



**ARKANSAS**  
VIRTUAL ACADEMY<sup>SM</sup>

Meeting Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Board of Directors  
January 27, 2020

**Present**

Board Members

Dr. Gary McHenry

Paige Gorman

Jess Askew

Joel Edel

Dana Kelley

Absent: David Strassle

Staff

Amy Johnson

Kristin Allen

Jessica Stack

Amanda Felton

Ashley Holder

Amanda Sullivan

Vanaja Duraiswamy

Karen Ghidotti

Jodi Marshall

Lelani Brown

Rhonda Soule

Guest

David Mitchell

## **Preliminary Items**

### Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Arkansas Virtual Academy Board of Directors was called to order at 4:05 p.m. on January 27, 2020 at the Arkansas Virtual Academy office by Board Chair, Dr. Gary McHenry.

### Roll Call

The roll call was taken by Dr. Gary McHenry.

### Approval of Minutes

**ACTION: Joel Edel motioned to approve meeting minutes from the October 7, 2019 Regular Board Meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Dana Kelley and was approved unanimously as presented.**

**ACTION: Dana Kelley motioned to approve meeting minutes from the November 13, 2019 Special Board Meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Joel Edel and was approved unanimously as presented.**

## **Board Chair's Report**

### Statement of Financial Interest

Board Chair, Dr. Gary McHenry, reminded all that the statements must be postmarked by January 31, 2020.

## **Action Agenda Items**

### Tallo Approval for Student Use

Board Chair, Dr. Gary McHenry, turned the floor over to Amy Johnson, Head of Schools. Mrs. Johnson explained Tallo and the processes created for the use of this online platform. Discussion ensued.

**ACTION: Jess Askew made the motion to accept the proposal of utilizing Tallo for ARVA students subject to documentation of student safety/security. Dana Kelley seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.**

#### Agreement with Rose Law Firm

Board Chair, Dr. Gary McHenry, turned the floor over Amy Johnson, Head of Schools, who then turned it over to David Mitchell, Rose Law Firm. Mr. Mitchell presented the Engagement Letter and outlined the details of the agreement.

**ACTION: Jess Askew made the motion to approve the Engagement Letter as presented. Joel Edel seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.**

### **Special Committee Report**

#### Special Committee Report

Jess Askew discussed the progress of the committee in examining the relationship between ARVA and K12. There are plans in place for the Board to visit the K12 offices in Herndon, VA on February 13, 2020.

### **Head of School's Report**

#### ARVA Focus Group Results – Karen Ghidotti

Head of Schools, Amy Johnson, turned the floor over to Karen Ghidotti, K12 VP, Customer Experience. Ms. Ghidotti shared with the Board the commitment of K12 to meet the needs of our students and families along with the steps being taken to meet those needs. Ms. Ghidotti highlighted results from the focus groups and shared information regarding the addition of the Student Shadowing Project.

#### Renewal Update/Review

Head of Schools, Amy Johnson, reported that the State Board of Education voted not to review and renewed as requested. ARVA will voluntarily report academic progress to the Arkansas Board of Education on an annual basis.

#### Monthly Finance Report

Head of Schools, Amy Johnson, turned the floor over to Vanaja Duraiswamy, K12 Finance Analyst. Ms. Duraiswamy shared the ARVA FY19-20 Finance Review as of December 2019.

#### Upcoming Dates/Items to Note

Head of Schools, Amy Johnson, mentioned that this week is National School Choice Week. Students from ARVA will be attending a rally at the State Capitol on Wednesday.

Mrs. Johnson also shared with the Board plans for innovation, approval of additional pathways, and changes at K12 that will have a positive impact on ARVA.

#### Other Comment Public Comments

None

#### Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by Dr. Gary McHenry at 5:41 PM.

**Minutes submitted by: Rhonda Soule – Operations Manager**

**Approved by: Amy Johnson- Head of School**