



APPROVED 02/15/16
Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. (ARCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Held via teleconference

I. Call to Order

Mr. Beck called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The meeting was open to the public. Mr. Beck conducted a Roll Call.

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

Guests: Bryce Adams, Melissa Nelson, Lyn McCullen, Jay W. Ragley, Pat Laystrom, Laura Coleman and Heather Woodward; Connections staff (via phone).

II. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Beck asked the Board to review the Agenda distributed prior to the meeting. There being no changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the January 19, 2016 Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. Board Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of Minutes from the December 16, 2015 Board Meeting

Board members considered the Minutes from the December 16, 2015 Board Meeting. Mr. Beck asked Board members if they had any recommended changes. There being no changes, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

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

The motion passed unanimously.

III. Oral Reports

a. Introduction of Board Counsel Candidate, Jennifer Flinn

Mr. Beck noted that he has reached out to Attorney Jennifer Flinn regarding the school and ARCA Board. He advised the Board that Ms. Flinn will be reaching out to each Board member for introductions.

b. Update on Charter Application and Recent Interview

Mr. Adams reminded the Board of the school's recent charter approval, and reviewed the timeline and process for finalizing the charter agreement. He further discussed planning for the coming months.

c. Update on RFP and Sole Source

Mr. Beck and Ms. Laystrom updated the Board on the timeline for the Request For Proposals (RFP) and Sole Source documentation, if warranted, with Ms. Jennifer Flinn. Mr. Adams advised that Ms. Flinn plans on contacting Board members in the near future.

d. Update on Principal Recruitment

Ms. Nelson provided the Board with an update on the Principal Recruitment efforts. Ms. Nelson further outlined the process and timeline for candidate interviews. The Board discussed the Principal candidate interview process in detail.

IV. Action Items

a. Approval of Board President to Engage Board Counsel

Mr. Beck presented this item to the Board. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Board President to engage Board Counsel, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of Board Designee to Finalize a Charter Contract with Arkansas Department of Education

Mr. Adams presented this item to the Board, reviewing the process and anticipated timeline for finalizing the charter contract with the Arkansas Department of Education. Board members present had discussion on who would best serve the Board and school in this role. Ms. Walden Ford volunteered as Board Designee. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that Virginia Walden Ford as the Board Designee to finalize a Charter Contract with Arkansas Department of Education, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of Board Designee to Work with Board Counsel to Finalize and Execute a Statement of Agreement with Connections Academy of Arkansas, LLC

Mr. Beck presented this item to the Board, reviewing the need for a Board Designee to work with Board Counsel to finalize and execute a Statement of Agreement with Connections Academy of Arkansas, LLC for services to the school and Board. Board members present had discussion on who would best serve the Board and school in this role. Ms. Walden Ford volunteered as Board Designee. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that Virginia Walden Ford as the Board Designee to work with Board Counsel to finalize and execute a Statement of Agreement with Connections Academy of Arkansas, LLC, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

d. Approval of Board Designee to Work with Connections on the Student Handbooks

Ms. Nelson reviewed the need for a Board Designee to work with Connections to review and finalize the Student Handbooks. Board members present had discussion on who would best serve the Board and school in this role, and Ms. Hartwell volunteered as Board Designee. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that Carla Hartwell as the Board Designee to work with Connections on the Student Handbooks, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

e. Approval of Board Designee to Work with Connections on the Employee Handbook

Ms. Nelson reviewed the need for a Board Designee to work with Connections to review and finalize the Employee Handbook. Board members present had discussion on who would best serve the Board and school in this role, and Ms. Hartwell volunteered as Board Designee. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that Carla Hartwell as the Board Designee to work with Connections on the Employee Handbook, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting Date – February 15, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Beck requested Board members consider potential Board members to bring forward for consideration at the next Board meeting. Mr. Beck noted that the Board was at the end of its agenda and that the next meeting was scheduled to be held February 15, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. At 9:31 a.m. the Board made and seconded the following motion:

RESOLVED, that the adjournment of the Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. January 19, 2016 Board meeting, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.