



APPROVED 11/19/2019

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

Tuesday, October 15, 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

Dr. 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. Dr. Beck conducted a Roll Call.

Board Members Present: Dennis Beck, Hailey Maloney, and David Hartman (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Virginia Walden Ford and Carla Hartwell;

Guests: Craig Smith, School Staff (in person); Darla Gardner, School Leader, Bryce Adams, Tina Blair, Kristie Clements, Hussa Blake 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

Dr. 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. There being no changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the October 15, 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 presented the MSR to the Board, and reviewed decreases within the school's withdrawal rate.

i. Annual Report

Ms. Gardner presented the Annual Report to the Board. She reviewed the school's accreditation status, and noted that the school was accredited through AdvancEd with no deficiencies. She further reviewed the school's enrollment and progress towards goal completion.

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

Dr. 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 September 17, 2019 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval on Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Pearson Online & Blended Learning Invoice(s) for September; and
- d. Approval of Revision(s) to 2019-2020 School Year State Specific School Handbook: Sunscreen Use; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Action Items

a. Approval of School Focus Goals for 2019- 2020 School Year

Ms. Gardner reviewed the school focus goals for the 2019-2020 school year included in the Board package with the Board. She advised that the staff worked closely with school leadership and POBL on establishing the school goals. She further advised the Board that the school goals represent the major driver for the staff incentive plan. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the school focus goals for the 2019-2020 school year, as presented, are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Information Items

a. Legislative Update

Mr. Adams provided the Board with an update on recent legislative activities which may impact the school. He further informed the Board that the Arkansas Charter Authorizing Panel approved ARCA's waiver request to hold Executive Session telephonically, and advised of next steps with the State Board of Education.

b. Partner School Leadership Team (PSLT) Update

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

i. School Operations Metrics

Ms. Clements presented this item to the Board. She reviewed the data included in the Board materials, highlighting the school's performance as compared with other POBL partnering schools of similar size and years in operation.

c. Facilities Update

Ms. Gardner informed the Board that the facilities contract is currently in the renewal process. Ms. DeGroff advised that she will send renewal documentation to the Board Treasurer for execution.

In addition, Ms. DeGroff reminded new Board member, Mr. Hartman, of recently distributed onboarding documentation, to be completed for compliance purposes.

VIII. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting Date – November 19, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Dr. Beck noted that the Board was at the end of its agenda and that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on November 19, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. At 9:30 a.m. the Board made and seconded the following motion:

RESOLVED, that the adjournment of the Arkansas Connections Academy, Inc. October 15, 2019 Board meeting, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.