



APPROVED 03/19/2018

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

Monday, February 26, 2018 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

In Mr. Beck's absence, Ms. Walden Ford called the meeting to order at 9:03 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: Carla Hartwell, and Virginia Walden Ford (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Dennis Beck;

Guests: Darla Gardner, School Leader (in person); Bryce Adams, Tina Blair, Jennifer Dukek, and Kristin DeGroff, 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 February 26, 2018 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 State Testing

Ms. Gardner provided the Board with an update on state testing, including the timeline for upcoming exams, and recent communications to families at the school.

ii. Winter Leadership Retreat

Ms. Gardner reported to the Board on the Winter Leadership Retreat that she recently attended, including professional development initiatives and networking opportunities. She also highlighted the mentoring opportunities available with veteran virtual school leaders, as well as the Starboy awards presented to the school for staff engagement and excellence at the school.

b. Financial Report

Ms. Blair 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.

V. Consent Items

Ms. Walden Ford 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 January 22, 2018 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Connections Education Invoice(s) for January;
- d. Approval of Revised Lottery Policy; and
- e. Approval of School Calendar for the 2018-2019 School Year; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Action Items

There were no action items.

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

i. Staff Retention Update

Ms. Dukek presented this item, and advised the Board on the school's retention of staff members since the school's opening. She further reviewed the ongoing collection of the Parent Satisfaction Survey results, and noted that survey data would be discussed at a future meeting.

c. Curriculum and Outreach Additional Planning Tools for 2018-2019 School Year

Ms. DeGroff reminded the Board of the additional information recently sent on the Outreach plans for the upcoming school year via email. She further reminded the Board of the timing of the upcoming Curriculum Town Hall presentation as part of the annual review process. She advised the Board that additional information on the presentation would be sent via email.

d. Board Recruitment Update

Ms. Walden Ford provided the Board with an update regarding ongoing Board member recruitment.

VIII. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting Date – March 19, 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 March 19, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. At 9:37 a.m. the Board made and seconded the following motion:

RESOLVED, that the adjournment of the Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. February 26, 2018 Board meeting, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.