



Arkansas School Counselor Association

ArSCA Board Meeting

March 11, 2026

Zoom

4:00am-5:30pm

Theme: Be the Spark

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call - Meeting called to order by President Lyle at 3:52 pm.

Attending (**voting member**):

Lyle, President	Callaway, Conference	Harvison, Office Manager
Finley, Technology	Whatley, Public Relations	Dockery, Past President
Bowen, Technology	Stewart, President Elect	French, NE President
Lewis, Grant Writer	McWhorter, SW President	N. Williams, Central President
Cochran	Roberts, SE President	M. Williams, Secondary VP

The meeting was moved forward to give time for the quota for voting purposes.

Angela Millard is planning to present at the conference on advocating for all students with acceptable terminology. President Lyle asked for clarification, and Callaway said she needed to complete the form to present. Drake-Gordon shared that more volunteers are needed for the American Red Cross. Volunteers will be contacted when needed, not necessarily reporting to your region.

- II. Announcements/Reminders

- a. Reminder - newsletter assignments [ArSCA Newsletter Assignments/Content Guidelines - Google Sheets](#)
Reminders are only listed for those who submit items to the newsletter monthly.

- III. Approval of Minutes – Donna Wilchie (emailed)

Motion #1 by Katie French and seconded by Nick Williams to approve the minutes. (all in favor)

- IV. Approval of Financial Report – Susie Harvison (emailed)

Motion #2 by Jana McWhorter and seconded by Nick Williams to approve the minutes. (all in favor)

- V. Region News & Reports - please submit to the president or secretary for the agenda

- CENTRAL REGION - Nick Williams - none shared
- NORTH CENTRAL REGION - Shayne Thompson - not in attendance/none shared
- NORTHEAST REGION - Katie French - working on one-day conference for June
- NORTHWEST REGION - Karon Parish - not in attendance/none shared
- SOUTHEAST REGION - Bernie Roberts - COY information submitted and will meet soon
- SOUTHWEST REGION - Jana McWhorter - completed the COY online form for the state

- VI. Additional Committee Reports

- Budget Committee Update - Kelli Dockery - meeting tonight, March 11th
- Conference Committee Update - Terri Callaway

ArSCA Conference June 29 – July 1, 2026 Hot Springs, AR

Proposals coming in to CoChair Callaway. One organization that can present multiple presentations. Callaway will send out their possible presentations to choose what is needed. Callaway also spoke with CKitchens, who wants the best conference experience. We can provide our maximum meal cost within budgeting (Levyi Catering). If the concession stand is open, there is a \$1500 requirement. The board is responsible for the shortfall. After the discussion, the decision was to offer the concession stand option on Monday, allowing those not wanting to eat off campus to grab a meal on-site.

Monday evening will offer longer sessions and share sessions to avoid attendees not showing up on the last day. Finley asked Callaway for the list of the virtual presentations.

VII. New Business

- a. Form hiring committee - Jennifer Lyle - With Harvison retiring from the Office Manager position in December, a hiring committee will be formed to find someone to fill that position. The person hired will shadow Harvison and take the position on January 1, 2027. Lyle will send out an interest form for the committee to review (\$15,000 per year paid position). Harvison will be a mentor to the person in that position, who works closely with Bowan. Harvison shared that she has appreciated working with everyone and is stepping down due to health reasons. She has asked not to be part of the hiring process.
- b. SAR LDI Report - Nick Williams and Jane Stewart
Stewart shared about their learning experience and networking, which was a very good use of time and money. Topics - STEM, UTI, conference ideas, servant leadership
Stewart would love to share her slides with ArSCA and will be sharing them with her district. She and Williams can share at the summer conference. Williams shared about a mentorship program and the networking opportunity with another school counselor he met there.

VIII. Old Business

- a. School Counselor of the Year (SCOY) Update - Allison Spraggins
Spraggins is unable to attend but shared an update with Lyle. She has been in contact with the regional presidents and has emailed regional winners to complete the portal application. She has also encouraged regional presidents to check their emails to communicate with the applicants. Applications open until April 1st, and the committee will review and vote on the applicants. The overall winner will be notified but not announced until the summer conference. Notifying them allows them to submit their national application.
- b. Hugh Lovett Scholarship Update - Secondary VPs A. Michelle Williams and Dr. Pam Dixon
Twelve applicants - M. Williams asked for clarification on how to send out the voting (anonymous). All applications were sent through Google, and some references were shared electronically with M. Williams separately.
Dockery shared how she shared the information with the voting members.
- c. Handbook Update - Jennifer Lyle
Any revisions to the wording will be made by Secretary Wilchie. A discussion was held to obtain board approval, but the form can be used to present those changes to the board.
Finley shared the link to submit handbook revisions
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLvCUo8juyIKSWG-wb59cyQEwrfbbr1puebg9ufOnH06g7YQ/viewform> Finley encouraged entering the updates in the form (Callaway shared some updates via the form). Discussion continued to inform the board of the changes and provide future leadership with

awareness of the changes and procedures. Lyle will meet with Wilchie to discuss updating the handbook. Whatley shared reviewing the handbook at each LDI and opening the updates at that time.

- IX. Adjournment - **Motion #3** by Jane Stewart and seconded by Jana McWhorter to adjourn the meeting. (all in favor)

Future Meetings

ArSCA Board Meetings:

April 8, 2026

May 13, 2026

Lunch and mileage will be provided when meeting in person.

If meetings are face to face, there will be a hybrid option for those who cannot attend in person.

ArSCA Conference June 29 – July 1, 2026 Hot Springs, AR **Theme: Be the Spark**

ASCA National Conference July 11-14, 2026 New Orleans, LA

ArSCA LDI August 1st UofA Grad School 8am-4pm

-President's July 31st Fayetteville

ArSCA Conference June 28 – 30, 2027 Hot Springs, AR

ASCA National Conference July 17-20, 2027 Columbus, OH

ASCA National Conference July 15-18, 2028 Seattle, WA

ASCA National Conference July 14-17, 2029 Charlotte, NC