

**ARKANSAS HEAD START ASSOCIATION
DIRECTORS/STAFF/PARENTS/FRIENDS CLASS MEETING
Wednesday, January 18, 2023
Minutes**

I. Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am. Members/Guests present via zoom were: Tiffany Moss, Teona Ford, Rebecca Farison, Kisha Miller, Christie Campbell, Latasha Dodd, Virginia Gianelloni, Cyndi Musick, Jackie Govan, Jackie Burton, Deana Howell, Amy Salazar, Barbie Baxter, Dorothy Jenkins, Belinda Clark, Cheryl Covington, Chloe Arnold, Isabella Campbell, and Sharon Burnett.

II. Consideration of Agenda: There were no changes

III. Approval of Minutes: *Barbie Baxter made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Dorothy Jenkins seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.*

IV. Guest Speaker:

A. Sharon Burnett, Founder, Celebrate Successful Early Learning: Sharon shared information about her new venture Celebrate Successful Early Learning. She is promoting the Sing and Read Series. These books can supplement your literacy curriculum and help impact social and emotional learning through the incorporation of music with literacy. The set includes little books and flash cards. Sing and Read can be used with any curriculum. She would like to meet with each program to share information about the Sing and Read series.

B. Tonya Williams, Director, AR DHS-Division of Child Care/Early Childhood Education: Was unable to participate in the meeting.

V. Old Business:

A. Dollar per Child: Deana gave the Dollar per Child report. 2023 Dollar per Child Campaign funds were reported as of 1/11/2023 as \$569.00. Deana will be sending a reminder to every agency of the April 1, 2023 deadline.

B. Membership Dues Report: Deana provided the AHSA Membership Dues report. \$41,110.00 has been paid with \$5,335.00 owed for 2022-23.

C. Birthday Celebrations (Jan and Feb)

D. Arkansas Head Start Association Strategic Planning Update:

Goal One: Jackie Govan shared that Goal One is complete.
Goal Two: Jennifer Thomas and Barbie Baxter have not met but Jennifer has been touching base with staff.
Goal Three: Michelle Furlow was unavailable to report.
Goal Four: Sherry Toney was unavailable to report.
Goal Five: Jackie Govan is working on the list of collaborative partners.
Goal Six: Jackie Burton is working on pulling a team together.
Goal Seven: Deana Howell shared that she will be sending out the dollar per child information soon but needs to add members to the committee.
Goal Eight: Jackie is working on pulling a team together to start working on this goal.

VI. New Business

- A. Friends/Parent Representatives on AHSA Board:** Jackie Govan shared that James Hollywood would like to serve as a Friend Representative on the AHSA Board. The committee was in support of this recommendation.
- B. Revised AHSA Bylaws (Shirley Pulliam):** Shirley Pulliam was unavailable to report.

VII. Reports

- A. Arkansas Early Childhood Commission (SAC):** Barbie Baxter has not been approved for the commission yet but she was invited to attend the meeting. She reported that Tonya Williams shared information about Better Beginnings Level 4-6. She wants input from Head Start on how the CLASS Scores should be used to determine quality levels. The state received the PDG Grant. The grant will focus on infant/toddler expansion with one time start-up funding for new programs, additional support for behavioral support and trauma. Tom Sheppard shared that several maintenance grants would not be funded due to the high number of grant applications received. Paul Lazenby shared an update on the TEACH program.
- B. Arkansas Head Start-State Collaboration Office:** Jackie Govan shared that New Mexico has a new Collaboration Director. The Region VI Collaboration Directors meet on the second Friday of each month. Jackie is currently working on the annual report due at the end of the month. Omar Shamim has replaced Karen Heying as the coordinator that works with the Collaboration Directors. Jackie has requested a meeting with Governor Sanders. The Arkansas Equity Leaders Action Network will be launching a racial equity website. A new collaboration has been established with the Arkansas Community Action Agencies Association. A survey has been sent to programs. The panel for the Interagency Council Meeting was cancelled due to the wrong date given. There was discussion about possible NARCAN training for Head Start programs. Jackie

is forming a new, diverse committee to focus on addressing homelessness issues.

C. Region VI Head Start Association-Jackie Burton/Jackie Govan: Region VI Conference will be held July 17-21, 2023 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The next board meeting is scheduled for January 30, 9:00 am-12:30 pm. They announced that Manuela Rendon had passed away.

D. Arkansas Head Start Association Institute-Jackie Burton/Jackie Govan: The committee met at 10:00 am. The institute will be held June 6-9, 2023 at the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The theme will be Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, and Shaping the Future. There will be 8 sessions per time slot. The fees were raised by \$10 plus the Pre-Institute has been added to the Early Bird and Pre Registration Rates.

E. National Head Start Association Updates-Jackie Govan: National Head Start Association is looking to better understand how blended funding could enhance quality for Head Start and Early Head Start. They are looking at what are the concerns and what state policies impact blended funding. Jackie reported that the Winter Leadership Institute is taking place January 23-26, 2023 in Crystal City, VA. Covid-19 and flu outbreaks, staff burnout, under enrollment and behaviors in the classroom were topics discussed at the last meeting. Recent losses in Head Start and their history in the program were also discussed. The NHSA Parent Conference will be December 4-7, 2023 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

VIII. Announcements (if any)

A. Dates to Remember...

- 1. Powerful Conversations with Fathers-2023-February 14th, 10:00 am**
- 2. Quarterly Meetings/Trainings for 2023**
 - a. Homelessness**
 - b. Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships-January 31, 2023**
 - c. Racial Equity Webinars-Coming Soon**

IX. Next Meeting Date: Class/Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 15, 2023

X. Adjournment: *Barbie Baxter made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 pm. Jennifer Thomas seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.*

Submitted by,

Deana Howell