



APPROVED 01/22/2018

**Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. (ARCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Monday, December 18, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.**

Held at the following location and via teleconference:

Arkansas Connections Academy
1009 Beau Terre Drive, Building O
Bentonville, AR 72712

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

At Mr. Beck's request, Ms. Walden Ford called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. when all participants were able to hear each other. The school was open to the public to attend the meeting. Ms. Walden Ford conducted a Roll Call.

Board Members Present: Dennis Beck, Carla Hartwell, and Virginia Walden Ford (via phone);

Guests: Darla Gardner, School Leader (in person); Bryce Adams, Mindy Whisman, Jennifer Dukek, and Kristin DeGross, Pearson Online & Blended Learning (POBL) staff (via phone).

II. Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

III. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Walden Ford asked the Board Members whether there were any changes necessary to the Agenda that has been posted in accordance with Arkansas open meeting law. There being no changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the December 18, 2017 Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. Board Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Oral Reports

a. School Leader Report

Ms. Gardner reviewed with the Board the Monthly School Report, as included in the Board package in detail.

i. Update on Student Activities

Ms. Gardner updated the Board on student activities at the school, including an ongoing holiday toy and gift drive to benefit the Northwest Arkansas Children's Shelter.

b. Financial Report

Ms. Whisman reviewed the financial report included in the Board Meeting materials. She highlighted key aspects in the school's revenue and expense reports, as well as the current forecast.

Ms. Walden Ford requested for Mr. Beck to resume chairing the remainder of the meeting.

V. Consent Items

Mr. Beck asked the Board members whether there were any items from the Consent Items that they wished to have moved to Action Items for discussion. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the November 13, 2017 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report; and
- c. Approval of Connections Education Invoice(s) for November; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Action Items

No Action Items were necessary for discussion at this time.

VII. Information Items

a. State Relations Update

Mr. Adams provided the Board with an update on recent legislative activities which may impact the school.

b. Partner School Leadership Team (PSLT) Update

Ms. Dukek presented to the Board on behalf of POBL's School Leadership Team. She reminded Board members to complete the survey for Ms. Gardner's mid-year review, and provided an update on the upcoming 2018 Winter Leadership retreat.

c. Board Recruitment Update

Mr. Beck provided the Board with an update regarding ongoing Board member recruitment.

VIII. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting Date – January 22, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Walden Ford noted that the Board was at the end of its agenda and that the next meeting was scheduled to be held January 22, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. At 9:27 a.m. the Board made and seconded the following motion:

RESOLVED, that the adjournment of the Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. December 18, 2017 Board meeting, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.