

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

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 January 18, 2022

Present: Dr. Sam Atcherson, Chair; Susan Pack, Secretary; Robert Fagan, Board Member, Dr. John McAllister, Board Member; James Caton, ASBVI Superintendent; Dr. Janet Dickinson, ASD Superintendent; Holley Mott, ASD Parent Representative; Priya Gupta, ASB Parent Representative; Will Gorum & Jamie Harrell, Interpreters; Members of the Deaf Community; Members of the Blind Community

Dr. Sam Atcherson called the meeting to order at 5:06. The next meeting was scheduled for February 15, 2022 at the Arkansas School for the Deaf.

Joint Agenda

22-J-001 Motion to approve Joint December, 2022 Minutes

Dr. McAllister moved to approve, Mr. Fagan seconded. Motion carried.

Action Items

22-J-002 Motion to approve 2022 Board Stipend Amount, Up to \$85.00

Mr. Fagan moved to approve, Dr. McAllister seconded. Motion carried.

22-J-003 Motion to approve 2022 Superintendent Residency Expenditures (ASB & ASD)

Dr. Atcherson asked for some information on this. Mr. Caton said he thought it was related to the utility and other expenses related to the Superintendents living on campus.

Dr. Dickinson said she thought it was the same form that has been signed all along. She said that Susan Pack had signed it when she was Superintendent.

Mrs. Pack moved to approve, Dr. McAllister seconded. Motion carried.

22-J-004 Motion to Extend Mask Requirement Until February Meeting

Dr. Atcherson asked to hear from both Superintendent's on this.

Dr. Dickinson said that the Deaf School would be wearing masks because there were too many COVID cases. She stated that she would like to hold onto the mandate for another month.

Mr. Caton agreed with Dr. Dickinson. He said that we had hit a surge and that schools that had not had a mask mandate were now having one. He did not think we should lift the mandate.

Dr. Atcherson asked both Superintendent's their views on the Stoplight Method

Dr. Dickinson said she had seen where it had been effective for some other schools, but if they had that now ASD would be on red and that she didn't see any change coming in the next month.

Mr. Caton said that he had looked at it and that he thought it was a possible way to move forward.

Dr. McAllister moved to approve, Mr. Fagan seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion Items- None

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

ASD Agenda

22-D-001 Motion to Approve Consent Items (Minutes, Financial Statement, Personnel Items)

Dr. McAllister moved to approve, Mr. Fagan seconded. Motion carried.

Action Items- None

Discussion Items- None

Superintendent Report

Students were only on campus three (3) days since returning from Christmas Break

Close to twenty (20) staff members have tested positive

Eight (8) students have completed isolation, two (2) are in isolation, and five (5) completed quarantine

Nine (9) staff have completed quarantine, one (1) is in quarantine, eighteen (18) have completed isolation, five (5) are in isolation, one (1) was out due to daycare being closed and one (1) was out due to their child being sick

So far seven (7) AMI days have been used

Paraprofessional Kent Kanning passed away

New connection with Lyons College – considering a Deaf Ed. Program for their school

Custodial Services are now called Environmental Services

Melanie Brown has joined Statewide Services, she has been going into school districts to find deaf students. Since the beginning of the school year she has found a total of 336 students in sixty-eight (68) districts. There are two hundred eighty-eight (288) school districts in the state. Speech and Audiology Department has provided over one thousand (1000) speech/language sessions since August

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

ASB Agenda

22-B-001 Motion to Approve Consent Items (Minutes, Financial Statement, Personnel Items)

Dr. McAllister moved to approve, Mr. Fagan seconded. Motion carries.

Action Items- None

Discussion Items- None

Superintendent Report

Pleased to welcome students back from Christmas break

Had to pivot to AMI days midweek and the following week to try to curtail the numbers we were seeing with staff

Fourteen (14) staff completed isolation, two (2) are in isolation and three (3) were quarantined
Four (4) students completed isolation, one (1) is in isolation and three (3) are being quarantined
Six (6) AMI days were used

Everyone did a great job with off campus instruction, staff was willing to travel to meet needs
Homecoming activities were cancelled, hopefully there will be a modified crowning later
Cheerleaders will be able to submit a cheerleading video to the NCASB Conference which got cancelled

Christmas Concert was wonderful, student's musical talents and skills are improving

Alumni presented two (2) students with iPads at the Christmas Concert

Social Media communication is going well, staff is paying attention and posting happenings within the school

Began testing with MAP (Measures of Academic Progress Assessment) testing

This month is Braille Literacy Month

Braille Challenge will be a virtual event held January 25-28

December was Computer Science Month

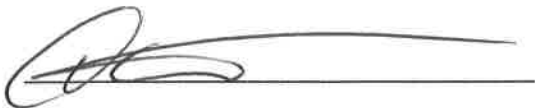
We are working on a position for a Computer Science Teacher

Friends of ASB has provided sixteen (16) Yearbook scholarships, we are working to get fifty-five (55) more

Students and staff were provided counseling services during AMI days by our School Counselor

Infirmery has been very busy, we are looking at some contract nursing support
Child Nutrition Services provided meals & snacks for students during AMI days
Phase 1 of the Cottage is in the process of closing out
Fiber Optics project is beginning to close out
We've been doing some additional exterior lighting on the campus
January is Board Appreciation Month, Board was thanked

There being no further business for the Arkansas School for the Blind, Dr. Atcherson adjourned the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Sam Atcherson", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Sam Atcherson, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Pack", written over a horizontal line.

Susan Pack, Secretary