

Minutes
Arkansas Virtual Academy
Regular Meeting
Board of Directors
January 26, 2016

Board Members

John Riggs
Jess Askew
Ann Clemmer
Chad Gallagher
Gary McHenry
Paige Gorman

Guests

Randy Milligan
Nathan Poston
John Kramer

Staff

Scott Sides
Gina Moore
Hollie Gumm
Mitzi Bingaman

Call to Order

Chair, Mr. John Riggs, called the Board meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. Mr. Riggs then asked for a roll call and declared a quorum.

The minutes from the September 2015 Board meeting were approved with one correction to the list of attendees.

<p>MOTION: A motion was made to accept the September Board meeting minutes as written with the correction to the attendees. The motion received a second and carried unanimously.</p>
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Board Chair's Report

John Riggs, Board Chair, deferred to move forward to the action agenda.

Action Agenda Items

Fiscal Year 2015 Financial Audit

Randy Milligan and Nathan Poston presented the financial audit. All financial statements and associated narrative descriptions were reviewed. The audit was a clean report with no findings or concerns to report.

MOTION: A motion was made to accept the audit as presented. The motion received a second and was approved unanimously.

Policy for Repeated Courses

Mitzi Bingaman, High School Principal, described the proposed policy for credit received for repeated courses. Ms. Bingaman explained that this was an important step in the completion of our application for NCAA approval of course study within the high school.

MOTION: A motion was made to accept the policy for repeated courses. The motion received a second and was approved unanimously.

Updated High School Compliancy Forms

Mitzi Bingaman, High School Principal, described the language changes that were proposed for compliancy documents within the Student/Family Handbook. Ms. Bingaman explained that the compliance documents were being adapted to better fit high school language with little substantive change aside from differences in language, as the high school runs on a difference learning management system than is used within grades K-8.

MOTION: A motion was made to accept the updated high school compliancy forms. The motion received a second and was approved unanimously.

Teacher Time Off

Dr. Sides explained to the Board that teachers were working harder than ever with adaptations to a heavier synchronous teaching schedule. Dr. Sides explained that teachers at Arkansas Virtual Academy have been working on a twelve-month agreement and proposed that teachers be provided three weeks during the summer when they will have an opportunity to take a break during the summer months. The specific proposal included the following: the school calendar would include the week of Thanksgiving off for students and teachers, ARVA Board employees would have the week of July 4th off, and ARVA Board employees would choose three weeks on either side of the July 4th week to have off in order that ARVA Board employees would enjoy a full month off during the summer months. Finally, ARVA Board employees would have fewer days during the school year to take off for vacation. A total of four days were approved to be used aside from the vacation time mentioned. Separately, sick time would be unaffected.

Discussion included questions around the summative difference in days that were being provided, and clarifying detail was provided related to sick time off.

MOTION: A motion was made to accept the vacation amendment proposal. The motion received a second and was approved unanimously.

Head of School's Report

Recent Recognitions and Successes

Karen Samuhel was named Middle School Teacher of the Year by Little Rock Family Magazine. A celebration took place with all faculty present, when she was surprised with this honor and received a check in the amount of \$1,000.

A report was released which indicated that Arkansas Virtual Academy was achieving in literacy and math at the district, elementary school, middle school, and high school levels.

Instructional Coaching Initiative

Christina Cook, Middle School Instructional Coach, presented the instructional coaching progress. Important information related to the initiative, and data related to the initiative, were both presented.

PARCC Score Comparisons

Dr. Sides presented score comparison from PARCC. Data was presented by grade level. Additional background was shared about PARCC and what has taken shape nationally as it related to the PARCC assessment.

Next Generation K12 Curriculum

The next generation of K12 curriculum that is being deployed was demonstrated to the Board. New features and capabilities were shared. Members of the Board asked clarifying questions related to this new curriculum development.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm.