Arkansas School Counselor Association
ArSCA Board Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2026
Zoom
4:00pm-5:30pm
Theme: Celebrating 85 Years of ArSCA

I. Call to Order/Roll Call
Meeting called to order by President Lyle at 4:12 pm. (22 members - **11 voting, 11 non-voting**)

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, not for discussion.
Please check your information on the ArSCA Board Roster. Send corrections to secretary@arschoolcounselor.org

President Lyle introduced and welcomed the new board members - LaShona Crater, SE Region President and Allie Sage Simmons, SW Region President.

III. Approval of Minutes – Donna Wilchie (PDF emailed and link to view in Google)
May 13, 2026 Board Minutes
Motion #1 by Katie French and seconded by Nick Williams to approve the minutes. **(All in favor)**

IV. Financial Report – April, May, June, July, and August (documents shared via links to view in Google)
Motion #2 by Karon Parrish and seconded by Nick Williams to accept the financial report. **(All in favor)**

V. Region News & Reports - please submit to the president or secretary for the agenda or share “no report”
No reports shared

a. CENTRAL REGION - Nick Williams
b. NORTH CENTRAL REGION - Shayne Thompson
c. NORTHEAST REGION - Katie French
d. NORTHWEST REGION - Karon Parrish
e. SOUTHEAST REGION - Lashona Crater
f. SOUTHWEST REGION - Allie Sage

Regional presidents will form as a committee to assign the president responsible for the information in the newsletter beginning in November. We will ensure the sponsor's advertisement is inserted. The December meeting will review the responses. Karon Parrish will lead the committee.

VI. Additional Committee Reports

a. Handbook Report -Dr. Jennifer Lyle

Motion #3 by Kelli Dockery and seconded by Katie French to approve the handbook report. **(8 in favor, 1 no)** The board will move on to the Bylaws to update. ArSCA will use the same document to make updates since it is a live document.

b. Technology - Dr. Robin Finley
Tahnee Bowen shared on Dr. Finley’s behalf. Non-members were removed from the listserv on October 1st. Tahnee completed conference attendance tracking manually after speaking with Conference Tracker, which somehow removed all the times after a possible update. The virtual option was questioned by a board member. The board discussed that some members depend on that option. Virtual attendees only have a limited time to watch the recordings.
c. Budget Update -Kelli Dockery
The committee will resume soon to work on the 2026-2027 operating budget.
d. Public Relations & Advocacy -Susan Whatley

VII. New Business

a. Form Committees
A Bylaws Committee and Contract Committee will be formed. Susan Whatley has agreed to chair the Bylaws Committee. President Lyle will share who the Contract Committee chair will be later.
b. ArSCA Team
c. Pending DESE administrative rules - Karon Parrish
Parrish shared the DESE Draft of the Rules Governing Grading and Course Credit for public comment. Anyone wanting to make a public comment and not sure how can reach out to VP Parrish.
d. Conference questions - Susie Harvison
The office manager shared information about scholarships and asked whether the board wants to continue. At our next meeting, we can discuss the guidelines. School counselors also want to change regions. The office manager has two file cabinets that the next office manager will not need.
e. 5:10pm-Accountant Ryan Lang (SAX) - Donna Wilchie
Bookkeeping with Thuy (SAX Financials) will continue. The only change is that the 990EZ (gross proceeds over $50,000) will become the responsibility of ArSCA and not ASCA. SAX will charge ASCA the cost, averaging $1,500, which ArSCA will pay through ASCA if moving forward with this service for the 2027 tax filing. Shane Lease and ThuyTruc Nguyen will get the information to ArSCA that ASCA’s Liesel was provided and shared on the ASCA website.

VIII. Old Business

a. 2027 Conference - Terri Callaway
Save the date has been shared via the September newsletter. Registration will be sent out when the board approves the use of Conference Tracker for the next conference's registration. The presenters' packages will not be run through Conference Tracker in the future because the platform is disorganized, which will save ArSCA about $1,000. Two and one-half days will continue. A mixer will be considered. Two lunches will also be considered. Location change cannot occur until 2028.
Motion #4 by Nick Williams and seconded by Karon Parrish to utilize Conference Tracker for 2026-2027. **(All in favor)**

b. 2028 Conference Update - Jane Stewart
VP Stewart shared results from the survey to host future conferences. Calculations from 2022 to the present were shown to reduce expenditures.

c. Budget/Accountant Update - Susie Harvison and Dr. Donna Wilchie
See new business above

d. Positions open - Dr. Jennifer Lyle
Past President Dockery sent an open positions request with one person from the Northeast interested.

IX. Adjournment
Motion #5, made by A. Michelle Williams and seconded by Katie French, to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 pm. **(All in favor)**

Future Meetings
ArSCA Board Meetings:
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.
Dec 2, 2026
Feb 3, 2027
April 7, 2027
May 5, 2027

ArSCA Conference June 28 – 30, 2027 Hot Springs, AR
Celebrating 85 Years of ArSCA

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

ArSCA Conference Summer 2028 TBD
ASCA National Conference June 24-27, 2028 Seattle, WA

ArSCA Conference Summer 2029 TBD
ASCA National Conference July 14-17, 2029 Charlotte, NC