

RTAC Meeting Notes 1/28/19

RoundTable Advisory Committee for Arts Education: RTAC

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm at East Valley Children’s Theatre: 4501 E Main St, Mesa, AZ 85205

Members Present: Dustin Loehr (AZ Department of Education), Haley Honeman (AZ Department of Education), Ajay Patel (Desert Ridge High School, AMEA Advocacy Chair), Lynn Monson (AZDEO), Karen Rolston (East Valley Children’s Theatre), Julie Hackmann (Fine Arts Coordinator Kyrene District),

Joined Late: Nathan Johnson (Scottsdale Unified District), Sharlee (Gilbert High School), Kelley Montano (Legacy Traditional Schools)

Joined by Zoom: Leah Fregulia (Arizona School for the Arts), Rusty Foley (Arizona Citizens for the Arts), Amanda Kaye (CKSynergy, Arts Education Collaboration), Elisa Radcliffe (Arizona Commission on the Arts)

- **Welcome/Ice-Breaker:** Meeting was Called to Order at 2:04pm
 - East Valley Children’s Theatre Hosted: In their 22nd season. Provide classes and performance opportunities for students ages 5-18 years old.
 - One Arts Ed accomplishment you are proud of:

Julie: “Partnership with Kyrene and Yaqui Indian tribe has caused the tribe to buy instruments for participating students.”

- **Committee Updates:**
 - *Arts Education Seal- Dustin*
 - Rusty Foley shared updates about the Arts Diploma Seal: Arizona Citizens for the Arts sold the idea to Senator Paul Boyer. Before Christmas they discussed. He was the driving force behind the civics seal. A bill SB1111 is now drafted for the Fine Arts Seal. The bill will be heard tomorrow at 1pm. The committee will decide to vote it out of committee to the rules committee, then to the house. Arizona Citizens for the Arts will be there tomorrow afternoon to speak on behalf of the bill. It’s a friendly committee. Purpose: Elevate the purpose of sequential study of the arts in high school. Have a compiled a lot of research.

ACTION ITEM: Send a note to the committee members showing your support for the bill. Email will be sent this afternoon with talking points & committee members contact info.

- Dustin congratulated the summer committee who developed the Fine Arts Diploma Seal. The language of the law leaves

control of this program in the Department of Education.
Questions?

- Julie: “Thank you to the committee!”

- ***Arts Education Advocacy Effort: Amanda Kaye***

- Arts Education Advocacy Effort: Arizona Citizen’s for the Arts is looking to be the Backbone of the organization. The Process: Compiled best practices from across the country, circulated a survey of the state, met with a steering committee with leaders from the state, Went to Flagstaff and Yuma to have conversations there.
- Amanda overviewed the findings from the best practices interviews in terms of the History, Structure, Engagement, Decision-Making, Funding, ect... of similar efforts across the country.
- Amanda overviewed the survey input & listening sessions findings.
- Amanda shared the mission and vision of the Arts Education Advocacy Effort.
- Amanda shared the efforts of the sub-committees: Governance & Funding, Educate & Connect, and Advocate.
- Questions? None voiced
- Rusty: Had some preliminary discussions with the Arizona Community Foundation, Lovell Foundation. Asking them to put together a collaborative funding model. Lovell: If equity and access is the issue, what is our big goal? Grant writer is looking at NEA opportunities. Money wouldn’t be delivered until next fall.

- ***Survey & Pepper Briefing***

- Haley talked about the need to create a centralized platform for managing the Fine Arts Seal, for communication, and for professional development. AZDOE consulted with Pepper to provide us this platform. A Survey has been created that will go out to measure how many teachers in your district & your professional development needs.

- ***Professional Service Organization Conference Idea-*** Would there be support for a combined conference of the professional service organizations?

- Discussion: Lynn “I think they would support this. I don’t think they would want to give up what they started grassroots. A few dance educators used to attend the JAEC. They don’t want to give up free time to go to PD activities. Some teachers did not give approval from their principal. Have a hard time balancing personal time and wanting more PD.”

- Julie “It’s an incredible idea BUT every teacher that’s gone from a classroom means that a guest teacher has to sub. If everyone is gone at the same time it would be a challenge. There are some professional development staff days. It’s a fabulous idea if there’s a way to figure it out.”
- Kelley: “Can you expand upon the benefits of combining?” Expand upon your vision
- Dustin: “Things that are shared: policy updates, funding opportunities in the arts, standards, arts integration, advocacy. People showed up for a joint professional development conference this summer.”
- Nathan: “I think all the organizations would have to be onboard. Adding another thing during the year logistically isn’t going to work. We might make ourselves into a problem. I think there is an opportunity to expand on the summer clinic.”
- Kelley: “It would be an amazing advocacy opportunity.”
- **National Arts Ed Week- Dustin**
 - Americans for the Arts might be doing their National Arts in Education tour starting in Phoenix.
- **Youth Arts Month- March**

ACTION ITEM: If you have any events to share from your networks happening in March to celebrate Youth Arts Month please email them to us.

Break 3:10-3:15pm

- **Future of RTAC**
 - Members reviewed goals of RTAC created in 2017. Dustin highlighted how A3C work was not done this year due to AZ Citizens for the Arts creating the Arts Advocacy Effort.
 - Members reviewed Norms created for RTAC in 2017.
 - One shift I see happening for RTAC is to see it form its own central board. To serve as an accountability and transparency mechanism for the Department of Education. Success of the Fine Arts Seal moved due to the work done by RTAC. Outside constituents in the field recommended the seal and it was able to get so far in the Department of Education because of that. A space for Arts Education Constituents to give feedback to your Arts Education representatives.
 - Nathan Johnson: Would this be a Fine Arts Version of the COP?
 - Dustin: Yes, COP- Committee of Practitioners who advise the Department of Education.
 - Nathan: So, this wouldn’t be mandated?

- Dustin: Yes, we need to be held accountable and transparent. This is what they are saying they need and this is how we can serve them.
 - Lynn: Can you define an independent board.
 - Dustin: There are several kinds of boards of directors. I see this functioning as a stakeholder board. There would be a form of elected leadership.
 - Rusty: Is there a governance model for the Community of Practitioners?
 - Dustin: There is an application process to become a member. They vote. They have to have a quorum.
 - Rusty: How did they form?
 - Dustin: It's a federal requirement.
 - Rusty: Is it subject to the open meeting law?
 - Dustin: I'm not sure. We record all the meetings. There is a fee to join and the department uses that meeting to pay for food.
 - Nathan: I think there is value to creating RTAC independent of you. Changing the structure from information gathering from you to information gathering for you.
 - Kelley: How many people are in this group? Sometimes you have to scrape to get people to be officers of the group.
 - Dustin: We have about 30-35 RTAC members. You hold a leadership position within a district or a professional arts education service organization. We haven't had the best turn out.
 - Kelley: If the group takes more ownership over itself you may find more increased participation.
 - Nathan: What do we need to move forward?
 - Group discussed how to create a board.
 - Lynn: Expressed concern about looking too much like we are a nonprofit organization.
 - Dustin: Summarized Ideas 1) Review Goals 2) Take Step Back and Identified Mission and Vision
 - Nathan: Suggested Put a survey out to the board describing the relationship change and do a simple yes/no vote. Put a committee together to discuss next steps if it passes.
 - Haley: Will create a separate RTAC survey for voting on if we become independent.
- **Title IV-A Symposium**
 - July 2019 in Northern Arizona. One full day of professional development.
 - Sessions are designed for Title IV-A content providers
 - RFPs will be opened soon
 - National Keynote provided
 - ADE's Intent? Offer this service for FREE (or very low cost)

- **Parking Lot – Next session in August in Tucson or southern AZ?**
 - Any Questions or items to discuss?
 - Other Item from notes: Arts Education Standards Review: Formatting review. 5 Sets of standards for you to look at.
 - Arts Congress Updates: We got a lot of support for Arizona Commission on the Arts. We more meaningfully engaged our young people. 50 high school and college students there. We are eager to have participation from young people.
 - Please email your senators.
 - We now have an approved subject area for Media Arts for Certification. We are one of the first states to have that application. If you are interested in Media Arts Related let me know.

Contact Information:

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