

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 Blind and Visually Impaired and the Arkansas School for the Deaf met for their monthly meeting on December 13, 2016.

Present: Mary Weeks, Chairperson; Dr. Doug Watson, Vice Chairperson; Susan Pack, Board Member; Everett Elam, Board Member; 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

Ms. Weeks called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. The next meeting was scheduled for January 17th but after some discussion the meeting date was set for January 10, 2017. Ms. Bonifas reminded the members that the financials would not be available to send out before the meeting on the 10th.

Ms. Weeks stated that Dr. Dickinson would be going first (after the Joint meeting) because she has a meeting at 5:00.

16-J-017 Motion to Approve Minutes

Ms. Weeks asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November meeting. Ms. Pack made a motion to approve the November minutes and Dr. Watson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Items
None

Discussion Items

Chris Vanlandingham – Wells Fargo Advisor

Ms. Weeks said she had asked Mr. Vanlandingham to give the board an update on the investments for ASB. She stated Wells Fargo does the investments for the School for the Blind. She introduced Mr. Vanlandingham.

The Nutrition Department passed the recent ADE Child Nutrition Review with flying colors.

ASB grades 3 – 10 participated in Interim Assessments offered through Pearson and ADE. The testing was offered in all accessible formats that included the use of refreshable Braille devices and screen readers. Student feedback was good.

The wrestling team attended the Central Classic Wrestling Tournament December 3 – 4. The team represented the school well and is ready to attend the annual Maumelle Hornet Swarm Tournament this weekend. Pee-Wee wrestling started this week and we have a large group of wrestlers in grades 1 – 6.

Grades 1 – 8 participated in the annual spelling bee. ASB will be sending two fourth graders to the county-wide spelling bee.

ASB received a special donation from NASA of a tactile book that focuses on the solar eclipse. Students participated in this special presentation and read and explored the tactile graphics. The school will be featured on the local news in the very near future.

Cookies with Santa was held on December 10th and was the biggest turnout so far. All children received books in the appropriate medium and Santa was there for pictures.

The Fine Arts department is working very hard preparing for the Christmas Concert which will be on December 21st at 6:30 preceded by dinner at 5:00. Santa is visiting the elementary students on December 20th.

ASD Parent Rep – Harry Pompeo

Mr. Pompeo started with Principal Ray Boland's report. November 15, 2016, 8th grade students performed the "Star Spangled Banner" at See a Song hosted by UALR. November 10-12 ASD attended the GPSD Triathlon in MO. On November 18th guest speaker, Jeremy Simons, from Kenya, Africa spoke to students about sign and cultural differences. Mr. Simons is a graduate of ASD. On November 30th Gallaudet University came to speak to students about their school. ASD students will take the ACT December 13-15. Career assessments for 9th graders will be December 7, 2016. Active Shooter training for all staff was held on December 9th. The Christmas Program is December 21st at 1:30. Christmas lunch is December 21st from 10:45 – 1:30 and parents are invited to eat with their children. Scott Davis Magic Show for Lower School students will be held on December 7th from 9:30 – 11:00 am. Next semester there will be four student teachers from RIT (Rochester Institute of Technology).

Athletic Director Ernest Northrup's report is next. The Jr. Varsity girls played 2 games and lost 2 games. The Jr. Varsity boys played four and lost four. Varsity girls played 6 games, won 4 and lost 2. Varsity boys played 8 games, won 1 and lost 7. This past weekend the Varsity girls and boys went to Austin, Texas for the Ranger Classic. ASD girls received 2nd Place. The ASD cheerleading squad won 2nd Place also. Two boys received All-Tournament trophies. Three girls won All-Star Tournament team. Two cheerleaders won All-Tournament. ASD boys won 1st place in the free throw tournament. The Special Olympic team has been busy with the Area 5 bowling practice and competition. Some of the students received awards. Upcoming events are Area 5 Hockey Competition in January at ASD; winter games in Springdale February 2-4; State Basketball Tournament is March 10-11; track will start in April.

Dorm Report from Kevin Kenreich and Rita Jordan: Chenal Valley Church came and hosted a Christmas Party for the lower school students. They prepared dinner and gave out gifts to each student. Santa Claus was also present. Mr. Pompeo passed around pictures of the party.

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



Mary Weeks, Chair



Faith McLaughlin, Secretary

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 December 13, 2016.

Present: Mary Weeks, Chairperson; Dr. Doug Watson, Vice Chairperson; Susan Pack, Board Member; Everett Elam, Board Member; Jeanne Tribett, 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

16-D-024 Motion to Approve Consent Items

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

Action Items

None

Discussion Items

None

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Dickinson asked Stacey to explain where ASD is with the Cinnamon Roll patrol. Stacey said they were very busy all over Arkansas handing out cinnamon rolls to their partners and supporters.

Dr. Dickinson stated they had an Active Shooter training that was really good training to improve school safety. They worked out a few initiatives. There has been frustration in the deaf community that when they go to take a drivers lesson test that the interpreter is not allowed to go in with them. She met with Colonel Bryant and others at the State Police Department. It was a good meeting and she left feeling a lot of collaboration and they were willing to change to allow the interpreter to go in.

Dr. Dickinson has been meeting with Commissioner McClain and his team at Arkansas Rehab. She was able to submit an application to become a VR vendor. ASD has a vocational rehab counselor 3 days a week and continue to develop partnerships with VR.

Students went to Texas this past weekend as well as high school teachers so they could mentor and shadow Texas School for the Deaf teachers. It was a good experience for them to see another school and deaf education program.

There are two new roofs coming up. Ty and his team have been working very hard on that project. Using part of the 1.5 million dollars to stop the leaking problems the school has had.

ASD has a new handicapped accessible van and it is parked outside if anyone would like to take a look at it. It is a very nice van that we were able to purchase

Last year ASD went to Gallaudet in Washington D.C. to try to recruit deaf professionals to come to ASD and again in the fall they went to Rochester, New York to RIT. Their work is starting to pay off as they have 4 student teachers coming from RIT in the spring.

Dr. Dickinson invited the board members to the Holiday Party at Cajun's Wharf from 1:30 – 3:30. The Christmas luncheon and program will be December 21st.

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


Mary Weeks, Chair


Faith McLaughlin, 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 December 13, 2016.

Present: Mary Weeks, Chairperson; Dr. Doug Watson, Vice Chairperson; Susan Pack, Board Member; Everett Elam, Board Member; Jeanne Tribett, ASBVI Parent Representative; Harry Pompeo, ASD Parent Representative; James Caton, ASBVI Superintendent; Janet Dickinson, ASD Superintendent; Beth Smith and Will Gorum, Interpreters; Members of the Deaf Community; Members of the Blind Community

16-B-022 Motion to Approve Consent Items

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

Action Items

None

Discussion Items

None

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Caton stated that ASB's Christmas luncheon and program are also on the 21st. He said he knew the board had a lot of places to be but wanted to invite them if they could drop by for even a part of it.

Jeanne mentioned about the donation from NASA. The book is very well done in terms of the quality of the tactile graphics. The kids were excited to skim through it. It is basically a book about the different phases of the solar eclipse. Dr. Constance Meadors with STEM Solutions at Pulaski Tech and Dr. Hudson, Chemistry Professor at UALR, were there to present the book to the school.

Mr. Caton attended a meeting today on the EAST Initiative program. Roberts Elementary is doing a special project using their 3-D printers to do portraits of ASB seniors. These students are 3rd graders and amaze you with their ideas. ASB is exploring what options might be available to the school through the East Initiative.

Both schools were invited to attend meetings at the Governor's office. The first meeting is the 20th on First Task Force. Mr. Caton is looking forward to promoting the career and vocational success of ASB students. The meeting on the 21st is to discuss any concerns or issues for the schools.

ASB is moving on with their roofing projects with a portion of the money given by the Governor. It will ensure that the school has stable roofs for many years to come on the buildings that need repair.

Mr. Caton wished the board a very Merry Christmas and a warm Holiday Season.

Dr. Watson asked about the East Seal Building demolition status. Mr. Caton asked Mindy to give an update on that project. Mindy said they were still working and talking with Atoka. Atoka said they were going to try to get their proposal by Friday but didn't do it. She is hoping they get it to her this week. She said she thinks there is a question about where the actual property line is. Ms. Coleman said she has maps that have the GPS coordinates on it and will get to Mindy.

Mr. Caton said they also got an update on the Entergy project and asked Mindy to share that information. Mindy said Entergy is going to be getting back with her in January.

Ms. Weeks stated the board would now go into Executive Session concerning a personnel matter. (4:45 pm – 5:00 pm) Ms. Weeks said if there was a hearing it would be Monday at 9:00 am. She said the board would have 3 days to vote and that they would meet Tuesday at 10:00 am. Everett will need a conference call if the board has to vote.

Mr. Elam said he attended the ASBA Conference on Wednesday and Thursday with Mr. Caton, Dr. Watson and Mr. Hill. He wanted to thank them for answering all his questions and he now understands more about what and why the board does what they do.

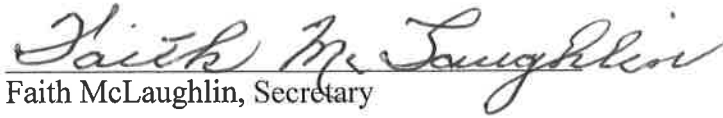
16-B-023 Motion to Adjourn

Ms. Weeks made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Elam seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Mary Weeks, Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Weeks". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Faith McLaughlin, Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Faith McLaughlin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.