soul Drum Academy

- Motion to approve by Brenda Hill; Seconded by Darlene Riley; Approved unanimously

IX. Board of Directors Election Policy - Motion to approve by Brenda Hill; seconded by Janice Phillips; Approved unanimously.

- I. The Board of Directors election policy was shown and read by all members of the board.

X. Miscellaneous -

- I. The idea of holding future board meetings on Zoom was discussed; the board will delay this for a further date and will see when it begins to snow.

XI. Adjournment

- I. Next meeting date: October 27th, 2025
- II. Motion to adjourn by Janice Phillips at 7:37pm; seconded by Terrie Costello; Approved unanimously.