

Arkansas Head Start Association

Staff Class Meeting

May 2, 2024

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Jackie Burton.

The following members were present: Melinda Calhoun, Sandy Borreson, Sarak Kirby, Heather Moody, Melanie Ermert, Katherine Warren, Ashley Faison, Wyvonne Brown, Runree Aldridge Brandon, Myatta Esquivel, Alisha Cannady, Deloris Speed, Keri Reynolds, Belinda Henderson, Virginia Gianelloni, Sherry Toney, Latasha Dodd, Jacqueline Baker, Rosa Munoz, Tina Jordan, Tina Davenport, Brenisha Siner, Debbie Davis, Anna Pipkins, Mary Pineda, Ashley Wages, Leslie Jensen, Kari Sutton, Marlysha Hood, Teona Ford, Shawana Miller, Shaytra Bridges, Heather Bopp, Jasmine Luster, Shannon Lee, Jessica Mcilwain, Megan Ebbs, Patty Hernandez, Santana Black, Valerie Sanders, Vivian Easton, Zeakeal Griffin, Shequita Larkins, Jennifer Gilmore, Canina Aquil, Carolyn Barnes.

The following Critical Issues were discussed:

1. Attendance of Staff and Children
2. Filling Staff slots (Hiring)
3. Staff on boarding
4. Volunteering/participating in policy council
 - a. Best dates and times and zoom options made available and they still don't participate.
 - b. Chairperson does not answer phone calls and emails
 - c. Why?
 - i. Attendance-Parents do not have transportation. Staff tried to get with other parents to share rides. School is closed one day a week (public school).
 - ii. Staff Attendance-Staff do not show up on Mondays, It is raining outside, tax season, pay day.
 1. ARVAC Inc has done advertising, job fairs for every county. Attendance awards did not work.
5. Interviews-zoom interviews (interviewees not being truthful).
6. Supervisor over Family Service Workers does not have communication between teachers and par. There is a disconnect between staff and they need relationship building.
7. Getting donations for dollar per child.
8. Employees pay is not enough.
9. Parents are not being held accountable. Parents pick up children whenever they get ready after hours (late pick up).
10. Lacking in training to best help teachers deal with children with disabilities.