

Minutes
Arkansas Virtual Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
August 10, 2009

Board Members Present

Lepaine Sharp-McHenry,
Vice-Chair
Susan Allerheiligen
Angela Driskill
John Riggs
Kevin Smith

Staff Present

Karen Ghidotti
Lisa Williams
Susan Underwood
Monique Houston

Media Present

None

Board Members Not Present

Jerry Jones

Others Present

Nickole Ellis,
Thomas & Thomas LLC

Call to Order

Board Vice-Chair, Lepaine Sharp-McHenry, called the board meeting to order at 4:05 p.m., then asked for a roll call and declared a quorum.

Lepaine Sharp-McHenry asked the Board if everyone had reviewed the minutes for the previous ARVA Board meeting of June 10, 2009.

<p>MOTION: by John Riggs and seconded by Susan Allerheiligen to approve the June 10, 2009, ARVA Board Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried 4-0.</p>
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Chair's Report

Lepaine Sharp-McHenry asked the Board to share about the progress of the search for potential candidates as new ARVA Board members.

Board members discussed those that they had approached about submitting their name and those whom they plan to contact. The Board agreed to encourage potential candidates to submit a letter and resume. The total number of members was discussed and the Board agreed it would be best to have an odd number of either seven or nine. Ms. Sharp-McHenry suggested that the discussion and updates of potential candidates be continued for the September Board meeting.

School/Director's Report

Budget

Karen Ghidotti, Head of School, shared with the Board the expenditures of the FY 2009 and the estimated expenditures for FY 2010 in each of the financial categories.

The Board discussed the expenditures, areas of potential savings, and estimated expenses. Questions were asked about the Stimulus Funding and Ms. Ghidotti informed the Board that the ARVA plans have been submitted and approved for a 12 month budget although the Stimulus funds can be spent over an 18 month period.

Ms. Sharp-McHenry called the question to vote. The Board agreed to table the budget discussion until the September Board Meeting when the funding amounts will be confirmed.

Audit

Ms. Ghidotti presented to the Board the letter of engagement for the ARVA FY 2008-2009 financial audit by the company Thomas and Thomas LLC. She shared that the people of Thomas and Thomas LLC were very professional and helped to make the audit process easier and pleasant.

MOTION: by John Riggs and seconded by Kevin Smith to approve the engagement letter with Thomas and Thomas LLC for the 2008-2009 Financial Audit. Motion carried 4-0.

ARVA Student Test Scores

Ms. Ghidotti shared with the Board the ARVA students' results of the Arkansas required state tests. The Board discussed the test scores and requested that ARVA students' test scores be compared to other Arkansas Charter Schools student test scores.

Ms. Ghidotti informed the Board that we received notice from the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) that ARVA made AYP both in the elementary K-6 and middle school 7-8. This is holding ARVA in safe harbor but there are other areas of information that the ADE will be soon releasing. We should receive the additional information by the September Board Meeting.

The Vice-Chair asked if there were any comments from the public or press. No response.

The Vice-Chair asked if there was any other business. John Riggs requested the Board go into Executive Session.

MOTION: by John Riggs and seconded by Angela Driskill to move into Executive Session. Motion carried 4-0.

The Board officially went into Executive Session at 4:47 p.m.

MOTION: by Angela Driskill and seconded by John Riggs to adjourn from Executive Session. Motion carried 4-0.

The Board officially adjourned from Executive Session at 5:01 p.m.

The Vice-Chair asked if there was any other business.

MOTION: by John Riggs and seconded by Angela Driskill to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.