

# Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas

## School Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 26th, 2024

**Time:** 4:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom

**Meeting Type:** Regular

**Board Members Present:** Will Hanna- Board President, Countess Hodges- Board Member, Dr. Kathy Morledge- Board Member, Maribel Childress, Board Member

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Staff in Attendance:** Rebekah Mitchelle- NWACS Executive Director, Katie Drake- Principal, Jeff Smith- Finance Director, Doug Hes- Superintendent

### **Called to Order:**

Meeting was called to order at 4:39 p.m. by Board President Will Hanna. The meeting was a regular school board meeting for Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas via Zoom.

### **Discussion:**

Hope Academy Superintendent, Doug Hes

- Superintendent Update
  - Audit Update
    - Audit complete, waiting on results
  - Future Planning Update
    - Final drafts of white paper for program review currently being completed
    - Update to be provided at April meeting
  - Solar Eclipse Preparation
    - Curricular activities being planned to coincide with eclipse viewing
    - Glasses for all students and staff provided through APSRC
    - School will remain open

Principal, Katie Drake

- Student Achievement Update
  - Progress reporting data based on standards-based grading shows K-2 is primarily in the close to ready range of grade-level standards. 3-4 shows to be primarily in the needs support range.
  - All students identified as in need of support are receiving intensive intervention services for literacy and math.
- Operations update: Staffing and Enrollment
  - No critical staffing needs
  - Current staffing provides program stability
  - Enrollment is stable and holding at 30 students

Finance Director, Jeff Smith

- Presented the February budget
  - Budget on track
    - Anticipated Title Funding came through, which accounts for increase in revenue after last month's shortfall
    - Payroll Negative Variance due to addition of Program Development Manager
      - Rebekah Mitchell shared that addition of Program Development Manager is a contract position through the Walton Family Foundation grant

Principal, Katie Drake

- Countess Hodges requested an update on next year's calendar planning
  - Hope is requesting a charter waiver for uniform start and end dates in an effort to begin school a week earlier. The purpose of this waiver is to allow us to stay in alignment with other local district calendars.

### **Action Items**

- **February Financials**

- Board President Will Hanna asked for a motion to approve the December financials as presented.

Motion: Kathy Morledge

Second: Countess Hodges

Vote: 4-0

Motion Passes

- **February Board Meeting Minutes**

- Board President Will Hanna asked for a motion to approve the November board meeting minutes as Presented

Motion: Kathy Morledge

Second: Countess Hodges

Vote: 4-0

Motion Passes

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Board President Will Hanna requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made and seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.