

Minutes
Arkansas Virtual Academy
Regular Meeting Board of Directors
February 26, 2013

Board Members Present

Lepaine Sharp-McHenry
Angela Driskill
Cary Hiatt
John Riggs
Kevin Smith

Staff Present

Scott Sides
Lisa Williams
Cheli Stafford

Media Present

None

Guests Present

none

Call to Order

Chair, Ms. Lepaine Sharp-McHenry, called the board meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Ms. Sharp-McHenry then asked for a roll call and declared a quorum.

<p>MOTION: by Mr. John Riggs to approve the minutes from the 12/12/2012 meeting as written. Dr. Angela Driskill seconded the motion. Motion carried.</p>

Board Chair's Report:

Board Member Search

- Ms. Sharp-McHenry expressed to the Board that its membership should represent the statewide school model and asked for member search to focus on those regions currently not represented on the Board. All Board members agreed with this approach.
- Mr. Riggs stated the Board is looking for additional members who have a vested interest in the school itself and support alternative forms of providing education to students. He continues to believe the Board should have more parent representation because of their vested interest in the school.
- Ms. Sharp-McHenry added a future Board member is someone willing to commit their time and has a K-12 educational background.
- Ms. Sharp-McHenry asked Mr. Riggs to consider past and present legislators from areas not currently represented on the Board. He agreed to conduct this search for the Board.
- Head of School, Mr. Scott Sides, mentioned that the Board might consider an invitation to someone currently working in the field of law who would be willing to advise the Board on legal matters.
- Board member, Mr. Kevin Smith, stated that he knew of a potential Board member in the Southwest region of the state who might be interested in serving on the Board.
- After some discussion, it was decided that Mr. Sides would spend time introducing the school and Board operations to any potential candidate submitted by Board members, prior to that person being invited to join the Board.

Board Retreat

- Due to the current Board member search, it was decided to hold off on the Board retreat until those positions have been filled so that all can benefit from the training provided there.

Action Agenda Items:

Standards for Accreditation – Policy Changes

- Mr. Sides reported that the school received notice from the Standards Unit of suggested changes to student/parent handbook policy. The work on these policies has concluded, and the Standards Unit has agreed to the revisions.
- In accordance with the Board's wishes, Mr. Sides has already provided these policies to the policy review committee, Mr. Riggs and Mr. Smith.
- Mr. Sides reviewed the state approved revisions to handbook policy for the Board. There were no questions from Board members.

MOTION: by Dr. Driskill motioned to accept the Student/Parent Handbook revisions as presented. Mr. Riggs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Uniform Grading Scale

- Mr. Sides reported the communication that he has had with the Standards Unit regarding this particular policy.
- He stated that he and Ms. Lisa Williams, ARVA's academic administrator, will meet with the Standards Unit within the next two weeks to discuss and finalize the new grading scale policy.
- The Uniform Grading Scale policy is reviewed for the Board by Mr. Sides. In the hope that the Standards Unit can agree on the presented policy, Mr. Sides asked the Board if they were ready to approve.

MOTION: by Mr. Riggs motioned to adopt the Uniform Grading Scale policy as presented. Dr. Driskill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Head of School's Report

Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Review

- Mr. Sides reviewed the current expenditures of the school for the Board, detailing the budget vs. actual financial position.
- There were no questions from the Board.

Old Business

Mr. Riggs reported to the Board that he had been contacted by Senator Johnny Key who is interested in sponsoring legislation during this session to increase the school's student enrollment cap.