



APPROVED 08/17/15

Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. (ARCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

Monday, July 13, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

Held via teleconference

I. Call to Order

Ms. Woodward called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. The meeting was open to the public.

Ms. Woodward conducted a Roll Call. All present in person and via phone introduced themselves.

Board Members Present: Dennis Beck, Virginia Walden Ford and Carla Hartwell;

Guests: Bryce Adams, Lyn McCullen, Pat Laystrom, Bob Pouliot, Kyle Bell and Heather Woodward; Connections staff (via phone).

II. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Woodward asked the Board to review the Agenda distributed prior to the meeting. There being no discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the July 13, 2015 Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. Board Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

III. Oral Reports

a. Update on Charter Application

Mr. Adams provided the Board with an update on the charter application, and reminded the Board of the application due date of July 27th. He reminded the Board of their prior approval for Mr. Beck to work with Connections to finalize and submit the application within the applicable timeline. The Board discussed the application review timeline from July through September and the Board interviews that will occur October 13-15th. Mr. Beck encouraged the Board members and all interested parties to attend the upcoming Public Hearings.

Mr. Adams reviewed the changes in the political climate in Arkansas and the prior opponents to ARCA who the Board can anticipate not speaking out in opposing this application period. The Board discussed additional support for the school's charter application.

b. Outreach Efforts

Mr. Adams reviewed the current outreach efforts being completed on behalf of Arkansas Connections Academy and those activities planned for the next few months. He reminded the Board of the 4,200 families who have thus far shown interest in the school. Mr. Adams discussed the social media, a letter to the editor, and other outreach efforts currently underway. Ms. Walden Ford

c. Partnership with Connections

i. Facility Planning

The Board asked Mr. Bell to review the Facility Planning team's responsibilities. He reviewed the process for identifying a facility, the letters of intent filed, obtaining a use agreement, lease negotiation process and the support provided to the Board and school during this process. The Board commented on their openness to various locations and Mr. Adams reviewed the assurances provided in the charter application being primarily located in Bentonville, Arkansas.

ii. Operational Planning

The Board invited Mr. Pouliot to review the Operational Planning team's responsibilities. He reviewed the ongoing planning for curriculum and instruction, risk reviews, sourcing materials – curriculum and technology, insurance procurement, facility planning and other duties.

IV. Action Items

a. Approval of Minutes from the June 16, 2015 Board Meeting

Board members considered the Minutes from the June 16, 2015 Board Meeting. Ms. Woodward asked Board members if they had any changes. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Minutes from the June 16, 2015 Board Meeting, as presented, are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date – August 17, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Woodward noted that the Board was at the end of its agenda and that the next meeting was scheduled to be held August 17, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. At 9:47 a.m. the Board made and seconded the following motion:

RESOLVED, that the adjournment of the Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. July 13, 2015 Board meeting, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.