

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 September 17, 2019.

Present: Susan Pack, Chairperson; Roy DePriest, Vice Chairperson; Dr. John McAllister, Secretary; Dr. Samuel Atcherson, Board Member; Faith McLaughlin, Board Member; Dr. Priya Gupta, ASB Parent Representative; Holley Mott, 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

19-D-017 Motion to Approve the Consent Items - August Minutes

Ms. Pack asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting. Ms. McLaughlin made a motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting. Mr. DePriest seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

19-D-018 Motion to Approve the Consent Items - Financials

Ms. Pack asked for a motion to approve the financial statement from the August meeting. Dr. Atcherson made a motion approve the financial statement from the August meeting and Dr. McAllister seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

19-D-019 Motion to Approve the Consent Items - Personnel Items

Ms. Pack asked Dr. Dickinson if she had any comments. Dr. Dickinson said ASD lost some great people. She said they have some new blood and thinks it has been a positive experience.

Ms. Pack asked for a motion to approve the personnel items. Mr. DePriest made a motion to approve the personnel items and Dr. McAllister seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

Minority Teacher & Administrator Recruitment Plan

Dr. Dickinson said two items are required by ADE. The Minority Recruitment Plan helps them to think through how they are making sure minorities are being recruited for open positions. It is not just racial minorities but also deaf people and people with disabilities. She said there are different ways they process through the Minority Recruitment Plan.

The other plan is ASD's commitment to family involvement. We have something once a month called VIP (Very Important Parent) meeting on the first Thursday each month. She they include a variety of things in that meeting. She said authenticity is important to ASD so they started improving increasing their communication. They use Class DoJo and Remind 101 with the teachers and families and are increasing communication that way. They also have the ASD News that goes out weekly. This is a plan that expresses how ASD is engaging their families. Ms. Pack asked if the VIP meetings were still being broadcasted out to remote areas. Michelle said yes. Ms. Pack asked if they got much feedback from the remote parents. Michelle said is kind of touch and go. The first meeting we had two parents but that information is set up on the ASD website and it is also put into the flyers and ASD News so the parents always have access to the information if they can't make it to the meeting.

19-D-020 Motion to Approve the Minority Recruitment Plan and the Family and Community Engagement Plan

Ms. Pack asked for a motion to approve the two plans for ASD. Mr. DePriest made a motion to approve the Minority Recruitment Plan and the Family and Community Engagement Plan. Ms. McLaughlin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Items None

Superintendent Report

Dr. Dickinson said there are a lot of good things happening at ASD. She said she would talk about what will be happening first and to add these to your calendars. September 27th NTID has a performing group that will be there Friday night (27th). They will stay Monday and Tuesday for workshops and other things with the students. She said they are trying to see if the elevator in Parnell Hall can be finished so they can use the auditorium. If not, they will use the Lower School auditorium. October 25th is the Homecoming parade and Roy will drive his trailer. She said they still needed two more convertibles and three more trailers if anyone can help out. Staci said they are expanding the route because it is so popular. She said they will go left on Markham and go through the State Capitol and hopefully go by the Department of Ed. They will have police escorts also. They will come back up Markham going down Kavanaugh and with Mr. Caton's permission come through ASB's back entrance. Dr. Dickinson said they would leave campus at 10:00 am. The next day will be their Homecoming with a volleyball game in the morning; early afternoon she will do the Report to the Public; and that afternoon will be the football game. She asked Michelle to talk about November 3rd. Michelle said that will be ASD's Silent Sunday event at the Statehouse Convention Center. She said tickets are on sale - \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door.

Dr. Dickinson said the Arkansas Democrat Gazette has chosen ASD for the Mascot of the Week.

Dr. Dickinson said CONVO saw the big TV's in the classrooms and hallways for visual communication. She said there is an app for the phone so no matter where she is she can send alerts to the system of televisions.

She said she was excited about the Education Leadership Team this year. She said it is herself, Staci, principals - Ray and KayAnn, a lead teacher from High School, a lead teacher from Middle School and a lead teacher from Lower School. Dr. Gretchen Cobb is a very good researcher. She loves crunching data and has volunteered to be their Data Analyst. They meet every Wednesday from 3:45 to 4:45. She said they look through the curriculum to make sure their education is effective for their students and school. They are doing a book study on Leading High Reliability School. She said many schools have done it already and thinks the Blind School has done it. She said they are doing one chapter a month.

Dr. Dickinson said they started a vertical PLC team last Friday. She said all those that teach science (K-High School) meet as one team and talk about how to work on science and the building blocks to get ASD's kids where they need to be. Those teams meet monthly.

Dr. Dickinson said ASD applied for the 2019 Arkansas Grow School Garden. It is a year competition and an Agri Business Class. She said they have a new ASL lab. Double Pride Café is back and opened this week. Lower School is in the process of getting Chrome Books.

Dr. Dickinson asked Staci and Becky to talk about the LEA Conference. Staci and Becky attended LEA Conference and had the opportunity to go to a number of workshops. They had a booth and got to network with a lot of people.

Dr. Dickinson said the volleyball team is doing very well. The football team is back. September 23rd is International Week of the Deaf. There will be activities to celebrate their deaf culture.

She said their counselor has been heavily involved in group counseling focusing on G.U.I.D.E. for Life Program.

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

Susan Pack, Chair

Dr. John McAllister, Secretary