

**Inspire School of Arts & Sciences Board of Directors**  
**Special Session - 7:00 pm**  
**Thursday, August 20, 2020**

This meeting will be by teleconference pursuant to Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.

The Board of Directors (“Board”) and employees of Inspire School of Arts and Sciences shall meet via the Zoom meeting platform. Members of the public who wish to access this Board meeting may do so at:

<https://csuchico.zoom.us/j/5392949189?pwd=SHRaSUp3dUQyTkRGYWhjYUJJTURPZz09>

Meeting ID: 539 294 9189  
Password: 866465

Members of the public who wish to comment during the Board meeting may use the “raise hand” tool on the Zoom platform. Individual comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. If an interpreter is needed for comments, they will be translated to English and the time limit shall be six (6) minutes. The Board of Directors may limit the total time for public comment to a reasonable time. The Board reserves the right to mute or remove a member of the public if comments or actions disrupts the Board meeting.

Access to Board Materials: A copy of the written materials which will be submitted to the School Board may be reviewed by any interested persons on Inspire School of Arts and Sciences Website along with this agenda following the posting of the agenda at least 24 hours in advance of this meeting.

Disability Access: Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations to participate in this public meeting should be made 24 hours prior to the meeting by calling (530) 230-7758. All efforts will be made for reasonable accommodations. The agenda and public documents can be modified upon request as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

*The mission of the Inspire School of Arts and Sciences is to provide high levels of learning and support within a personalized environment that allows students to explore their interests and develop their talents.*

**Board Meeting Norms**

1. We collectively own problems and we collectively solve them.
2. We respect time guidelines and strive to watch our own “air time.”
3. We commit to hearing all voices and we value the ideas, experiences, and perspectives of all stakeholders.
4. We assume good intentions and we are polite, even when we disagree.
5. We come prepared for discussion—we do our homework.
6. We value feedback that is supported with evidence.
7. We speak up when we do not feel good about a decision before that decision is made.

**MINUTES**

Special Session:

1. **Call to Order** 7:02 pm
  2. **Roll call of members: Ron Pope, Kate McCarthy, Eric Nilsson, David Zeichick, Catherine Sullivan, Shelby Chase, Cam Bull present.**
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### 3. Public Comment

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

*This time is for members of the public to offer comments on agenda items or non-agenda items. For agenda items, members of the public will be allowed up to three (3) minutes per presentation not to exceed twenty (20) minutes in total and for non-agenda items: no individual presentation shall be for more than three (3) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Ordinarily, Board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken. However, the Board may give direction to staff following a presentation.*

A member of the public, Evan Tuchinsky, stated he was glad to hear the school starting using the Norms. He stated there were other options the Board could take other than removing a board member and asked the Board to think about how it might look to the community. He said there is a bridge that needs to be built between the Board and faculty and staff. Mr. Zeichick thanked the speaker.

### 4. Discussion/Action Items

#### 4.1 Discussion/Action Review Possible Removal of a Board Director

7:15 pm

Mr. Zeichick stated the Board had formed a committee to handle complaints and Ms. Chase had brought a complaint regarding an employee. Ms. Chase subsequently communicated with the District about her complaint. Mr. Zeichick stated he asked Ms. Chase not to take her complaint to the District and that he talked to legal counsel and she may have violated her duty of loyalty to the Charter School by doing so. Mr. Zeichick noted a board member should act in the best interest of the Board and the Charter School.

Mr. Zeichick said he did not fully understand Ms. Chase's concerns and did not tell Ms. Chase to go talk to the District Superintendent. He stated the Board did address Ms. Chase's concerns but there was still no written complaint from the person concerned. He believed Ms. Chase's actions of discussing the issue with the District Superintendent was not in the best interest of the Charter School.

Ms. Chase asked to go into closed session, but Mr. Zeichick stated the Board would not do so without a complaint in writing. Mr. Zeichick offered Ms. Chase a chance to provide her point of view and then would hear from other Board members. Ms. Chase asked if the Board members had read her letter. All Board members said yes. Ms. Chase said she had nothing else to add.

Mr. Zeichick stated the issue was whether Ms. Chase was acting in the best interest of the Board. Ms. McCarthy asked Ms. Chase what her concern was about the contract with Alex Brown. Ms. Chase said she had financial concerns and went to the District to talk about the fact that the Board had a lack of policies and procedures. Then Mr. Zeichick asked Ms. Chase if she had told the Superintendent the Board lacked policies. Ms. Chase denied saying that. Ms. McCarthy then stated she had concerns about Ms. Chase talking to the Superintendent.

Ms. Bull stated that the school was drafting new policies and procedures when the pandemic hit and things are taking more time but that the school is doing the best they can. Then Ms. Chase brought up the Brown Act. Mr. Pope asked if Ms. Chase's concerns are about the Brown Act. Ms. Chase said no.

Mr. Pope stated the Board is not intentionally doing something wrong. He is concerned that this has been going on for months. He doesn't know what Ms. Chase is talking about and he is seeing a lot of tension and stress at a time when the Board does not need it. He added there was a lot of finger-pointing but no substance of a complaint. She said she had asked about policies and procedures. Becky Brown stated she had texts that showed Ms. Chase did talk to District staff about the

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complaint. Mr. Ziecheck stated he did not believe Ms. Chase had the Board or the Charter School's best interest in mind with her actions.

Ms. Chase then brought up that in a prior meeting using the "chat" feature on Zoom was a violation of the Brown Act. Ms. McCarthy stated Ms. Chase elevated concerns about the Brown Act when it was not necessary. A member of the public, Doris, said she has been attending meetings for nine years. She has never seen so much drama. She thinks Ms. Chase means well, but it is costing time and mental health of all involved. There have been many issues Ms. Chase has had concerns with several members of the staff during her time as a member. She feels the cost of keeping her is more than letting her go.

**Zoom disconnected at 8:23 p.m.**

**Reconnected Zoom at 8:24 p.m.**

**Roll Call: Ron Pope, Eric Nilsson, Kate McCarthy, Catherine Sullivan, Shelby Chase, David Zeichick**

Mr. Nilsson motioned to remove Ms. Chase as a board member. Ms. McCarthy seconded it with discussion. She asked if the motion was linked to a particular action and Mr. Nilsson said it was Ms. Chase's actions of going outside the Board. Mr. Pope said he is torn about this but is concerned about the inappropriateness. Ms. McCarthy said this was extremely difficult but she is mindful of the health of the staff and her focus is on the school.

Ayes: Kate McCarthy, Eric Nilsson, Ron Pope, Cam Bull, David Zeichick

Nays: Catherine Sullivan, Shelby Chase

Motion moved forward 5-2 to remove Shelby Chase from the Board.

**5. Adjournment**

**8:40 PM**

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