

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 on October 22, 2024, at the Arkansas School for the Deaf.

**Present:** Robert Fagan, Chair; Dr. John McAllister, Vice Chair; Cary Smith, Board Member; Philip Powell, Board Member; Jerry Belew, Board Member, and Holley Mott, ASD Parent Representative, K. Nicole Walsh, ASD Superintendent; Dr. Chris Barnes, ASBVI Interim Superintendent; Interpreters; Members of the community.

For the October student highlight, the ASBVI track team led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Two ASBVI students shared their participation in the EAST program. EAST figures out problems found in the community and figures out how to address/meet the problem using technology.

The meeting was called to order at 5:17 pm.

Mr. Fagan called roll. The next meeting will be November 19, at the Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in the Multi-Purpose Room.

**Joint Agenda**

**24-J-67 Motion to Approve Joint Meeting September 17, 2024, Minutes**

Mr. Powell made a motion to approve. Mrs. Smith seconded. Motion carried.

**Action Items:**

**Fundraising Policy**

This policy provides guidelines for fundraising activities at ASBVI and ASD. It ensures that all fundraising efforts comply with state and federal laws, uphold ethical standards, and align with the missions of ASD and/or ASBVI. Mrs. Smith would like quarterly reports on fundraising.

Dr. McAllister made a motion to approve. Mr. Powell seconded. Motion carried.

**ASB Agenda**

**24-B-68 Motion to Approve Consent Items (Minutes, Financial Statement, Personnel Items)**

Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve. Dr. McAllister seconded. Motion carried.

**Action Items** - None

**Discussion Items** – None

**ASB Superintendent Report**

- October was a busy month at ASBVI with a lot of activities going on
- Hindustani Musical fundraising concert promoted by Dr. Chakraborty (former ASB parent) raised \$1,700
- Literacy Night – great parent involvement
- UCA Occupational Therapy Group (48 attendees) visited ASBVI to learn what OT looks like for blind and visually impaired students
- Office of Special Education, ASBVI and ASD met for a Landscaping Study to determine the best way moving forward for Statewide Services
- Upcoming activities: Homecoming, Red Ribbon week, Alumni Goal Ball game, Homecoming Parade and the Homecoming Dance
- Mrs. Lori Cole was promoted to ASBVI Principal

**ASD Agenda**

**24-D-69 Motion to Approve Consent Items (Minutes, Financial Statement, Personnel Items)**

Dr. McAllister made a motion to approve. Mr. Powell seconded. Motion carried.

**Discussion Items** – None

**Action Items** –None

**ASD Suspension Procedure**

Previously approved in our Mental Health Handbook, the Suspension Procedure will be pulled from the Mental Health Handbook and added to our Student Handbook as an addendum, in an effort to make it more easily accessible.

Dr. McAllister made a motion to approve. Mrs. Smith seconded. Motion carried.

**ASD Superintendent Report**

- There are 108 students currently enrolled
- The school is still looking for a Science Teacher
- Attendance performance – 97% for Middle School
- Attendance performance – 96% for High School
- 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades had Perfect Attendance
- IXL focus during What I Need time
- Steve Partridge resigned (Transportation)

- The Flu Clinic was held by the Infirmary
- Special Services/Programs: PBIS – Kids earning points for good behavior – they can turn in the points at the ROAR store for goodies
- Golf cart stolen – David Burton worked with LRPD to recover it – plans to GPS track in the future
- Facilities/Maintenance savings – Tankless Water Heaters replacing current water heaters saving money for the school
- New lights were installed on the football field

The meeting adjourned at 5:46pm.

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Robert Fagan, Chair

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Dr. John McAllister, Vice Chair