

MINUTES
ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS, SCIENCES AND THE ARTS
BOARD OF VISITORS REGULAR MEETING

May 8, 2017

5:00 p.m.

The Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts (ASMSA) Board of Visitors met in the Boardroom on the first floor at 200 Whittington Avenue, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Battle, Chair convened the Board of Visitors regular meeting into open session at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed all Board members.

II. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Members Present

Mr. Hayward Battle, Chair
 Dr. Cynthia Miller, Secretary
 Mr. Steve Faris
 Mr. William Watson

Members Absent

Mr. Gary Dowdy
 Ms. Ann Xu

Ex-Officio Members Present

Mr. Patrick Ralston, interim designee for Stacy Hurst, Director, Department of Arkansas Heritage
 Tom Chilton, Director, Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Division of Science and Technology
 Mary Kathryn Stein, Ed.D., designee for Johnny Key, Commissioner, Arkansas Department of Education
 Mr. Jason Ly, President, Student Government Association

Ex-Officio Members Absent

Maria Markham, Ph.D., Director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education
 Mrs. Tonya Roberts, President, Parents Association

Administrative Members Present

Mr. Corey Alderdice, Director
 Mrs. Ashley Smith, Director of Finance
 Mr. William Currier, Dean of Students
 Mr. Bob Gregory, Dean of Academic Affairs
 Ms. Valerie Carpenter, Director of Admissions
 Mrs. Vicki Hinz, Director of Institutional Advancement
 Mrs. Lorraine Munroe, Administrative Assistant

Administrative Members Absent

Chairman Battle started the meeting by stating that the motions that were passed at the February 23, 2017 meeting will be defective because they were made or seconded by an ex-officio member of the Board. He reported that in order to make the correction, the Board would need to confirm and ratify the motions.

Discussion ensued whether or not the ex-officio members could vote. After checking the legislation that was passed, Director Alderdice reported that the legislation stated that ex-officio members could not vote indicating that the motions needed to be confirmed and ratified.

Chairman Battle stated the last meeting was not properly adjourned indicating technically that the last meeting was in recess. Chairman Battle entertained a motion to confirm and ratify all of the motions that were considered approved at the February 23, 2017, meeting. A motion was made by Dr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Faris. Motion passed unanimously. Chairman Battle stated that all the actions are confirmed and hereby ratified unanimously by the established quorum.

Chairman Battle asked the Board for a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting of February 23, 2017. A motion was made by Mr. Faris and seconded by Mrs. Miller to adjourn the meeting of February 23, 2017. Motion was carried unanimously.

Mrs. Munroe called the role of Board members who were present.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Faris and seconded by Mrs. Miller to approve the February 23, 2017, minutes with the addition of the Addendum to those minutes that was made at the May 8, 2017, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Director's Comments – Corey Alderdice

Director Alderdice stated that he has made an offer, which has been accepted, to Dr. Rheo Morris to serve as ASMSA's next Dean of Students. Dr. Morris will begin on June 1, 2017. Her present position is Area Coordinator and Assistant Director of Residence Life at the University of Central Arkansas (UCA).

Director Alderdice reported that Vicki Hinz will remain as Director of Institutional Advancement for one more year, with plans to retire on June 30, 2018.

He reported that the legislative session has concluded, and ASMSA was successful in getting SB531 through the General Assembly, which is now Act 718.

Regarding the budget, Director Alderdice stated that the forecast is for a 1.7% increase in EETF—translating to a \$133,000 increase. He reported that the primary allocation of the funds was to give a 2% COLA adjustment for employees. Director Alderdice also stated that there was some merit adjustments based on new responsibilities, earned degrees, etc. The rest was applied to fixed-cost services, contract services, utilities, etc.

There was also a final payment to Delta Student Housing, which was the University System entity used to secure the new market tax credits for the Student Center.

He continued stating that ASMSA was selected by the National Park Service to receive the Hartzog Award for Outstanding Youth Volunteer Service Group. A delegation will travel to Washington, D.C., on August 1st to receive the award. This is also a recognition for Dr. Lindsey Waddell, who has put much effort into cultivating a great relationship with the National Park Service.

Mrs. Miller raised the question as to whether or not ASMSA has a commencement speaker.

Director Alderdice reported that there was not a speaker after working towards securing someone. He reported that Dr. Bobbitt will be attending graduation this year and will make some brief remarks.

Director Alderdice reported that the Dean of Outreach, David Slaymaker, who has shepherded the international partnerships, has reached out to different organizations and has established a relationship between ASMSA and the Confucius Institute at UCA. Mr. Slaymaker has visited with some of the peer institutions that are also involved with international partnerships. However, the Missouri Academy is closing due to the University no longer wanting to subsidize the program to keep it going.

Mr. Alderdice stated that he is doing preliminary work to get a partnership in place that will help yield the students that are needed to enroll international students. A proposal will be delivered to the Board of Trustees regarding overall international student enrollment at ASMSA. He further stated that he is looking at Spring 2018 to set the tuition and fee structures during this time. Director Alderdice is hopeful that the first group of international students will arrive in the Fall 2018. Director Alderdice is looking to enroll five students per class at this time.

Referring back to the question of a commencement speaker, Director Alderdice asked Chairman Battle if he would accept his invitation to speak at graduation. Chairman Battle accepted.

2. Academic Affairs Board Report – Bob Gregory

Mr. Gregory reported that there were 224 students including 117 juniors and 107 seniors. One student withdrew since the last Board meeting.

Mr. Gregory reported that ASMSA hosted an Apps for Good Festival on April 28th at UALR.

Mr. Gregory stated that the second installment of the Summer Arts Bridge will be offered for rising sophomores June 18-23. Students can apply for either the Studio Art session or the Folk Music and Acoustics session.

Mr. Gregory also stated that there will be a Nerd C.A.M.P. that will focus on math and computer science topics.

Mr. Gregory reported that the Osaka “Super Science School” visited on April 22-25 for their eighth trip to ASMSA.

Mr. Gregory stated that there are eight students competing at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles. They will be leaving May 14th.

Mr. Gregory reported that the two teams who competed in the Governor’s All-State Coding Challenge finished first and second. The first placed team received \$2,000 each and the second placed team each received \$1,000. ASMSA also received a check for \$20,000.

3. Residential Affairs Report – William Currier

Mr. Currier reported that the students did the Alternative Spring Break program again this year. He stated that instead of going to Selma, Alabama they went to Clarkson, Georgia. Mr. Currier reported that the trip went well, and the Residential Life staff would like to continue these trips in the future.

Mr. Currier reported that Community Developer Briana Crowe has done a variety of many outstanding activities that he felt compelled to take the list down to the Human Resources Department to be incorporated into her file. He stated that she has done a terrific job this year and wanted her work to be documented.

Mr. Currier stated that nurse Lisa White is going to put together an educational program for the arriving juniors based on the Wellness Model. Mr. Currier reported that Nurse White has been a great addition to the staff.

In response to Chairman Battle's question, Mr. Currier stated that this was his last meeting. Mr. Battle thanked Mr. Currier for his service and said that he will be missed.

4. Admissions and Public Affairs – Valerie Carpenter

Ms. Carpenter reported that she just wrapped up the Class of 2019. She referred to her report stating that there were twelve counties that had little to no representation in the past, and now there were 14 applicants from Ouachita, Little River, Desha, Clay, Conway, Calhoun, Howard, Washington, Bradley, and Ashley counties. From those 14 applicants, there was 1 from Ouachita, 1 from Little River, 1 from Desha, 1 from Clay, 5 from Washington, 1 from Bradley, and 1 from Ashley. The average unweighted GPA from these areas is 3.91. Ms. Carpenter stated that the average ACT score is 26.5, which is well above the historic trend for the school.

Mr. Alderdice interjected that each Admission cycle is focused on something different, sometimes being intentional and others unexpected. He stated that, based on some of the research that was done looking at the last six years of student cohorts, it has been noticed that the incoming GPA is a good determinant of persistence throughout the program. As such, the Selection Committee sought to admit students with a 3.5 or higher GPA.

5. Institutional Advancement Board Report – Vicki Hinz

Mrs. Hinz reviewed her report stating that all of the pledges - and other outstanding gifts that have not yet been received -- would bring the total amount to approximately \$350,000 this year. Mrs. Hinz reported that grants received equaled to approximately \$85,000.

Mrs. Hinz reported that she and Director Alderdice participated in the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce D.C. Fly-In and took four junior students to the event. Congressman Bruce Westerman took the ASMSA contingent up to the Capitol Dome for a private showing, which was a life-time experience especially for the students.

Mrs. Hinz declared that the Community of Learning Luncheon honoring Eric Jackson was a complete success. Mrs. Hinz stated that the luncheon and Arkansas Gives raised approximately \$75,000 at the time of the meeting.

Mrs. Hinz stated that there is an online registration form for Alumni Weekend, which will start on May 26 with a reception at Rolando's that evening. Mrs. Hinz stated that she hoped to see Board members attend.

Mrs. Hinz reported that the Arkansas Fall Golf Classic, in collaboration with the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled for Monday, September 25.

Director Alderdice stated that ASMSA has received a \$35,000 grant from Google for CS4HS – Computer Science for High Schools. He reported that ASMSA is the first Arkansas organization to receive this grant.

6. Financial Report – Ashley Smith

Mrs. Smith reviewed her report with the Board, which included the updated Quarterly Report that is submitted to the System office.

Mrs. Smith reported that the campus is pleased with the decision to move the janitorial service in-house, and is viewed as a positive change.

Mrs. Smith stated that initially, she was planning on flat funding but a revised initial forecast has been received with a 1.7% increase which allowed the school to move forward with a 2% cost of living adjustment for FY18. Mrs. Smith reported that there will be a 2% increase in health premiums that will be absorbed by the school.

7. Parents Association – Mrs. Tonya Roberts

There was no report or representative from the Parents Association.

Director Alderdice reported that, per the request of the Board, he visited with Mrs. Roberts and noted to her the concerns of the Board.

8. Student Government Association – Jason Ly

Mr. Ly reported that the Policy Committee met and discussed reformatting the handbook to make it more concise, which will make it easier to read.

Mr. Ly stated that after reviewing the final three candidates, the students' representatives made their recommendations to the Search Committee.

Mr. Ly reported that elections for the new SGA E-Board were conducted and the following officers have been elected: President, Zane Colvins; Vice President, Brock Rigsby; Secretary, Kashti Shah; Treasurer, Vyom Modi. He stated that the elections for Publicist and Parliamentarian have not been conducted as yet.

A motion was made by Mr. Watson and seconded by Mrs. Miller to accept approval of the Consent Agenda.

V. OLD BUSINESS

No old business to report.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Director Alderdice recognized Cynthia Miller for her service on the Board with a gift from ASMSA. Dr. Miller said it was a pleasure to serve on the Board. Her daughter graduated from the school and is reaping the benefits of the great education. She stated it was an honor and pleasure to serve.

Chairman Battle said that Dr. Miller, who served with passion and commitment, will be missed by all and thanked her for her service.

Chairman Battle stated that he will see the Board at Commencement on May 27th at 1:15 pm at the Hot Springs Convention Center and for the members to bring their hoods and medallions.

Since there was not a quorum, Chairman Battle stated the Board will stand at a recess.

VII. AUDIENCE WITH INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

No request or comment from an individual or group.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Approved as written ✓ Approved as amended _____

Hayward M. Battle 12/15/17
Hayward Battle, Chairman (Date)