



**ARKANSAS  
ARTS ACADEMY**  
*Aspire. Achieve. Advance.*

Tuesday July 11  
High School Performing Arts Center 6:30 pm

1. Call to order at 6:32 pm
2. Establish quorum/Roll Call:

Present: Tony Beardsley, Howard Alsdorf, Joe DeRouen, Alicia Knotts, Anthony Porchia and Dave Russell. Absent: Asele Mack

3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Comments from the Public: None
5. Consent Agenda
  - Approve minutes from June, Regular School Board Meeting
  - Monthly Financial Report
  - Enrollment Report

A Motion was made by Joe DeRouen to accept the Consent Agenda Items and second by Dave Russell and the motion passed 5 – 0.

6. New Business

- Board Yearly Officer Election:

Mr. Beardsley ask for nominations for Board Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Beardsley nominated Anthony Porchia, no other nominations were given. Mr. Beardsley called for a vote for Anthony Porchia to be the Board Secretary/Treasurer and Mr. Porchia was elected.

Mr. Beardsley ask for nominations for Board Vice President. Mrs. Knotts nominated Dave Russell and Mr. Beardsley nominated Joe DeRouen. Mr. Beardsley called for a vote and Dave Russell was elected.

Mr. Beardsley ask for nominations for Board President. Joe DeRouen nominated himself and Tony Beardsley nominated himself. Mr. Alsdorf called for a vote and Tony Beardsley was elected.

- Principal Board Report:
  - Barb Padgett (HS): Mrs. Padgett shared that changes were happening every day to the High School Campus and to watch the web site to follow them. The entrance to the high school during construction will be on 6<sup>th</sup> street and the exit will remain on 5<sup>th</sup>. A Faculty member will escort students across Poplar in the afternoon to get to offsite parking. Mrs. Ley shared that we have a motion before the Rogers City Board to make 5<sup>th</sup> street one way for approximately 3 blocks to provide a safer environment for our students crossing 5<sup>th</sup> street to go towards our side parking lot. Mrs. Padgett shared her ACT Aspire scores for the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade (see attachment).
  - Matt Young (EMS): Mr. Young is currently on vacation. In his absence Mrs. Ley shared his test scores (see attachment).
- Bond Sales: Mrs. Ley shared that our Bond Sale went much better than even expected. Our Bonds sold out in less than 2 hours with 100% Arkansas investors and we were able to lock in

4.3% financing. With the lower interest rate and the bids coming in one million dollars under budget, we saved enough to fund all Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment.

- **Ground Breaking (Exciting Times):** Our Ground Breaking is scheduled for August 15<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. Mrs. Ley shared that we will be having three speakers Board President Tony Beardsley, High School Principal Barb Padgett and a student to be named.
- **First Day Back for Staff:** Mrs. Ley invited the Board to come for the first 1 ½ hours to meet the staff.


7. Discussion of items since publication of the agenda

- **Special Education Needs:** Mrs. Brunell shared that she recommended that we go back to the Northwest Arkansas Consortium for our Special Education Needs. Part of the services provided by the Consortium will assist with our paperwork and oversee any due processes as well as provide the billing of Medicaid services for our students. A motion to accept hiring the Northwest Arkansas Consortium to supply our growing Special Education needs was made by Dave Russell and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Anthony Porchia and the motion passed in a 5 – 0 vote (see attachment).
- **Breakfast Lunch Prices:** Mrs. Brunell shared that in doing our annual, required meal price calculation it was determined that we will need to increase our meal prices by ten cents each. A motion was made by Howard Alsdorf and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Anthony Porchia and the motion carried in a 5 – 0 vote (see attachment).
- **Student Meal Charging Policy:** Mrs. Brunell shared that we needed to update our Meal Charging Policy to reflect changes by the State Board of Education (See Attachment). A motion to reflect changes in our Meal Charging Policy was made by Dave Russell and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alicia Knotts and the motion carried in a 5 – 0 vote.
- **Special Education Needs Additional FTE:** Mrs. Brunell shared that they have evaluated our Special Education population and have determined that we are in need of a full time Speech Pathologist. A motion to approve the hire of a Speech Pathologist was made by Anthony Porchia and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Russell and the motion carried in a 5 – 0 vote (see attachment).

8. **Personnel: Hiring/Renewal/Promotion/Demotion/Transfer/Non-Renewal/Termination:** Mrs. Brunell shared a list of Contract Renewals for approval by the Board. A motion was made by Dave Russell and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe DeRouen to approve the list of Contract Renewals and the motion carried in a 5 – 0 vote (see attachment). A list of New Hires was presented to the Board for approval. A motion was made by Dave Russell and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Anthony Porchia and the motion carried with a 5 – 0 vote (see attachment). A list of Resignations was presented to the Board for approval. A motion was made by David Russell and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alicia Knotts and the motion carried in a 5 – 0 vote (see attachment).

9. **Adjournment:** A motion was made by Alicia Knotts and a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Anthony Porchia to adjourn and the motion carried in a 5 – 0 vote.

10. **Upcoming Event Calendar:** See attachment.



Tony Beardsley, President