



APPROVED 10/15/2019

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

Tuesday, September 17, 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

Mr. Beck 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. Mr. Beck conducted a Roll Call.

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

Guests: Darla Gardner, School Leader; Ashley Seal Peterson, School staff (in person); David Hartman, Board candidate; Bryce Adams, 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

Mr. Beck asked the Board Members whether there were any changes necessary to the Agenda that has been posted in accordance with Arkansas open meeting law. The Board tabled Consent Item (f) Approval of Revision(s) to 2019-2020 School Year State Specific School Handbook: General Revisions, as the document was not available for review. There being no further changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the September 17, 2019 Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. Regular Board Meeting, as amended, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Oral Reports

a. School Leader Report

i. Enrollment and Staffing Update

Ms. Gardner reviewed the school's Monthly School Report with the Board. She further provided the Board with an update on staff composition.

ii. Back to School Activities Update

Ms. Gardner reviewed back to school activities, including picnics, field trips, and a recent Back to School Bash. She further advised of upcoming field trips and activities scheduled to take place throughout the school year.

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.

i. Update on APSCN Budget

Ms. Whisman reviewed APSCN, the state required system for submission of the school's budget. She advised that the budget for the 2019-2020 school year, as approved at a previous meeting, had been compiled into the APSCN format for Board review and consideration later in 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 August 20, 2019 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval on Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Pearson Online & Blended Learning Invoice(s) for July and August;
- d. Approval of 2019- 2020 Base Salaries and Incentive Percentage and Career Ladder Positions;
- e. Approval of State Template APSCN Budget for the 2019-2020 School Year; and
- g. Approval of Pearson Online & Blended Learning Fee Allocation for State Reporting, 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. Partner School Leadership Team (PSLT) Update

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

i. Teacher Professional Development Products and Services for the 2019-2020 School Year

Ms. Clements reviewed the professional development products and services for school staff, as offered by POBL for the 2019-2020 school year. She discussed the various levels and delivery models of professional learning opportunities available to staff members and advised of the new and improved curated catalog of content to allow for a more personalized professional development experience. Ms. Clements also highlighted the additional training and development opportunities offered by school leadership.

VIII. Consideration of Board Member Candidate, David Hartman

Mr. Beck noted the background information on the Board member candidate, David Hartman, included in the Board package. Mr. Beck provided the Board with some brief background information on the candidate and his interest in the Board.

[Ms. Whisman left the meeting at 9:29 a.m.]

Mr. Hartman introduced himself, and reviewed his qualifications with the Board. Board members discussed the candidate, and expressed their support of his appointment. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that David Hartman as a Board Member of Arkansas Connections Academy, with a term ending at the Annual Meeting 2020, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Walden Ford provided a brief update on the upcoming release of a motion picture based on her life-story, and advised that due to her travel schedule for the film, would be unable to join the October meeting. She invited Board members to view the film during the upcoming premiere in Bartlesville, Arkansas. Board members congratulated Ms. Walden Ford on her accomplishments.

IX. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting Date – October 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Beck noted that the Board was at the end of its agenda and that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on October 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. At 9:39 a.m. the Board made and seconded the following motion:

RESOLVED, that the adjournment of the Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. September 17, 2019 Board meeting, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.