

OFFICIAL MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING OF THE  
ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

The Board of Trustees for the Arkansas School for the Deaf met for their monthly meeting on April 17, 2018.

**Present:** Faith McLaughlin, Chairperson; Susan Pack, Vice Chairperson; Everett Elam, Secretary; Dr. John McAllister, Board Member; , ASB Parent Representative; Harry Pompeo, ASD Parent Representative; James Caton, ASBVI Superintendent; Dr. Janet Dickinson, ASD Superintendent; Beth Smith and Will Gorum, Interpreters; Members of the Deaf Community; Members of the Blind Community, Hillcrest residents

**18-D-004 Motion to Approve Consent Items**

Ms. McLaughlin asked for a motion to approve the consent items to include the minutes, financial statement and personnel items. Ms. Pack made a motion to approve the consent items and Mr. Elam seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Action Items**

None

**Discussion Items**

**Control Self-Assessment**

**Let the minutes reflect that the board reviewed and accepted the Control Self-Assessment for the Arkansas School for the Deaf.**

**Superintendent Report**

Dr. Dickinson said they were excited about the upcoming carnival. She said every Thursday from now until the end of the year they have a special event. She said this Thursday was the retiree's brunch. The following Thursday is the carnival and in 3 weeks is prom, then the sports banquet and then graduation on May 17<sup>th</sup>. May 8<sup>th</sup> is the Community Town Hall meeting and will be sharing information about new campus plans. She said they would also be introducing some of the seniors. The seniors will present and talk about their future plans.

Dr. Dickinson said Dr. Brooks Gibson-Wolfe is being honored as the Jass and Juleps Honoree. The event supports the UALR Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology. She was also interviewed by Soiree Magazine.

She introduced Mr. and Miss Deaf Teen America, Ethan Pompeo and Shannon Varner. Shannon said for her meeting new people had been the best. She said she was proud of the accomplishment and proud to represent ASD. Ethan said he would say the same – meeting new people. He said the competition helped grow his self-esteem. He said he enjoyed the presentation they did about bullying trying to show that it is wrong. Dr. Dickinson said these two are leaders in many ways in the school. She thanked them for coming to the board meeting.

Ms. Pack said she would like to thank the team that sponsored the contest because they did the live stream. She said she sat at home and watched all of it.

Dr. Dickinson said they would be going to the CEASD Conference. She said last year they were so excited to receive an award for a diversity grant. They received money for art. This year they will show their video of the art projects. The video was shown to the board.

Ms. McLaughlin said the board would now go into Executive Session to complete Superintendent Evaluations. (4:40 – 6:10). Ms. McLaughlin said evaluations for both superintendents have been completed.

Ms. McLaughlin said there was no further business for the Arkansas School for the Deaf and adjourned the meeting at 6:25.

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Faith McLaughlin, Chair

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Everett Elam, Secretary

OFFICIAL MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING OF THE  
ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The Board of Trustees for the Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired met for their monthly meeting on April 17, 2018.

**Present:** Faith McLaughlin, Chairperson; Susan Pack, Vice Chairperson; Everett Elam, Secretary; Dr. John McAllister, Board Member; , ASBVI Parent Representative; Harry Pompeo, ASD Parent Representative; James Caton, ASBVI Superintendent; Dr. Janet Dickinson, ASD Superintendent; Beth Smith and Will Gorum, Interpreters; Members of the Deaf Community; Members of the Blind Community;

**18-B-004 Motion to Approve Consent Items**

Ms. McLaughlin asked for a motion to approve the consent items to include the minutes, financial statement and personnel items. Ms. Pack made a motion to approve the consent items and Mr. Elam seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Action Items**

None

**Discussion Items**

Mr. Caton said he wanted to make the board aware that the vacant teacher positions have been posted and are receiving applicants. Ms. McLaughlin asked if there has been any move toward getting a business manager. Mr. Caton said he was very close.

**Control Self-Assessment**

Mr. Caton said this was an every other year report assessment that has to be completed for DFA Internal Audit. He said feedback from all department heads was used to identify and access risks that he felt would hinder the school from achieving their objectives as an agency as well as the school. After risks were identified by the departments they would identify control activities that could be put in place to prevent, detect and mitigate the impact of the particular identified risks. He said they also took this opportunity to not only look at any new risks identified but also looked at the already identified risks. The Control Assessment has been in place with the state for many years so there were a lot of things already in place and identified in terms of the internal controls for all the different areas of the agency/school. He said they reviewed to see if those controls were still appropriate or if something different needed to be done.

Mr. Caton said once all those decisions were made the changes were made and the plan was submitted. The underlying focus of preparing the plan for DFA is not only are there methods and measures to safeguard assets but it also checks the accuracy and reliability of the accounting data to make sure the mission is being accomplished. He said he would share any feedback he received from the report.

**Let the minutes reflect the board reviewed and accepted the Control Self-Assessment for the Arkansas School for the Blind.**

### **Superintendent Report**

Mr. Caton said other than what was in his report he sent everyone is busy counting down to the end of the school year. He said he told his staff today in their meeting that it was only 4 weeks till graduation.

He said this week has been focused on ACT Aspire testing for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grades. He said he is hoping the students do well on the test this time.

He said everyone busy trying to meet the deadline for completing all the performance evaluations and getting them submitted by the deadline. Along with evaluations, both schools have their School Improvement Plans that will be due the first of May. When the plan is approved it will be posted on the website and will be shared with the board.

There is a lot going on trying to get ready for the end of the school year and IEP season.

He said the big yellow bus has been turned in to M&R this past month and are waiting on the new 15-passenger vans to come in. He said the school is hoping to get some money back on the bus turned in.

There was an event one of the parents put on at UALR and money raised was donated to ASB's PTA (\$3,000+).

Campus Improvement projects – roofing is basically completed. The main projects now are the Infirmary renovation and renovation of Shults (Dorm) bathrooms and installation of the fire sprinkler system.

There being no further business for Arkansas School for the Blind, the agenda moved to the Arkansas School for the Deaf.

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Faith McLaughlin, Chair

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Everett Elam, Secretary

OFFICIAL MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING OF THE  
ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF  
ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The Board of Trustees for the Arkansas School for the Deaf and the Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired met for their monthly meeting on April 17, 2018.

**Present:** Faith McLaughlin, Chairperson; Susan Pack, Vice-Chairperson; Everett Elam, Secretary; Dr. John McAllister, Board Member; James Caton, ASBVI Superintendent; Dr. Janet Dickinson, ASD Superintendent; , ASB Parent Representative; Harry Pompeo, ASD Parent Representative; Beth Smith and Will Gorum, Interpreters; Members of the Deaf Community; Members of the Blind Community, Hillcrest residents

Ms. McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. The next meeting was scheduled for May 15, 2018.

**18-J-006 Motion to Approve Minutes**

Ms. McLaughlin asked for a motion to approve the minutes from March meeting. Mr. Elam made a motion to approve the March minutes and Dr. McAllister seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Action Items**

**18-J-007 Motion to Approve 2018-2019 Calendar for ASBVI & ASD**

Ms. McLaughlin asked for a motion to approve the 2018 -2019 calendar for both schools. Ms. Pack made a motion to approve the ASBVI/ASD 2018-2019 calendar and Dr. McAllister seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

It was decided to wait until the end of the meeting to complete the Superintendent evaluations.

**Discussion Items**

**ASB Parent Representative – Vacant**

Ms. Doan reported for ASBVI. She said the Middle School celebrated Pi Day on March 14<sup>th</sup> by having pizza and apple pie after the students explored the circumference of a circle. They did this by blowing bubble onto a large piece of white paper then used their skills they had been taught to figure out the circumference. They also had a Pi poem and a trivia quiz. The winner was allowed to smash a pie in Ms. Doan's face.

ASB's talent show was on March 15<sup>th</sup> and was fantastic. There were musicians, dancers, singers, beat-boxers and a comedian.

Last month some of the EAST program students were selected to attend the EAST Conference in Hot Springs. One student received the "Make A Difference" coin and the group as a whole also received the "Make A Difference" coin.

One of our high school students has been selected to attend the 2018 Arkansas Governor's School. He was selected from a candidate pool of students from 58 Arkansas counties.

Students participated in Special Olympics and returned with medals/ribbons ranging from 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> place.

Three of ASB's wrestlers competed in the National Wrestling Tournament in Missouri. One wrestler came in third and the other two came in 5<sup>th</sup> place in their weight categories.

GT students are still attending sessions at the Arkansas Innovation Hub. Last week students made their own rockets and launch them.

Some of ASB's students also attended the FBLA District V Conference.

There are a lot of activities planned for May and ASB would like to welcome the board to attend as many as possible. The Spring Concert is May 10<sup>th</sup>, May 17<sup>th</sup> is the Athletic Banquet, Senior Graduation will be May 18<sup>th</sup>, and the Pre K/Kindergarten graduation is May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Ms. McLaughlin asked Ms. Doan if there were any good candidates for the parent rep. Ms. Doan said there was one but he called to say his attorney thought it would be a conflict of interest. She said she does have another candidate.

### **ASD Parent Representative – Harry Pompeo**

Mr. Pompeo reported that the VIP Parent meeting was held last week. Plans for next year were discussed and what improvements they would like to see. Parents will meet again in July to make the final decisions for the next school year.

ASD held an art show March 12 – 16. ASD received a grant from CEASD last year to provide art supplies. The students came up with their own project. A design by ASD Art teacher, Kimberli Alston, has been selected for this year's Drain Smart award. Her drain will be at the exit way of the Boys and Girls Club in Little Rock.

ASD has an outstanding culinary arts program. The first phase focuses on catering for staff. Phase two focuses on serving lunch in the cafe one day a week. This provides practice and experience for the students in the art of hosting and waiting tables.

Special Olympics were March 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. ASD's team went to Russellville which is area 10. The students performed very well and great ambassadors for the school.

The first high school talent show was held March 30<sup>th</sup> in Parnell Hall. Performances included songs, ASL stories and other talents.

ASD took a group to California to participate in a Track & Field tournament at the Freemont School. There were 21 school represented. While in California they also toured San Francisco.

ASD will hold the seventh annual carnival on April 26<sup>th</sup>. He encouraged everyone to come enjoy the carnival.

There being no further business of Joint nature, the agenda moved to the Arkansas School for the Blind.

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Faith McLaughlin, Chair

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Everett Elam, Secretary