

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 November 15, 2016.

Present: Mary Weeks, Chairperson; Dr. Doug Watson, Vice Chairperson; Faith McLaughlin, Secretary; 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 4:10 pm. She asked if the December meeting would be better on the 13th instead of the 20th. Dr. Dickinson said she thought the 13th would be better and Ms. Pack said she could not be at the meeting if it was the 20th.

16-J-015 Motion to Change December Meeting

Ms. Weeks made a motion to change the meeting from December 20th to December 13th. Ms. McLaughlin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

16-J-016 Motion to Approve Minutes

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

Action Items

None

Discussion Items

ASD Parent Representative – Harry Pompeo

Lower School: They went to Roseberry Farm for the Pumpkin Patch.

Middle School: 7th graders went to Central Arkansas Nature Center to study for their science class. Team Ready Middle School students are doing their Community Based Instruction Outings. They went to Fellowship North Church, Clinton Children's Library, Halloween Express, US Post Office, Hank's Furniture, LR Zoo, Crow Burlingame and Barnhill Orchards.

High School: Team Ready High School students with Kathy Carter are doing Double Pride catering for our ASD staff. You can order lunch through Double Pride and have it catered to the office/classrooms. They went to Mount Holley Cemetery, Briarwood Nursing Home, and Scotty Pumpkin Patch. The High School students went to Arkansas Career Technical Institute (ACTI) for their transition plan to see their options after they graduate. There will be two guest speakers this week, Allie Rice, Tennessee School for the Deaf regarding the Junior NAD membership; and Jeremy Simons, ASD Alumnus, will do presentation on his missionary work.

Athletic Department: Football and Volleyball season are over. The Basketball team started practicing last week. Their first game was November 14th and will continue until February, 2017. There are a total of 22 games including Homecoming, Senior Night, and ASD will host GPSD Basketball Tournament.

Special Olympics: They have been busy with the local 5 bowling practice and competition, State Flag Football, State Volleyball, and Unified Golf Tournament. Upcoming Events: State Bowling Competition December 6 & 7th; hosting the Area 5 Hockey Competition in January; Winter Games in Springdale February 2-4, 2017; Host the State Individual Skills Competition; host the State Individual Skills Competition; State Basketball Tournament March 10 – 11, 2017; Area 5 Athletics ; Summer Games May 25-27, 2017.

Kevin Kenreich and Rita Jordan, dorm supervisors, took students Trick or Treating in the Hillcrest area. The Boy Scouts went on a trip to Lake Ouachita last week.

ASB Parent Representative – Jeanne Tribett

The last few weeks at ASB have been jam packed. The annual fieldtrip to the Fair went well and the students had a great time. The Senior Class hosted a Haunted House as a fundraiser and was an incredible success. The students had Trick or Treat on Friday, October 28th. Student Council sponsored a Halloween Dance in the beautifully decorated Multi-Purpose Room. The Infirmary sponsored a Flu Shot Clinic in conjunction with the Department of Health. The entire faculty and student body celebrated Red Ribbon Week October 24 -28. The annual Homecoming events were the best yet. The weather was beautiful for the parade and we had a huge turnout in the Hillcrest neighborhood. The Chili Cook-Off was very successful with 18 entries. Jason Roe, parent, was crowned the champ. There were three other wrestling teams on campus for the Homecoming Tournament.

Academically, the district coordinator has arranged for ASB to participate in the ACT Aspire periodic/interim assessments. The first of three assessments will be given during the week of November 28th –December 1st.

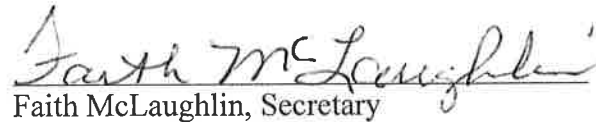
A group of secondary students went to the Rep and had an interactive learning experience with the cast and crew of the "Crucible".

Library Media Specialist Maranda Cole is working collaboratively with the Little Rock District's EAST program at Roberts Elementary School regarding accessible yearbooks. They are using 3-D printing to create busts of our Senior Class members. We continue to create and design items for 3-D printing in the media classes. Ms. Doan showed a few items that the students had made on the 3-D printer.

Classroom spelling bee contests have started in preparation of the school-wide spelling bee. The County spelling bee will be held in January.

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


Mary Weeks, Chair


Faith McLaughlin, Secretary

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Present: Mary Weeks, Chairperson; Dr. Doug Watson, Vice Chairperson; Faith McLaughlin, Secretary; 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-020 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. 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

None

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Caton said he had been to the Capitol as well for budget meetings. A senator asked about the mentoring program. There was an impression that ASB had stopped doing the teacher mentoring program for the new teachers. Mr. Caton clarified that ASB was still doing the mentoring program through the ADE. The way the mentors are paid has changed and is being funded through one of the Co-Op's because there was a conflict with ASB being a state agency. A question was asked about cash that Mindy answered and does not appear to be an issue. An invitation to meet with the Governor's office to discuss ASB's needs was also extended to ASB. Mr. Caton said there was \$32,000 in funding being cut from ASB in the Executive Recommendations and they have not budgeted on that. Ms. McLaughlin asked if it was overall or in a specific area. Mr. Caton said it was a position that is not being used but they use the funding from that position to go toward expenses for Extra Curricular payouts. It is a big chunk out of the budget and at this point appears it will be lost.

Mr. Caton said ASB had their Child Nutrition Review by the ADE and has gone very well. They are finished and everything was perfect with the Child Nutrition Program at the school. Barbara Cole does an outstanding job with that program.

Mr. Caton reminded the board members of the Annual ASBA Conference in December. Let Betty know if you plan to attend so arrangements can be made. If you do not have your six hours this is your opportunity to get those hours. A new board member needs more hours. The conference will be at the Marriott Hotel/State House Convention Center December 7 – 9. Dr. Watson said he would like the ASBA to provide interpreters for that meeting. They are legally accountable for that.

Mr. Caton presented Mary Weeks with an Outstanding Board Member pin. She has earned at least 25 hours of in-service credit from the School Board Association accepted training.

Mr. Caton stated they had sent out the RFQ's for the Easter Seal Building project this past week and received responses. Mindy said they received two responses and are currently working on selecting a firm. Mr. Caton said he was staying in communication with the Hillcrest neighborhood on the progress of the project.

Mr. Williams (5th Grade Teacher) spoke about the English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program. ASB is beginning to implement the ESOL program. ASB has a few students on campus that qualify for the program. The goal is for ASB to ensure that the ESOL program will support English learners with visual impairments and as a result, they will become successful in academic and social settings. Students will become successful through: 1) Meeting individual needs; 2) creating a collaborative learning environment with all stakeholders; 3) ensuring the ESOL standards compliment the goals outlined in the IEP; 4) providing social and academic opportunities for language acquisition.

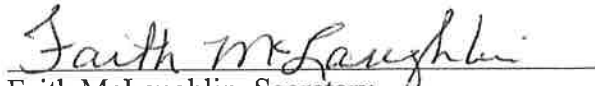
Ms. Doan stated part of our responsibilities to ADE through IndiStar is to submit an ESOL plan. Mr. Williams has ESOL certification and has taken on this program. Mr. Caton said this was groundbreaking work. Mr. Caton said that was all he had.

Ms. Weeks stated the board was going into Executive Session (4:50). Executive Session ended at 5:15. Ms. Weeks stated there was no decision made in the session.

16-B-021 Motion to Adjourn

Ms. McLaughlin made a motion to adjourn and Ms. Pack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:25.


Mary Weeks, Chair


Faith McLaughlin, Secretary

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16-D-023 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. Ms. McLaughlin 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 said they are very excited about their new emergency notification system up and running. All classrooms, hallways and common areas will all have a large TV and from her office she can make announcements live on every TV on campus. It was a wonderful opportunity to be able to communicate to all students at the same time. She asked Ray and Kay Ann to give a brief talk about the Roundtable that they just came back from. Ray said Washington State has a statewide services program that is well known for a good reputation. They attended all day Tuesday and Wednesday and were able to visit classrooms, meet faculty members, curriculum specialist, coordinator for student programs, and the superintendent. They got some ideas that they have brought to ASD. Kay Ann said it was wonderful to see another deaf school that has similar situations to ASD. They were able to get new ideas. Ray said it was great to exchange and share information with other specialists who deal with ASL. The focus has been shifted as to how people are looking at ASL. There were 135 people attending this Roundtable. The next one will be in 2018 and will be hosted at ASD.

Dr. Dickinson thanked Stacey for all her hard work on Silent Sunday and appreciates all the hard work that went into Silent Sunday and the people that were involved making it a success. They do not have all numbers tabulated yet but know they earned over \$35,000 and haven't stopped counting. Silent Sunday had a full page ad in the newspaper. She just returned from their budget meeting. The questions that they were asking them were related to the buildings and she thinks that it is positive. The Governor's budget does not include their requests but they are still discussing things that may happen in the future. Mr. Krenn said they were encouraged by the Governor's staff to set up a meeting with his staff for more discussions on ASD's needs and requests. There were a few things they wished that had been addressed but the Governor's office is trying to hold their hand on spending and everything has to go through his office. Ms. Pack said she noticed in the paper they were doing the same thing with some of the colleges and universities. Mr. Krenn said it was a very interesting session. They asked where ASD was on their buildings and asked if they had gone through another phase. They hope to start that project soon.

Dr. Dickinson said that was all she had for now.

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



Mary Weeks, Chair



Faith McLaughlin, Secretary