



APPROVED 08/20/2019

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

Tuesday, July 16, 2019 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 9:05 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: Virginia Walden Ford, Carla Hartwell and Hailey Maloney (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Dennis Beck;

Guests: Darla Gardner, School Leader (in person); Bryce Adams, Allison Solesby, Mindy Whisman, Hussa Blake, Kristie Clements, 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 July 16, 2019 Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. Regular Board Meeting, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Oral Reports

a. School Leader Report

Ms. Gardner provided a brief report on staff member attendance at recent conferences and retreats. She congratulated the school on a recent StarBoy Award received at POBL's Summer Leadership Retreat, and advised that the award was granted for the school's high Parent Satisfaction Survey results.

i. Parent Satisfaction Survey

Ms. Gardner presented this item to the Board. She noted that a third party independent vendor conducted the survey. A copy of the results of the survey was sent to the school Board's President directly from the third party vendor. The Board reviewed the results in detail, a copy of which was included in the Board materials. Board members had discussion on the results and the data included.

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 June 6, 2019 Annual Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Connections Education Invoices for May and June;
- d. Approval of Summer School Invoice;
- e. Approval of School Improvement Plan for the 2019-2020 School Year; and
- f. Approval of Revision(s) to 2019-2020 School Year State Specific School Handbook: Graduation Requirements; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Action Items

There were no action items.

VII. Information Items

a. Legislative Update

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

b. Bank Account Update

Mr. Adams provided the Board with an update on this item. He discussed a recent wire transfer error, and that the school and POBL were working closely with the school's financial institution to correct it. Mr. Adams further noted that fiscal control policy updates were already in progress, and noted that the banking error would be a footnote disclosure on the school's annual financial audit.

Ms. Gardner provided a brief update on the school's recent accreditation visit. She advised that the school is now fully accredited through AdvancEd, and that the school had the highest accreditation score for new Connections Academy partnering schools. The Board congratulated Ms. Gardner on the school's accomplishment.

c. Partner School Leadership Team (PSLT) Update

Ms. Solesby presented to the Board on behalf of POBL's Partner School Leadership Team.

i. Support Team Update

Ms. Solesby introduced Ms. Clements as the school's PSLT representative for the upcoming school year. Ms. Clements provided a brief overview of her credentials and accomplishments with the Board.

d. Board Recruitment Update

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

VIII. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting Date – August 20, 2019 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 on August 20, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. At 9:35 a.m. the Board made and seconded the following motion:

RESOLVED, that the adjournment of the Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. July 16, 2019 Board meeting, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.