

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

**May 1, 2007**

**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. Luke Gordy, Chairman, convened the Board of Visitors regular meeting into open session at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed all of the Board members.

**II. ESTABLISH QUORUM**

**Members Present**

Mr. Luke Gordy, Chairman  
Mrs. Lynne Dardenne, Vice-Chair  
Mickey Cox  
Mr. Charles Nelson  
Dr. Lynda Samons

**Members Absent**

Ms. Marynell Branch, Secretary

**Ex-Officio Members Present**

Ms. Ann Biggers, designee for Dr. Ken James, Commissioner, Arkansas Department of Education  
Dr. Gail McClure, designee for Dr. John Ahlen, President, Arkansas Science and Technology Authority  
Dr. Clinton Atchley, President, Parents Association  
Mr. James McKinney, President, SGA

**Ex-Officio Members Absent**

Ms. Joy Pennington, designee for Ms. Cathie Mathews, Director, Department of Arkansas Heritage  
Dr. Suzanne Mitchell, designee for Dr. Linda Beene, Executive Director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education

**Administrative Members Present**

Dr. Janet Hugo, Director  
Mr. Chris Robbins, Director of Outreach  
Mr. Jeff Nixon, Public Relations/Recruiting Director  
Mr. Mike Carpenter, Director of Institutional Development  
Mrs. Diana Hampo, Interim Dean of Residential Affairs  
Mrs. Kay Provus, Fiscal Administrator  
Mrs. Lorraine Munroe, Administrative Assistant

**Administrative Members Absent**

Mrs. Melanie Nichols, Dean of Academic Affairs

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 5, 2006 were not included in the Board packet, therefore they were not approved.

### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

#### 1. Director's Comments – Dr. Hugo

Dr. Hugo stated that the legislative session went very well and she received great support from Melissa Rust and Julie Bates from the System office. Dr. Hugo reported that she was fortunate to have received supplemental appropriation from the legislative session. However, Dr. Hugo reported that she requested some funds be carried over to next year due to delays on the Convent and chemistry labs renovation projects. Dr. Hugo reported that the chemistry labs renovation will not start until December and that the Convent and HVAC work is finally underway. Dr. Hugo reported that starting in June, the entire first floor of the Administration building will be re-carpeted and painted.

Dr. Hugo reported that the second issue of *Tangents* will be coming out in two weeks and the administrative team is trying to pool marketing and information resources together about the school to educate the state populous. Dr. Hugo pointed out that she has a great administrative team and the administrators are working more efficiently than they have in the past and all are working toward the common goal.

At the request of Mr. Gordy, Dr. Hugo compiled a list of "Areas of Assistance" that was distributed to the Board regarding what ideas the Board may have that can be contributed to the school. Mr. Gordy asked the Board to review the list and to be responsive to the needs of the institution. Mr. Gordy reported that he will contact the Board by email to get their input on specific suggestions that they may have.

Mr. Gordy stated that in regard to the Legislature, Dr. Hugo represented the institution in an incredibly professional, articulate and informational manner and made a very good impression on the various committees that she had to testify before. Mr. Gordy reported that he appreciated the wonderful job that Dr. Hugo did and that he was proud to be a part of the institution.

Mr. Gordy also congratulated Mrs. Melanie Nichols being named the Dean of Academic Affairs. Dr. Hugo reported that Diana Hampo has accepted a position of Public and Community Relations Coordinator and the new Dean of Residential Affairs has been hired.

Dr. Samons stated that the job that Dr. Hugo has done regarding restructuring the institution has been fantastic. Dr. Samons reported that she is the last remaining person who was on the old Board, and that the past Board micro-managed everything and stated that the school has come a long way.

Dr. Hugo thanked Dr. Samons and stated that the institution has a great team of administrators who work very hard and said that the Board will continue to see the institution grow.

2. Financial Report – Mrs. Kay Provus

Mrs. Provus stated that because the legislative session was a success, it looks like the institution will have increased revenue next year. Mrs. Provus stated that after that time, administration needs to be alert because the grocery tax that will be eliminated does impact the Educational Excellence Trust Fund which is ASMSA's main source of state revenue. Mrs. Provus stated that next year fixed expenses need to remain as level as possible.

Dr. Hugo stated that ASMSA will have a surplus and will receive some general improvement funds from Senator Faris.

3. Residential Life Report – Mrs. Diana Hampo

Mrs. Hampo reported that the incoming juniors and their parents will be coming to campus on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> to pick their classes for the next school year.

Mrs. Hampo stated that prom was a huge success. She also stated that the new laundry facility will be completed in the next week and the students will be charged a \$40.00 yearly assessment for unlimited laundry use.

Mrs. Hampo also reported that donations can be made to the University of Arkansas Foundation where the money is available to the school.

Mrs. Hampo stated that mall or Wal-Mart cards are available to students who have performed extra work on weekends. Many of the students do not have the funds to purchase what they need and this is a vehicle for them to do so.

Mrs. Hampo reported that the Garland County Crisis Workshop that was held went very well and hopefully next year it will be a statewide event.

Mrs. Hampo stated that Thursday, May 03, 2007 is *Dolphinstock*. She explained that this is a day that the students recreate the 60's era.

4. Dean of Academic Affairs – Mrs. Melanie Nichols

Ms. Nichols was not present due to illness.

Dr. Hugo stated that she is president of NCSSSMST and is able to acquire information about other schools around the country that are similar to ASMSA. Dr. Hugo reported that ASMSA is doing amazing things at the institution not just on the residential side, but are competing above many of the schools around the country. Dr. Hugo stated that

ASMSA is making great strides in the STEM area (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) and has much to be proud of.

5. Outreach Report – Mr. Chris Robbins

Mr. Robbins stated that year-to-date collections are \$1.1 million. Mr. Robbins reported that ASMSA's reputation is continuing to grow. He reported that he has had contact with Galveston, Texas schools who are looking for a partner. He also stated that a similar program exists in California that is run by the University of California. The program is closing down and has contacted Mr. Robbins to discuss taking some displaced students next year. Mr. Robbins also stated that he has a grant writer working with a vendor-partner of ASMSA's who called and advised him that there are four tribal schools in Alaska that need help and have contacted Mr. Robbins for assistance. Mr. Robbins stated that people are seeking ASMSA out because of the reputation that it has established.

Mr. Gordy stated that he had a meeting prior to the Board meeting with Mr. Robbins regarding distance learning and stated that the business interests have a concern to make sure that the smaller schools in Arkansas have the rigorous curriculums delivered appropriately. Mr. Gordy reported that there is some real opportunity for ASMSA to be the provider to them. He also stated that they are looking at some innovative ideas on the delivery side as well.

6. Admissions/Public Relations – Mr. Jeff Nixon

Mr. Nixon reported that the preliminary figures for the incoming juniors are 140 students who are coming from 94 different schools and 55 counties across the state. The average GPA of the incoming students is 3.8, and average ACT score is 24.

7. Institutional Advancement – Mr. Mike Carpenter

Mr. Carpenter reported that ASMSA opened its first fund, the University of Arkansas Foundation. He reported that the first fund event, the ASMSA Golf Tournament, was a very successful, well-attended event. Mr. Carpenter stated that there were seventy-two paid spots. Mr. Carpenter reported that Congressman Ross served as a keynote speaker for the evening and that he and Tandberg Video Conferencing are very excited about what is happening at ASMSA and will be advocates of the institution. Mr. Carpenter reported that he is looking to get together a group of ten to twelve people for the Foundation Board to get ASMSA's fundraising program off the ground.

Mr. Gordy asked if it would be possible for anyone to make a financial contribution to the Foundation. Mr. Carpenter reported that if anyone wanted to make a contribution to the Foundation, checks can be made out to the University of Arkansas Foundation Inc., or the ASMSA Foundation Fund.

Mr. Nelson asked how the Alumni Association was structured. Mr. Carpenter responded stating that the Alumni Association is set up as a completely separate entity. Mr. Carpenter stated that he

has talked to the leadership of that organization and that there are many students who stay in or return to the state and hope to work closely with the Alumni Association.

8. Facilities Report – Dr. Hugo reported that there was an issue with asbestos in the Chapel but that is now being handled by Wes Burton, Facilities Manager, who is trained and certified in asbestos abatement. Dr. Hugo brought the situation to the attention of the City and the City stated that they will correct the containment of the asbestos with the possibility of putting in a drop-ceiling. Dr. Hugo also reported that having a drop-ceiling will give a better venue when presenting plays to the student body and public and the Chapel will also be used as an AP testing center. The City was to re-roof the Chapel during the summer but the asbestos problem needs to be corrected first and the re-roofing will be delayed until next summer.

9. Parents' Association Report – Dr. Clinton Atchley

Dr. Atchley stated that the Parents' Association sponsored an appreciation luncheon for the faculty and staff and is looking to provide refreshments for graduation.

Dr. Atchley introduced Mr. Wayne Williamson, who will be the 2007-2008 president of the Parents' Association.

10. Student Government Report – James McKinney

Mr. McKinney reported that there was twenty-five days left of the school year. Mr. McKinney stated that the students are adopting a project, upon approval, of doing a time capsule that will be buried on the school property and will be opened in about ten years.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to report.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Gordy stated that the Board members are members of various types of clubs (Civic, Rotary, etc.) and that they needed to take advantage of their membership in spreading the word about ASMSA.

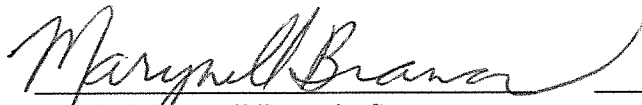
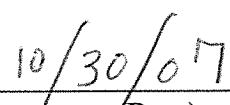
## **VII. AUDIENCE WITH INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS**

No request or comment from an individual or group.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Approved as written \_\_\_\_\_ Approved as amended \_\_\_\_\_

   
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Ms. Marynell Branch, Secretary (Date)