

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 Deaf and the Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired met for their monthly meeting on November 19, 2024, at the Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

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 November student highlight, the ASBVI students led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Walsh introduced ASD students who then showed their robotics and how they work. The students said they made a robot for competition that spins, rotates and throws a ball.

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 pm.

Mr. Fagan called roll. The next meeting will be December 17, at the Arkansas School for the Deaf in the Leopard Spot (formerly the Tornado Shelter).

Joint Agenda

24-J-70 Motion to Approve Joint Meeting October 22, 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
- 7th and 10th 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.

Robert Fagan, Chair

Dr. John McAllister, Vice Chair