

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, September 24th, 2024

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
North Little Rock Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Chris Bell, Chad Froud

Members Absent:

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the July 2024 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Mr. Jeff Pulliam. Minute unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran provided a quick update on the status of the schools, the ICU team, Atlas test results release date, and district wide enrollment.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were reviewed

ACTION ITEMS / BOARD BUSINESS:

- **24-25 Budget:** Motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Mr. Chad Froud. Budget unanimously approved.
- **24-25 Updated Calendar:** Motion by Mr. Chad Froud and seconded by Mr. Chris Bell. Updated Calendar unanimously approved.

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:11 PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, November 19th, 2024

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Garland Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam and Chad Froud

Members Absent: Chris Bell

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the September 2024 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chad Froud and seconded by Mr. Jeff Pulliam. Minute unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran provided a quick update on the budget, school realignment, Atlas testing, and the dyslexia school charter conversion.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were tabled for the next meeting as the finance chair was absent

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:09 PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, February 18th, 2025

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Garland Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam and Chad Froud

Members Absent: Chris Bell

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the December 2024 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Jeff Pulliam and seconded by Mr. Chad Froud. Minute unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran provided an update on school operations, highlighting the district's overall growth in math, science, ELA, and reading based on the latest ATLAS results. He also announced that Friendship is no longer subject to ACT 1082, as less than 50% of its students require reading support. Additionally, he shared the exciting news that the Southeast campus has been recognized by the State Department of Education for ranking within the top 6-10% in student growth.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were tabled for the next meeting as the finance chair was absent

ACTION ITEM: Mr. Chad Froud motioned to approve the expansion of the charter to add a dyslexia campus to the network, and seconded by Mr. Jeff Pulliam. Item was unanimously approved.

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, March 18th, 2025

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Southeast Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:09 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Chad Froud, Chris Bell

Members Absent: None

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the February 2025 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chad Froud and seconded by Mr. Chris Bell. Minute unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran provided an update on school operations, highlighting the district's OEP award for Garland Middle, and the Beating the Odds Award for Garland Middle, North Little Rock, Southeast Middle and High, Pine Bluff Hazel, and Pine Bluff Downtown. He informed the Board that the school day has been extended by one hour to make up for snow days and provided insight into the upcoming letter grades and anticipated changes to the accountability model in April.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were reviewed

ACTION ITEM:

1. Accept New Board Member: New board member Virginia Henry was accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Mr. Chad Froud. Action Item was unanimously approved.
2. 2023-2024 Audit: School Year 2023-2024 Audit was accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Mr. Chad Froud. Action Item was unanimously approved.

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:40 PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, April 22nd, 2025

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Downtown Pine Bluff Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:08 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Virginia Perry, Chris Bell (12:15)

Members Absent: Chad Froud

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the March 2025 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Ms. Virginia Perry and seconded by Mr. Jeff Pulliam. Minute unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran shared an update on school operations, including the recently released Simulated Letter Grades from the Arkansas Department of Education. The district's results are as follows: Friendship Garland – C, Garland Middle – D, North Little Rock – D, Downtown Pine Bluff – B, Hazell Street – B, Southeast Middle – C, and Southeast High School – D. Dr. Tran also emphasized preparations underway for the upcoming state assessments.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were reviewed

ACTION ITEM:

1. 2025-2026 School Calendar: Accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. Action Item was unanimously approved.
2. OPAA Contract Renewal: Accepted on a motion by Ms. Virginia Perry and seconded by Mr. Chris Bell. Action Item was unanimously approved.

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:17 PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, May 20th, 2025

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
North Little Rock Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Virginia Perry, Chris Bell, Chad Froud

Members Absent:

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the April 2025 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Ms. Virginia Perry and seconded by Mr. Chris Bell. Minute unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran provided an update on end-of-year operations, including a report on ATLAS testing. She noted that the majority of students have completed their assessments.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were reviewed. The finance report was accepted on a motion by Chad Froud and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. The finance report was unanimously approved.

ACTION ITEM:

- 25-26 School Budget and GEPH Statement: Motioned by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. Action items unanimously approved.

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:17 PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, June 18st, 2024

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Garland Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:18 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Chad Froud, Chris Bell

Members Absent:

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the May 2024 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chad Froud and seconded by Mr. Chris Bell. Minute unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran provided a quick update on the status of the schools, the upcoming school year, and the summer Teacher University.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were tabled for the next board meeting. Motioned by Mr. Chad Froud and seconded by Mr. Chris Bell. Unanimously approved.

ACTION ITEMS / BOARD BUSINESS:

- 2024-2025 Board Meeting Schedule: Motioned by Mr. Chad Froud and seconded by Mr. Chris Bell. 2024-2025 Board Meeting Schedule was unanimously approved.
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FINAL REMARKS: The next meeting date will be July 16th at 12:00 PM at Pine Bluff Downtown.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:24 pm.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, August 15th, 2025

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Central Office Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Virginia Perry, Chris Bell

Members Absent: Chad Froud

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the July 2025 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. Minute unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran shared an update on the start of the new school year and the enrollment counts per campus.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were reviewed.

ACTION ITEM:

- Lease: Virginia, chris
- Bus: Chris, Virginia
- Board Schedule: chris, virginia

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:40 PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, July 16th, 2024

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Pine Bluff Downtown Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:42 AM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Chris Bell

Members Absent: Chad Froud

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the June 2024 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Mr. Jeff Pulliam. Minute unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran provided a quick update on the status of the schools, the upcoming school year, and the summer Teacher University.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were reviewed

ACTION ITEMS / BOARD BUSINESS:

- None

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:45 AM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, August 14th, 2025

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Central Office Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Virginia Perry, Chris Bell

Members Absent: Chad Froud

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the July 2025 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. Minutes unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran provided an update on the start of the new school year and shared enrollment counts for each campus.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were reviewed.

ACTION ITEM:

- Friendship Aspire Lab School for Dyslexia Lease: A motion to approve the action item was made by Ms. Virginia Perry and seconded by Mr. Chris Bell. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Bus Purchases: A motion to approve the action item was made by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Board Schedule Change: A motion to approve the action item was made by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. The motion was unanimously approved.

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:40 PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, September 30th, 2025

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Central Office Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12: 16 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Virginia Perry, Chris Bell

Members Absent: Chad Froud

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the August 2025 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. Minutes unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran talked about the school's letter grade and what contributed to the letter grades that the schools had received.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were reviewed.

ACTION ITEM:

- 2025-2026 Budget. The budget was accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. The budget was unanimously approved.

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12: 23PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, November 19th, 2025

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Central Office Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12: 44 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Virginia Perry, Chris Bell

Members Absent: Chad Froud

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the September 2025 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. Minutes unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran talked about the district's letter grade and what contributed to that grade, and how we are working on rectifying the situation.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were reviewed, and we discussed the loss of facility funding and the adjustments made to the budget to account for this change.

ACTION ITEM:

- 2025-2026 Salary Schedule. The schedule was accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. The budget was unanimously approved.

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1: 10PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, December 17th, 2024

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Downtown Pine Bluff Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam and Chad Froud

Members Absent: Chris Bell

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the November 2024 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chad Froud and seconded by Mr. Jeff Pulliam. Minute unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran shared an update on school operations, including principal meetings to address next steps from the ATLAS assessment. He also reminded the board about their required hours and the lab school conversion.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were tabled for the next meeting as the finance chair was absent

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran

**FRIENDSHIP ASPIRE ACADEMY ARKANSAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board Meeting Minutes**

Friday, December 19th, 2025

**Location: Friendship Aspire Academy
Central Office Campus**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12: 28 PM. A quorum was established.

Members Present: Jeffrey Pulliam, Virginia Perry, Chris Bell

Members Absent: Chad Froud

Guests/Staff Members: Phong Tran

Minutes for the November 2025 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Mr. Chris Bell and seconded by Ms. Virginia Perry. Minutes unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Tran discussed the recent CAP meeting and the upcoming meeting at which a presentation will be required and where the possibility of being placed on probation may be considered. Dr. Tran also addressed the option of challenging a probationary designation, noting concerns about equity, as traditional public schools are not subject to the same probationary status.

FINANCE REPORT: Financial documents were reviewed, and we discussed the loss of facility funding and the adjustments made to the budget to account for this change.

ACTION ITEM:

- Mr. Bell made a motion to add the Charter School Performance Improvement Statement of Assurance as an action item on the agenda. Ms. Perry seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.
- 2025-2026 Charter School Performance Improvement State of Assurance. Mr. Bell made a motion to approve the Charter School Performance Improvement Statement of Assurance as an action item on the agenda. Ms. Perry seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

FINAL REMARKS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:38 PM.

Minutes Recorder: Phong Tran