



ARKANSAS VIRTUAL ACADEMYSM

MINUTES Regular Meeting Board of Directors July 19, 2016

Board Members

John Riggs
Jess Askew
Gary McHenry

Guests

Allison Cleveland
Paul Thomas

Not Present

Cary Hiatt
Ann Clemmer
Chad Gallagher
Paige Gorman

Staff

Scott Sides
Kristin Allen
Keith Dempsey
Hollie Gumm
Amy Johnson
Michelle Newnum
Camber Thompson

Call to Order

Chair, Mr. John Riggs, called the Board meeting to order at 4:05 P.M. Mr. Riggs then asked for a roll call and noted there is not a quorum.

Board Chair's Report

John Riggs, Board Chair, reminded the board that you must have six hours of training year. The board is interested in K12 training and will need to circulate dates and coordinate with K12 staff. Mr. Riggs mentioned he has approached two people to be possible board members. More details to come in September.

Head of School's Report

Products and Curriculum for School Year 2016-2017

Paul Thomas provided an overview of products and curriculum for the 2016-2017 school year. The goal of the next generation of K12 curriculum is to help engage students and personalize instruction to support all learners. These new products deliver new ways to help prepare students for college and career readiness. Paul discussed the new CTE pathways program and Summit curriculum. He then provided a demo of the new products. The products were designed to be inviting, intuitive, and informative.

Discussion: John Riggs, Board Chair asked if you have a school within a school how you fund it. Allison Cleveland noted that she found in most states there is additional funding but you don't have to have a separate school. Jess Askew asked when the student would be placed in these courses. Dr. Scott Sides, Head of School noted that we would have to determine we want to offer the program and include it in the student handbook. Jess Askew asked how parents are counseled on pathways. Paul Thomas noted that there are exploration courses that will allow students to test different areas to determine their level of interest in an area. Paul Thomas also noted that the school guidance counselors would also help support the students interested in the pathway program. John Riggs,



Board Chair asked when teachers will be trained and if parents have seen the new platform. Training will be done during professional development for teachers and information has been sent to parents.

Students First Initiative:

Allison Cleveland provided a presentation of the Students First Program. This program provides assistance for families when non-academic issues get in the way of students' academic success. ARVA was one of the initial pilot schools for students first. There are three major parts of the program: start students off strong, keep students on track, and strengthen teachers. Strong Start has four goals: are ready to learn, understood school requirements, know how to use systems and recourses, engaged in learning with LC support. She then provided an overview of the strong start program and how K12 supports the efforts. Allison then provided several success case studies from students and teachers.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:28 P.M.