

ARKANSAS HEAD START ASSOCIATION
DIRECTORS/STAFF/PARENTS/FRIENDS CLASS MEETING
Wednesday, January 17, 2024
11:00 am-1:00 pm
Minutes

- I. Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 11:01 am. The following members and guests participated via zoom: Myra Wood, Jackie Govan, Deana Howell, Barbie Baxter, Amy Salazar, Dorothy Jenkins, Nicole Taxiltardis, Denise Middlebrook, Sandy Aguirre, Latasha Dodd, Michelle Furlow, Christie Campbell, Tamara, Melinda Calhoun, Jana Bays, and Kisha Miller.
- II. Consideration of Agenda-Jackie Govan added Meeting Request to New Business.
- III. Approval of Minutes: ***Michelle Furlow 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. Tonya Williams, Director, Arkansas Department of Education, DESE, Office of Early Childhood-was unavailable
 - b. Nicole Taxiltaridis, Senior Director, Business Development, Shine Early Learning: She provided an overview of how Shine Early Learning could help partners with completing the 1303 application as well as a process for meeting the Head Start Performance Standards. They can assist with completing the application for a \$25,000 fee. They have stage two that assists with project management. Some reasons to consider working with Sine Early Learning is help with health and safety management, programmatic shift from Head Start to Early Head Start, and assistance with identifying professionals. They also have a multi-year project that focuses on Parent Family and Community Engagement, Management, Health, Operations, and Head Start goals and objectives.
- V. Old Business:
 - a. Dollar per Child: Deana Howell reported that currently \$2,432.23 had been collected. She reminded members that we need contributions prior to the NHSA conference.
 - b. Membership Dues Report: Deana Howell reported that we have currently received \$43,965 with \$1690 owed for 2023-2024 and \$312.50 owed for 2022-2023.
 - c. Birthday Celebrations (January and February): Happy birthday to Michelle Furlow.
 - d. Arkansas Head Start Association Strategic Planning-Jackie Govan shared that we need Goals Three and Four Timelines completed by the March meeting.
 - e. Revised AHSA Bylaws-Shirley Pulliam was not available. Jackie shared that we need the revised copy with all changes indicated.
 - f. Racial Equity Website: Jackie Govan shared that the website is in its final stages and will be sent to Tonya Williams and the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission for approval. We are planning to launch this year.

VI. New Business

- a. Arkansas LEADS: Twelve LEADS have been selected. Another RFP will be released next month to expand. The first meeting focused on the responsibilities of the LEADS. They will be working on a strategic plan and looking to obtain information from community assessments.
- b. Nominating Committee-tabled.
- c. Meeting Request: Jackie Govan requested not to hold the May meeting on the third Wednesday because of the institute. **Denise Middlebrook made a motion to not have the regularly scheduled May meeting. Kisha Miller second the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.**

VII. Reports

- a. Arkansas Early Childhood Commission (SAC)-Barbie Baxter shared that the meeting focused on the LEARN Act and the Local LEADS. She reported to the commission the Head Start concerns about staff retention and recruitment as well as the enrollment initiative. They had some training focused on Behavior Help.
- b. Arkansas Head Start-State Collaboration Office-Jackie Govan shared that NHSA had submitted a letter to OHS pertaining to the National Proposed Rule making. They were concerned about the lack of resources offered by the rule making. Jackie shared that she is planning site visits to local programs in January and February. The Collab Office will be hosting a book study on Stress and Burnout beginning in February. More information will be shared via email. We will host Powerful Conversations for Fathers in March, July, and November. Jackie will be sharing information about impacts of innovation and moving beyond z at the Leadership Development Luncheon. There will be a National Head Start State Collaboration Office Meeting in February.
- c. Region VI Head Start Association-Jackie Govan shared that the Board will be meeting at the Dallas Regional Office in January. We have not received any information on the New Mexico conference.
- d. Arkansas Head Start Association Institute-Jackie Govan shared that we are getting things ready. The contracts have been finalized. The deadline for call for papers has been extended. She highlighted the Come as You Wish and Leadership Luncheon that will be supported by Shine Early Learning. She encouraged programs to get their basket themes in by January 26. There will be a workday on February 7 and April 10 at 9:00 am.
- e. National Head Start Association Updates-Jackie Govan covered earlier in her report.

VIII. Announcements (if any). Jana Bays announced her retirement from Save the Children. Jackie Govan shared that the ACAA conference will be May 20-24 at the Wyndham Hotel in North Little Rock.

a. Dates to Remember...

i. Arkansas

1. AR Head Start Association Institute/Opioid & Substance Misuse Summit: April 30-May 3, 2024

2. 2024 Powerful Conversations with Fathers: March 12th, July 9th, and November 12th
3. School Readiness Summit: November 1, 2024
4. Homelessness Meeting-Each Month-Last Wednesday

ii. Regional

1. Region 6 Head Start Association Conference: New Mexico
2. Region VI Head Start Association Board Meeting-January 29, 2024 at the Dallas Regional Office

iii. National

1. National Head Start Association's 2024 Winter Leadership Institute, Washington, D.C., January 22-25, 2024
2. 2024 National Conference & Expo, Portland, Oregon from April 15-18, 2024
3. National Head Start Association's 2024 Fall Leadership Institute, Washington, D.C., September 23-26, 2024
4. National Head Start Association Parent Conference: San Diego, CA, December 16-19, 2024

IX. Next Meeting Date: Class/Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 27, 2024 (Face to Face Meeting)

X. Adjournment: ***Jana Bays made a motion to adjourn at 11:52 am. Michelle Furlow second the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.***

Submitted by,

Deana Howell, Administrative Services Manager

Arkansas Head Start Association