



ANSAA Member Newsletter

Arkansas Nonpublic School Accrediting Association
2209 South 18th Place - Rogers, AR 72758
479-246-0032

August 1, 2018

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On behalf of the ANSAA Board of Directors, we welcome you to the 2018-2019 school year. We are pleased to have you as part of our association and we look forward to assisting you in maintaining your school's excellent reputation by adhering to professional standards through the ANSAA Accreditation Process.

ANSAA Board Members

ANSAA Officers 2018-2019:

President / Gary Arnold, Head of School; Little Rock Christian Academy, LR

Vice President / Sharon Stewart, Principal; Southwest Christian Academy, LR

Secretary / Ileana Dobbins, Former Principal; Little Rock

Treasurer / Sharon Morgan, Athletic Director; The Anthony School, Little Rock

ANSAA Board Member Re-elected for Three Year Terms / 2018-2019

Board Position #2 Leesa Renshaw, Head of Academics; Pulaski Academy, Little Rock

ANSAA Board Members Currently Serving

Position #1 Theresa Hall 2018-21 Position #6 Sharon Blentlinger 2016-19

Position #2 Leesa Renshaw 2018-21 Position #7 Gary Arnold 2017-20

Position #3 Justin Moseley 2018-21 Position #8 Sharon Stewart 2017-20

Position #4 Bode Teague 2016-19 Position #9 TBA 2017-20

Position #5 Ileana Dobbins 2016-19 Position #10 Sharon Morgan 2017-20

New ANSAA Board Members, Theresa Hall & Justin Moseley

Theresa Hall, Catholic Schools of Arkansas, Little Rock (Position #1) and Justin Moseley, Life Way Christian School, Centerton (Position #3) will begin serving on the ANSAA Board of Directors this year. Their expertise, guidance, and wisdom will be a tremendous asset to the organization. Theresa Hall fills the position vacated by Vernell Bowen who retired in June 2018. Justin Moseley fills the position vacated by Dennis Chapman who made a career move to Florida. Additionally, Greg Jones (Position #9) has submitted his resignation due to a career move to California. We thank Theresa, Justin, Vernell, Dennis, and Greg for their dedication to ANSAA.

New Chief ANSAA Administrators for 2018-2019

Abundant Life School, Sherwood

Anthony School, The, Little Rock

Bentonville Christian Academy, Bentonville

First Baptist Church Christian School, Rogers

First Lutheran School, Fort Smith

New School, The, Fayetteville

Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic School, Little Rock

Shiloh Christian School, Springdale

St. John Catholic School, Hot Springs

Subiaco Academy, Subiaco

Trinity Christian School, Texarkana

West Memphis Christian School, West Memphis

Gloria Massey, Superintendent

Blane Covert, Head of School

Amber Moore, Head of School

Catherin Blankenship, Interim Principal

Samuel Fishburn, Principal

Susan Groesbeck, Interim Pres.

Nancy Handloser, Principal

Ben Mayes, Interim President/CEO

Janet Edgar, Principal

David Wright, Headmaster

Stephanie Carver, Acting Head of School

Shane Edwards, Headmaster

*New Administrators are invited to attend ANSAA Orientation on
Friday, September 7, 2018 from 12:00-2:30 at St. John's Center, LR. Lunch provided.*

Congratulations Schools Completing ANSAA Accreditation in 2017-2018

Accreditation Renewals:

Crowley's Ridge Academy, Paragould (K-12)
Mount St. Mary Academy, Little Rock (9-12)
Trinity Christian School, Texarkana (K-12)

Raymond Lasley, President
Angela Collins, Principal
Stephanie Carver, Acting Head of School

Dual Accreditation Renewals:

Avilla Christian School, Alexander (K-12)
Columbia Christian School, Magnolia (K-12)
Life Way Christian School, Centerton (K-12)

Richard Meyers, Principal
Ted Waller, Superintendent
Dr. Luke Bowers, Head Administrator

ANSAA Site Visit Dates 2018-2019

ANSAA Renewals:

Anthony School, The (K-8), Little Rock
Arkansas Christian Academy (K-12), Bryant
Southwest Christian Academy (K-12), Little Rock
St. John Catholic School (K-5), Russellville
St. Joseph Catholic School (K-8), Paris

Blane Covert, Head of School
Tina Goddard, Principal
Sharon Stewart, Principal
Mark Tyler, Principal
Christy Koprovic, Principal

October 28-30, 2018
November 4-6, 2018
December 2-4, 2018
April 28-30, 2019
March 10-12, 2019

Dual Accreditation Renewals:

Christ Lutheran School (K-8), Little Rock
Pulaski Academy (K-12), Little Rock
Shiloh Christian School (K-12), Springdale

Heidi Jerry, Principal
Matt Walsh, Head of School
Ben Mayes, Interim President/CEO

March 31-April 3, 2019
April 22-24, 2019
April 14-16, 2019

Initial Accreditation Candidate Status:

Harvest Time Academy (K-6), Fort Smith
Our Lady of Fatima, (K-8), Benton

Michelle Sloan, Director
Jan Cash, Principal

October 14-16, 2018
TBA

ANSAA School Updates

School Closure: Annor Academy (K-9), Fort Smith closed at the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

ANSAA Self Study

The 2018 Edition of the ANSAA Self-Study is complete. The instrument is an accreditation tool that directly correlates with the ANSAA standards found in the current ANSAA Policy Manual. Any school interested in obtaining a copy of the Self-Study or scheduling staff training on the use of the instrument should contact Kristine Grelle at 479-246-0032 or kristine.grelle@cox.net.

ANSAA Summer Workshops

Thanks to all host schools, presenters, and participants assisting in making the ANSAA 2018 Summer Professional Development Workshops such a success. Evaluations will continue to be reviewed to develop future recommendations for the use of the Title II-A federal funds. ANSAA appreciates all the cooperation and guidance offered by the Arkansas Department of Education and Arch Ford Education Service Cooperative in supporting our collaborative efforts in organizing professional development for our ANSAA schools. The workshops and all supporting materials continue to be offered free of charge.

Bring attention to your school's accreditation and national recognition by adding links to your school's website and promotional materials that includes ANSAA (ansaa.net), NFSSAA (nfssaa.com), and CAPE (capenet.org). Your school is a member of both of these national organizations through ANSAA.

Arkansas New Laws and Regulations

Specific information regarding state laws can be found on ANNSA.com under the “Laws and Legislation” tab. This includes all changes made in the last legislative session.

AR 529 Gift Plan - Senate Bill 6 now Act 15 passed on March 20, 2018 in the Arkansas Second Extraordinary Session of 2018. ACT 15 allows Arkansas Tax-Deferred Tuition Savings Programs (529 Plans) to not only be used for higher education but also to be used for the elementary or secondary public, private, or religious schools. The reference to private schools can be found in SB6, definition (9) “Higher education institution” means an eligible education institution as defined in 26 U.S.C. 235 (c) (3), as in effect on January 1, 2018. The 26 U.S.C. 235 (c) (3) code expanded the scope of “qualified higher education expenses” to include elementary or secondary public, private, or religious schools and the expansion was adopted by Arkansas in March, 2018. For more information visit <https://www.arkansas529.org/> email chris.scott@artreasury.gov or call (501) 682-1406.

Arkansas Department of Education - Changes in Licensure

In April 2018, the Arkansas Department of Education enacted new rules related to licensure. The most significant change is as follows: “It is further the purpose of these rules to provide a framework for the multiple tiers of licensure under an Educator Career Continuum, beginning January 1, 2019 with the 2018-2019 school year. The Educator Career Continuum is designed to provide teacher support and development that is needed to recruit new teachers into the profession and provide opportunities for teachers to grow into new roles for leadership and outstanding achievement as effective teachers without leaving teaching, to meet the state’s goal of ensuring that all students have access to effective educators.” Follow this link for the full document: [http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/Legal/Legal-Current%20Rules/Educator Licensure Final--effective 4-30-18.pdf](http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/Legal/Legal-Current%20Rules/Educator%20Licensure%20Final--effective%204-30-18.pdf).

Please note: Act 1063 of 2017, the Right to Read Act, requiring demonstration of proficiency or awareness in knowledge and practices of scientific reading instruction is NOT required for private school educators and will not affect licensure.

National Federation of Nonpublic School State Accrediting Associations (NFNSSAA.com)

The NFNSSAA Annual Meeting was held in St. Louis, MO on June 6-7, 2018. The following states were present: Arkansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin. The agenda items included:

NFNSSAA Action Plans Completed in 2017-2018

- NFNSSAA investigate membership in other national organizations.
- Work with National Honor Society to ensure that NFNSSAA is listed as an approved regional accrediting body.
- Continue using certificates and letters from NFNSSAA.
- Maintain our NFNSSAA website.
- Encourage the use of the NFNSSAA logo among accredited schools.
- Report on NFNSSAA strategic goals and conference calls to state board members.

NFNSSAA Action Plans for 2018-2019

- Create a joint marketing statement to be utilized nationally and within individual state agencies.
- Create a NFNSSAA newsletter.
- Contact other state accrediting agencies.

NFNSSAA Officers for 2018-2019: Dan Bauer, President (MO), Angelia Salas, Vice President (MI), Bea Weiland, Secretary (WI), and Sarah Mueller, Treasurer (MN)

2018-2019 ANSAA Events:

Friday, Sept. 7
New Admin. Orientation
Monday, Sept. 10
ANSAA Board Meeting
Wednesday, Nov. 14
ANSAA Board Meeting
Thursday, Nov. 15
ANSAA Annual Meeting
Monday, March 4
ANSAA Board Meeting
Monday, June 3
ANSAA Board Meeting
June 4-5, Rogers
NFNSSAA Annual Meeting
Summer 2019
CAPE Meeting

Arkansas Activity Association / AAA

The Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) Annual Meeting of the Governing Body was held on July 30, 2018 in Little Rock. The focus of the meeting was to consider the following four proposals to amend the AAA Constitution and Bylaws which will be voted on by the state membership.

Proposal No. 1 / Sanctioning	* Pass
To amend and clarify the sanction rules as recommended by the sanctioning committee	
Proposal No. 2 / Age Rule	* Pass
To align with state attendance law.	
Proposal No. 3 / Football Zero Week Scheduling	* Pass
To align scheduling opportunities for senior high and junior high.	
Proposal No. 4 / Allow Use of Football Dummies Year-Round	* Pass
To allow coaches to teach safe practices all year.	

For additional information about the AAA Proposals go to:
http://members.ahsaa.org/public/userfiles/Admin/2018_Proposals_.pdf

ANSAA Changes in Policy Manual

The ANSAA Board of Directors have made a few changes to the ANSAA Policy Manual. Please note the following additions to the 2018 edition:

- ***3.10** Added K-4 as a complete unit
- ***4.0** All teachers, *including those teaching specialty classes (i.e. Art, Music, Spanish, P.E.)*, have a minimum of a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year institution of higher education and typically teach in their major or minor field of study. When requesting an exception to this standard, the school must submit an ANSAA Professional Deficiency Plan for board approval.
- ***6.2** Removed the kindergarten instructional time requirement (a full day program shall not be less than 5 ½ hours).
- ***6.10** Include personal and family finance standards (AR Code 6-16-135 / The Department of Education) into the secondary curriculum effective at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year.
- ***9.2 (*d)** Added monthly fire drills required
- ***11.0** The school has the responsibility of developing a Strategic Plan to strengthen all aspect of the school's operation (i.e. academic progress, enrollments, finances, staffing, facilities, marketing, and public relations); the plan must be updated annually and include the finances, personnel, resources, and timelines needed to achieve the action plans and goals.

ANSAA's Mission and Advocacy Work

"The mission of the Arkansas Nonpublic School Accrediting Association (ANSAA) is to maintain and enhance the quality of education within our diverse member schools through assessment, accountability, and internal review. Using a process of self-study and professional site visits, ANSAA schools demonstrate compliance with established standards which are designed to support ongoing improvement." Again this year, the ANSAA Board of Directors would like to invite each school to consider making a donation towards the advocacy work of ANSAA that extends beyond its mission. These efforts include working with the Arkansas Department of Education to provide professional development, national and state recognition and verification of our accredited schools, clarification of regulations and state laws pertaining to private schools, and inclusion in state programs such as non-traditional licensure (APPEL). Additionally, ANSAA works with national organizations such as NFNSSAA and CAPE to provide schools with national networking acknowledgement. These efforts require a financial commitment which has been offset by pursuing ANSAA Corporate Sponsorships. If your school would like to make a contribution, please include your donation on the "Annual Membership Application & Fees" Form.

ANSAA Mandatory Reporting Information

All forms for the 2018-19 ANSAA Annual Reports are listed on ANSAA.com with detailed instructions. Contact the ANSAA office (479-246-0032) or (501-803-3888) if you need assistance with the forms. All forms have been updated with some deletions and additions from previous years. Please do not alter the forms to fit a different format or use forms from previous years. Note that the electronic filing process for accredited schools remains.

ANSAA Forms, Reports, & Fees - Due September 17

All forms and information related to the ANSAA Annual Report must be submitted either electronically or by mail, according to the directives provided, to the ANSAA office by the September 17, 2018. If the forms and/or payments are submitted after the September 17th deadline, include a late fee of \$100.

ANSAA Policy Manual

The ANSAA Policy Manual Edition 2018 will be used as a reference to identify all ANSAA Standards. Annual Report Forms (Elementary, Secondary, and Non-Accredited) are correlated to the 2018 Policy Manual Edition which was e-mailed to all head administrators in August, 2018.

E-Mail Addresses for Administrators & Directory

ANSAA information will be sent to school administrators by e-mail. The Membership Application indicates the school e-mail address that will be listed in the ANSAA Directory. Under Chief Executive Officer on the membership form, include the e-mail addresses of other school administrators' that need to receive ANSAA information. The new ANSAA Directory for 2018-2019 will be posted on ANSAA.com the first week in October after the review of all ANSAA Annual Reports.

Associate Schools Annual Reports:

Mail to ANSAA Office by September 17

ANSAA Non-Accredited Associate Schools must include the following forms along with applicable payments to:

*Kristine Grelle, ANSAA Executive Director
2209 South 18th Place / Rogers, AR 72758*

- Associate Schools Annual Membership Application & Fees
- ANSAA Non-Accredited Associate Annual Report
- ANSAA Annual Meeting Registration
- Application for Initial Accreditation (candidate status schools only)
- ANSAA New Administrator Qualifications (if applicable)
- ANSAA New Administrator Orientation (if applicable)

Accredited Schools Annual Reports:

Email to ANSAA Office by September 17

All Accredited School Forms will be completed in Microsoft Excel. The complete Excel Annual Report must be submitted electronically by September 17, to kristine.grelle@cox.net.

The following information must also be attached to the email:

- Written Report Addressing Major Recommendations
A list of the Major Recommendations from the school's last accreditation site visit must be sent annually along with a current progress report stating how the school is addressing the recommendations. Schools completing site visits in the past six years were sent templates for reporting on major recommendations.
- ANSAA New Administrator Qualifications Form (if applicable)
- School's Current Strategic Plan – only for schools applying for accreditation renewal (see list of schools below).
- NOTE: Audit letters are no longer required to be filed annually, however, every school must complete the ANSAA Financial Review Form.

Mail to ANSAA Office by September 17

ANSAA Accredited Schools must mail a copy of the "Accredited Schools Annual Membership Application & Fees" page from the Excel Electronic Annual Report along with applicable payments to:

*Kristine Grelle, ANSAA Executive Director
2209 South 18th Place / Rogers, AR 72758*

Payment included with the "Accredited Schools Annual Membership Application & Fees" form includes:

- Base Fees (\$450 Elementary/ \$450 Secondary) and Enrollment Fees (\$2/student in K5-12)
- Registration fee of \$50 for first participant/\$25 for each additional person for the November Annual Meeting
- ANSAA Renewal Filing Fee of \$100– *only applies to the list of schools below

*The following schools must apply for ANSAA Renewal during the 2018-2019 school year (due the fourth year of the seven-year cycle): Episcopal Collegiate School, Immaculate Heart of Mary School, The New School, and St. Theresa Catholic School. Schools must include with the renewal form, a \$100 filing fee and a copy of the school's current Strategic Plan