MINUTES
ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS, SCIENCES,
AND THE ARTS
BOARD OF VISITORS REGULAR MEETING
October 3, 2006
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

Mrs. Lynda Samons, Chairman, convened the Board of Visitors regular meeting into open session at 5:00 p.m.

II. ESTABLISH QUORUM

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Members Present</th>
<th>Members Absent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Lynda Samons, Chairman</td>
<td>Ms. Marynell Branch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Luke Gordy</td>
<td>Mrs. Lynne Dardenne</td>
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<td>Ms. Robin King</td>
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<td>Mr. Charles Nelson</td>
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<td>Ms. Kathy McFarland</td>
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<tr>
<th>Ex-Officio Members Present</th>
<th>Ex-Officio Members Absent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Suzanne Mitchell, designee for</td>
<td>Ms. Ann Biggers, designee for Dr.</td>
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<td>Dr. Linda Beene, Executive Director</td>
<td>Ken James, Director, Arkansas</td>
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<td>Arkansas Department of Higher Education</td>
<td>Department of Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Clinton Atchley, President, Parents’ Association</td>
<td>Ms. Joy Pennington, designee for Ms. Cathie Mathews, Director, Department of Arkansas Heritage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. James McKinney, President, SGA</td>
<td>Dr. Gail McClure, designee for Dr. John Ahlen, President, Arkansas Science &amp; Technology Authority</td>
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<tr>
<th>Administrative Members Present</th>
<th>Administrative Members Absent</th>
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<td>Dr. Janet Hugo, Director</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>Mrs. Melanie Nichols, Dean of Academic Affairs</td>
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<td>Mr. Christopher Robbins, Outreach Director</td>
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<td>Mr. Mike Carpenter, Director of Institutional Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Diana Hampo, Interim Dean of Residential Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Jeff Nixon, Public Relations/Recruiting Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Kay Provis, Fiscal Manager</td>
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<td>Mrs. Lorraine Munroe, Administrative Assistant</td>
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Regular Meeting of the Board of Visitors 1 October 3, 2006
III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes to be approved.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Samons stated that department reports were received and contained exciting information from the various departments.

Mrs. Samons turned the floor over to Mr. Gordy who reported that he visited with Dr. Sugg and stated that Dr. Sugg is excited about the leadership that is being demonstrated by Dr. Hugo and the positive direction that ASMSA is now taking.

1. Director's Comments – Dr. Hugo

Dr. Hugo stated that House Bill 2881 was passed that allows ACTAAP scores to go back to students' home high schools and this should help in our recruiting efforts. Dr. Hugo stated that the Department of Education is requiring that a list of our students and their home high schools be sent to the Department of Education by December. Dr. Hugo reported that the request has already been completed.

Dr. Hugo also reported that she spoke to a parishioner of St. Mary's Church (located across the street from ASMSA) who is on a committee with the church and stated that the church has $3,000,000 and wants to build a life center on their property. The committee member stated to Dr. Hugo that the students would be permitted to use the facility and that this offer from the church would be a nice solution to ASMSA's problem.

Dr. Hugo stated that she attended the University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees dinner last week and spoke with Dr. David Belcher, Provost of UALR, and his wife, Dr. Susan Belcher, who is a voice teacher at UALR. Drs. David and Susan Belcher will be performing in the near future and have asked if they can do a practice performance for our students. In a telephone conversation with Dr. Susan Belcher, Dr. Hugo stated that the music department members at UALR have gotten together and want to partner with ASMSA to work towards the arts.

Dr. Hugo stated that the staff is doing a wonderful job and thanked them for their efforts. Dr. Hugo reported that the year has started off on a good, positive note.


Mrs. Provus announced that the budget hearings for the next biennium will take place on Wednesday, October 26, 2006.
3. Residential Life Report – Mrs. Diana Hampo

Mrs. Hampo stated that ASMSA shirts are now for sale and the money will be used for student activities.

Mrs. Hampo also stated that during the week of 10/3/06, the school will have its first Crisis Action Plan lock-down drill. It was planned for a later time in the month but based on the current school events that have taken place around the country, the drill was moved up to take place this week.

Dr. Hugo added that because of the recent schools events, the institution is on high alert and that all visitors will be processed through security and the school will continue to work on the Crisis Action Plan to keep the campus safe.

Mrs. Hampo stated that she had lunch with the Lions Club and reported that the club is very impressed with the students and how much time they dedicate themselves to do volunteer work in the community.

4. Dean of Academic Affairs – Mrs. Melanie Nichols

Mrs. Nichols reported that there are 250 students that have signed up for dual credit courses.

On Saturday, September 30, 2006, a Junior Parent/Student Fun Day was held and attended by approximately 54 students and 95 guests.

Mrs. Nichols stated that the institution has received approximately $3,350 of incentive money from AP exams that students took last May. Mrs. Nichols reported that the state pays $25.00 for every AP score that is rated “3” or better and that seventy-three percent of ASMSA tests were rated “3” or better, and 37 out of 38 students that took AP calculus scored “3” or better.

Mrs. Nichols stated that today was “College Fair” day and seventy-six colleges were represented at the fair.

Mrs. Nichols also stated that she is investigating offering a night class in Japanese during the spring semester and that a teacher has been located and the program looks like it will occur.

Mrs. Nichols also stated that she is working on professional development for teachers for next summer. Dr. Hugo stated that she has given Mrs. Nichol’s $10,000 to make professional development happen next year.

5. Outreach Report – Mr. Chris Robbins

There was no report given by Mr. Robbins.
Mr. Gordy stated that ASMSA will continue to provide an important service in the state through distance learning. Mr. Gordy also stated that Arkansas will be under rising pressure to "water down" the 38-unit requirement to be taught every year. Mr. Gordy requested a report on the service provision of ASMSA's distance learning component to include the number of students being served, how many courses are being offered, etc. Mr. Robbins responded stating that the information Mr. Gordy requested is already on the ASMSA's ODE website. Mr. Robbins reported that he will look at the website to ensure that the information that Mr. Gordy is requesting is user friendly. Mr. Gordy stated that what he is trying to do is to show how much of an impact that distance learning has had on the state of Arkansas. He reported that the business community is deeply concerned that distance learning is not being taken advantage of and needs to be utilized at a much greater capacity in order to impact the schools. Mr. Robbins stated that he would provide Mr. Gordy with the information he is seeking.

6. Public Relations/Recruiting – Mr. Jeff Nixon

Dr. Hugo reported that Residential Mentor, Matthew Thomas, has been working with Jeff Nixon on the new ASMSA brochure and that the ASMSA Times will be printed shortly.

7. Institutional Advancement – Mr. Mike Carpenter

Mr. Carpenter stated that much has been done since the time he submitted his report towards moving the institution under the University of Arkansas Foundation with the foundation funds.

Mr. Carpenter reported that he, Mrs. Hampo, and others have been working on the beginnings of a golf tournament and now have a lead sponsor for the event. Mr. Carpenter reported that it is important to develop the image of the school and wants to schedule great events across the state to make the public aware that what is happening at the school is good and would appreciate the Board’s help in that regard.

8. Parents’ Association Report – Dr. Clinton Atchley

Dr. Atchley reported that the Parents’ Association has some "irons in the fire" and that they are presently constructing a volleyball court for the students.


Mr. McKinney reported that the students have a much more positive attitude this year and that the retention rate is higher compared to last year. Student Government elections will be held next week. Based on Dr. Hugo’s suggestion that the SGA have a more powerful voice and to become a more active body within the institution, the SGA has written and submitted a proposal to the Dean that has been approved.
V. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to report.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Samons stated that her term as Chair will end after the December meeting. Mrs. Samons reported that she met with Ms. Ann Biggers and discussed nominations.

Mrs. Samons stated that she would like to nominate Mr. Luke Gordy to be the Board of Visitor's new Chair to begin in January 2007. Mrs. Samons also stated that in light of all of the changes that have taken place, she would like for Mr. Gordy to be able to appoint a Vice Chair and Secretary of the Board of Visitors.

A motion was made by Mrs. Samons, and seconded by Mrs. Robin King, to elect Mr. Luke Gordy new Chairman of the Board of Visitors to be effective January 1, 2007 and for Mr. Gordy to appoint a Vice Chair and a Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. AUDIENCE WITH INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

No request or comment from an individual or group.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Approved as written 12-05-06

Approved as amended ______________

Lynda Samons 12-12-04

(Date)