

## **Connecticut Arts Administrators Association**

*Minutes for the meeting held on Sept. 10, 2020, Virtual Zoom Meeting -*

**Attendance:** Maureen Berescik, CAEA President, Ret'd. Art Coordinator, [maureenjberescik@gmail.com](mailto:maureenjberescik@gmail.com); Sheila Casinelli, Monroe PS, Director of Instruction and PD, [scasinelli@monroeps.org](mailto:scasinelli@monroeps.org); Melanie Champion, Greenwich PS, Holly Constantine, Visual Art Curriculum Dir., K-12, Glastonbury PS, [Constantineh@glastonburyus.org](mailto:Constantineh@glastonburyus.org); Rose-Marie Evans East Haddam PS, [rosemarie.evans@easthaddamschools.org](mailto:rosemarie.evans@easthaddamschools.org); Margaret Fitzgerald, TLIR-Ct. St DE/Elem. Music Teacher, Brookfield PS, [fitzgeraldm@brookfieldps.org](mailto:fitzgeraldm@brookfieldps.org); Brian Frazier, Spvsr. of Arts, Et. Al, Stratford PS, [frazierb@stratfordk12.org](mailto:frazierb@stratfordk12.org); Jill Goldberg, Ret'd, Sup. Vernon PS & Art Consultant, [jagcakes@comcast.net](mailto:jagcakes@comcast.net); Angela Griffin, Supervisor of Music, Simsbury PS, CAAA Co-Vice-President, [agriffin@simsbury.k12.ct.us](mailto:agriffin@simsbury.k12.ct.us); Dee Hansen, CAAA President, Prof. of Music Education, UHART; [dee.hansen21@gmail.com](mailto:dee.hansen21@gmail.com); Melissa Hickey, Ct. State Dept. of Education, [Melissa.Hickey@ct.gov](mailto:Melissa.Hickey@ct.gov); Michelle Hiscavich, Dir. Of Visual & Performing Arts, Newtown PS, [hiscavichm@newtown.k12.ct.us](mailto:hiscavichm@newtown.k12.ct.us); Leslie Imse, Music Dept. Chair, Farmington PS, [imsel@fpsct.org](mailto:imsel@fpsct.org); Tracy Kane; Bonnie Koba, Arts in Education Coord. HOT Schools, Ct Office of the Arts, [Bonnie.Koba@ct.gov](mailto:Bonnie.Koba@ct.gov); Patti Lignelli, Music Curriculum Director, K-12, Glastonbury PS, [lignelli@glastonburyus.org](mailto:lignelli@glastonburyus.org); Andrew Mayo, Dept. Chair, Art, Farmington PS, [mayoa@fpsct.org](mailto:mayoa@fpsct.org); Linda Neaton, Verge Awards, [ineaton@thevergeawards.org](mailto:ineaton@thevergeawards.org); Irene Parisi, CAO Ct State Dept of Ed; Cindy Parsons, Ret'd Art Dir. Art, K-12, [cindy53art@gmail.com](mailto:cindy53art@gmail.com); Rie Poirier-Campbell, Hartford Performs : [RPoirier@HartfordPerforms.org](mailto:RPoirier@HartfordPerforms.org); John Prins, Exec. Dir., Ct. Alliance for Arts Education, [jrprins@gmail.com](mailto:jrprins@gmail.com); Rick Sadlon, Exec. Dir. CAAA, Ret'd. Dir. Of Music, [ricksadlon@gmail.com](mailto:ricksadlon@gmail.com); Tom Scavone, Fine Arts Chair, East Hartford PS, [scavone.ta@easthartford.org](mailto:scavone.ta@easthartford.org); Alan Sneath, Director of Visual and Performing Arts, New Canaan PS, [alan.sneath@ncps-k12.org](mailto:alan.sneath@ncps-k12.org); Jeff Spector, CAAA Treasurer, CAAE Exec Director, [jms884@gmail.com](mailto:jms884@gmail.com); Steve Zimmerman, Music Dept. Chair, North West Dist., [Regional7.szimmerman@nwr7.org](mailto:Regional7.szimmerman@nwr7.org);

### **Membership Business Meeting**

**Call to Order:** 8:50 a.m. Dee Hansen, Call to order and welcome,

- Minutes from January 13, 2020 meeting were reviewed and accepted;
- Minutes will be posted on CAAA website.
- To consider time, and current virtual meeting planning, Cindy Parsons will share out minutes prior to meeting so members can review in advance and bring comments/revisions to following meeting.

### **President's Report: (Dee Hansen)**

- Dee reported that this Zoom meeting is being recorded and will be made available on the CAAA Facebook group page; the link will be shared with members.
- Introductions of attendees.
- Rick Sadlon has graciously accepted position of Exec. Director for CAAA to help develop and carry out mission of organization, and develop bylaws, timeline, etc.
- Dee worked with arts leaders through the summer to solidify Ct SDE Covid-19 guidelines for school reopening,
  - Music people spent many hours putting together additional guidelines requested by Commissioner Cardona;
  - CAAA invited to be an institutional member of CABA
  - Rick worked with Andrea Haas to update the CAAA website;
  - Shannon Gagne started the CAAA FB page
  - Left "reopening" document open on the CAAA website
  - CAAA and CSDE working with Melanie Champion CMEA Professional Development Chair
- Dee asked for input on changing CAAA meetings to be held in the afternoon, especially with meetings being planned to be virtual. There was discussion of whether this might improve attendance. She will send survey to membership after today's meeting.

- For all meetings, Dee is requesting that all reports in writing and send to Dee in advance of meetings so that they can be included in the agendas, and notes are available to attendees.

#### **Executive Director's Report (Rick Sadlon)**

- Rick has begun to put together strategic plan and will send out to attorney who will do pro bono;
- Rick plans to reach out to unrepresented districts to consider membership, including urban areas; increasing membership will increase our influence.
- Rick has been working on the CAAA Website which has been updated to be more user friendly.
- Leslie Imse asked about creating a simple invitation with a one-time offer for membership at reduced rate; to increase membership and since account is healthy; this would be a welcoming gesture and hopefully encourage more to join. Rick agreed that keeping costs low has been past practice, but he will reach out to districts; also encourages everyone to invite others to join.
  - Jeff Spector stated that CAAA does not refuse anyone – so maybe reaching out would be good idea to get new attendees;
  - Jill Goldberg agreed that this will help to identify future leaders and provide network opportunities
  - Bonnie Koba pointed out that during COVID, CAAA could be valued by people who have not been able to participate in the past.
  - John Prins suggested that we contact CABA to encourage districts to inform their arts people

#### **Vice-President's Report: (Angela Griffin)**

(Angela will send written report to Dee.)

- For admin or teachers who are looking for funds for COVID related supplies, there are funds available via your district Central office; PPE have been budgeted in each district; masks, etc; also, amplification equip – part of the document that was developed this summer for music guidelines.
- The Hartford Symphony is reaching out to see how can they help with your program – Timothy Brown, Education Director, is looking for ideas to support especially instrumentalists through this COVID time, contact him: [tbrown@hartfordsymphony.org](mailto:tbrown@hartfordsymphony.org)

#### **Treasurer's Report: (Jeff Spector)**

- Balance in account - \$15,166.86 – Jeff does not expect too many expenses this year; dues has remained the same – please send to Jeff with membership form.

#### **Connecticut Arts Alliance in Educators (CAAE): (John Prins)**

- CAAE is teaming up with CABA; working on plans to participate with the CT Vote initiative. Create the Vote – look on the [ctartsalliance.org](https://ctartsalliance.org) website to see responses from candidates.  
(<https://ctartsalliance.org/ctvcandidates>)

#### **CMEA Report: (No report)**

#### **CAEA Report: (Maureen Berescik)**

- CAEA has been planning virtual conferences. CAEA is planning virtual meetings for members this year. There will be 2 virtual meetings one in Oct. 24, the other in January; information is avail on CAEA website (CAEA.net) and Maureen will share it with Dee as well.

#### **CT Office of the Arts: (Bonnie Koba)**

- Bonnie announced Colton Harris will be in charge of a HS competition for poetry; also working on READI The office is working on “anti-racist” initiative to build racial equity and culture in the arts – Cultural Equity Learning Community (CELC) (<https://www.culturalequitylc.org>)
- There is an initiative to disrupt the “School-to-prison” pipeline – working on this initiative to develop programs that will help disrupt this route for young people
- Arts for Learning Ct –developing a Partnership – looking for some pilot schools in Fairfield, Middlesex, New London counties – contact Bonnie if interested to connect students with teaching artists

#### **Other Business:**

- Linda Neaton, of the Verge awards, reported that last spring's event was cancelled due to **Co-Vid 19**; this year VERGE will be national program;
  - Go to website for details (<https://www.theverge.com/>) – 100% free, student-driven; please support and spread awareness;
  - Contact Linda to get registration info 203.449.5044. [ln Eaton@thevergeawards.org](mailto:ln Eaton@thevergeawards.org);

*The business meeting ended at: 9:50; Dee introduced Irene Parisi, and Melissa Hickey from the Ct State Dept. of Education who presented on current COVID guidelines and information. Dee also announced that following this session, there would be 2 PD sessions, content-specific (Music or Art) which will be also recorded and make available for members on the CAAA Facebook members page. The presentation for ART will be via separate Zoom link, posted in the Chat of this session.*

**Irene Parisi & Melissa Hickey, Connecticut State Dept. of Education, presentation from (PPT is available on CAAA Website)**

- 3 offices worked together to support teachers through the COVID pandemic time: the Academic, Turnaround and Performance offices
- The message is to *advance equity through learner-led framework*
- COVID 19 guidelines for the Arts – began to be developed in May and were posted on the website June 1;
  - Continued with Music leaders in July to develop further guidance for educators;
  - Worked through Dept. of Public Health, and others who provided input and reviewed guidelines;
  - Aug. 14, Addendum 7: COVID-19 specific to music for reopening published
- Contact Melissa with any questions
- Certifications and actions alerts -- actions include 180 day requirement flexibility – emergency educator certification, There are emergency ed. cert. endorsements for 20-21, emergency pathways to temporary special ed. authorizations for para-educators; application for temp., emergency authorizations;
  - The Student Teacher assessment, “edTPA” cut the Score waiver at this time
- The Webinar series which was begun last year, was interrupted due to COVID, but will be continued.
- Student success plan – putting together a group to develop this resource – contact Kyllie Freeman
- The CT Learning Hub – Accelerating learning, advancing equity; this page has been added to CtSDE site to develop new partnerships state wide; this is a resource for educators and students; if you have teachers' PD or Admin PD resources to share, contact Irene or Melissa;