ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
Regular Quarterly Meeting
July 24, 2026

Minutes of Meeting

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) convened its regular meeting on July 24, 2026, at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Chair Jim Carr called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and confirmed that a quorum was present.

Coordinating Board present:
Dr. Jim Carr, Chair
Lucas Pointer, Vice Chair
Dr. Katherine Dudley, Secretary
Carolyn Rhinehart
Chris Woodard

Coordinating Board absent:
Graycen Bigger

Presidents, chancellors, institutional representatives, members of the press, ADHE staff and guests were also present.

Carr began by introducing new AHECB member Chris Woodard. A Jonesboro native, Woodard is an attorney who serves clients throughout Arkansas and Texas. He earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Arkansas State University before receiving his Juris Doctor from the University of Arkansas School of Law.

Agenda Item No. 1
Welcome

Next, Chair Carr recognized Chancellor Charles Robinson for welcoming remarks. Dr. Robinson welcomed Coordinating Board members, ADHE staff, and college and university presidents and chancellors to the University of Arkansas campus in Fayetteville. He shared that the university currently enrolls more than 34,000 students and noted that the incoming freshman class is on pace to set a new enrollment record.

Chair Carr then introduced new University of Arkansas head football coach Ryan Silverfield.

Agenda Item No. 2
Approval of Minutes

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to approve Agenda Item No. 2. Dr. Katherine Dudley seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 3
Commissioner's Report

Institutional Changes

Dr. Todd Shields was named the fourth president of the Arkansas State University System on July 1, 2026. Shields previously served as the chancellor of ASU Jonesboro from 2022-2026.

The Arkansas State University System Board of Trustees voted to appoint Shane Broadway, system vice president for university relations, to the additional role of interim chancellor of ASU Three Rivers in Malvern effective on July 1, 2026.

Dr. Calvin White Jr., executive vice chancellor and provost at A-State, was appointed interim chancellor effective July 1. Prior to joining A-State, White spent nearly 20 years at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, as senior associate dean of the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Adam O'Neal was selected by the University of Arkansas System board as the next chancellor at UA–East Arkansas Community College in Forrest City. O'Neal officially stepped into the role following the July 1 retirement of current chancellor Cathie Cline, O'Neal previously served the school as vice chancellor for student services.

On July 13th, Dr. Jo Alice Blondin began her new role as interim president of the Arkansas Colleges of Health Education (ACHE). Blondin recently retired after 13 years as president of Clark State College in Springfield, Ohio. Before that, she was chancellor of Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus between 2006 and 2013.

New ADHE Staff

Briana Robinson, Financial Aid Intern, started June 8th
Larissa Agbor-Nkongho, EngageAR Program Coordinator, started May 11th
Carlos Mendoza, EngageAR Program Coordinator, started July 6th

ADHE Staff Changes

Dr. Tina Moore, former ADHE Director of Workforce Education, has been promoted to Assistant Commissioner for Workforce and Strategic Alignment.

Arkansas Outdoor Education Initiative

Mary Beth Hatch, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission chief of education, provided an overview of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's (AGFC) education programs, conservation initiatives, and postsecondary opportunities aimed at increasing outdoor learning, conservation awareness, workforce development, and student engagement across Arkansas. AGFC is building a statewide conservation education pipeline that begins in K-12 schools and extends through college and graduate education. The agency's strategy combines curriculum resources, school designations, leadership development, student competitions, scholarships, internships, and research

fellowships to develop future conservation leaders and strengthen Arkansas's outdoor workforce.

Arkansas ACCESS Portal

Sonia Hazelwood presented a status update on the Arkansas ACCESS Portal, a new statewide college admissions platform being developed through a partnership between the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) and the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE). The portal is being created in response to the ACCESS Law, which requires a statewide admissions system that offers provisional college admission opportunities to Arkansas students.

The presentation highlighted significant collaboration between ADHE, ADE, and Arkansas institutions during development. ADHE began testing the portal in February and submitted 190 change requests aimed at improving functionality and user experience. Institutional testing occurred in March and April, with six institutions submitting 165 additional recommendations. Improvements focused on user interface enhancements, bug fixes, disclosures/acknowledgements, and expanded functionality. The portal will be rolled out through a multi-year implementation process.

Agenda Item No. 4
Annual Report on First-Year Student Remediation for AY 2025

Mason Campbell presented the annual report on first-year student remediation. In January 2016, the AHECB revised its policy to require all institutions to adopt appropriate placement measures supported by student success data. Of the 21,303 first time entering students in AY2025 who graduated high school in 2023 or 2024, 7,467 (35.0%) required remediation. Among those students, 4,798, representing 64.3% of the remediated population, had a high school GPA of 3.0 or higher, accounting for 22.5% of all first-time entering students in AY2025. While this group represents approximately 3.0% of total AY2025 enrollment, both counts and percentages are presented to provide appropriate perspective.

Dr. Katherine Dudley asked what determines the remediation model for each institution. Campbell explained that even though there is a lot of data out there, it is the institution’s choice which model they follow.

Agenda Item No. 5a
Rules Governing the Governor’s Higher Education

I In compliance with the Arkansas ACCESS Act of 2025 (Act 341 Section 79), the Arkansas Division of Higher Education Rules Governing the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for final approval.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Governor's

Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education. FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program rules be approved for final approval.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 5b
Rules Governing the Arkansas Heroes Scholarship

In compliance with Act 340 of 2025, the rules governing the Arkansas Heroes Scholarship are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for public comment release.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Heroes Scholarship to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Heroes Scholarship.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Heroes Scholarship rules be released for public comment.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 5c
Rules Governing the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program

In compliance with Act 340 of 2025, the rules governing the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for public comment release.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program rules be released for public comment.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 5d
Rules Governing the Arkansas Governor's
Scholarship Program

In compliance with Act 340 of 2025, the rules governing the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for public comment release.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program rules be released for public comment.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 5e
Rules Governing the Arkansas
Direct Admissions Program

In compliance with Act 340 of 2025, the rules governing the Arkansas Direct Admissions Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for public comment release.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Direct Admissions Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical

changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Direct Admissions Program.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Direct Admissions Program rules be released for public comment.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 5f
Rules Governing the Arkansas Future Grant Program

In compliance with the Arkansas ACCESS Act of 2025 (Act 341 Sections 74-76), the Arkansas Division of Higher Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Future Grant Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for public comment release.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Future Grant Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Future Grant Program.
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Future Grant Program rules be approved for public comment release.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 5g
Rules Governing the Arkansas Geographical
Critical Needs Scholarship Program

In compliance with Act 340 of 2025, the rules governing the Arkansas Geographical Critical Needs Scholarship Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for public comment release.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Geographical Critical Needs Scholarship Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Geographical Critical Needs Scholarship Program.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Geographical Critical Needs Scholarship Program rules be approved for public comment release.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 5h
Rules Governing the Student Undergraduate
Research Fellowship Program

In compliance with Act 340 of 2025, the rules governing the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for public comment release.

> **RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.
>
> **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program.
>
> **FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program rules be approved for public comment release.

There were no questions.

Lucas Pointer moved to approve Agenda Items No. 5a – 5h. Dr. Katie Dudley seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 6
Professional Skills Training Funding Formula
to Support State Supported Institutions of Higher Education

The Professional Skills Training Funding Formula to Support State Supported Institutions of Higher Education was removed from the agenda prior to the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 7
Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues
and Expenditures for 2026--27

Nick Fuller reported that data indicates that 24.5 percent of athletic program budgets are being funded from student athletic fees, while 10.4 percent comes from athletic generated revenues. Transfers from educational and general funds contribute 20.8 percent of the funding. There are three institutions budgeting for the additional transfer from educational and general funds for Women’s Athletic Sports Programs. This accounts for 4.3% of budgeted revenues. The remaining 40.0 percent is funded from other auxiliary profits, endowment and investment income, contributions and other athletic income.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board accepts the Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures Budgeted for 2026-27 as prepared in accordance with Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board uniform accounting standards and definitions for athletic reporting.

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to approve Agenda Item No. 7. Chris Woodard seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 8
Productivity-Based Funding Distribution for 2027-28

Nick Fuller reported that for the universities, an increase in funding is recommended for those institutions with productivity increases for a total change in university funding of $8,791,370. In addition to this new funding, institutions with productivity declines will have an amount reduced and then reallocated to the institutions who showed an increase. The 3 four-year universities with productivity declines all hit the 5% stop-loss level for the FY2027-2028 recommendation. This resulted in the overall amount of reallocation dollars being reduced to $0 as based on the FY2026-27 base funding levels, any reduction would put all 3 institutions at greater than a 5% reduction from the FY2022-23 funding level for the upcoming fiscal year per the current distribution policy.

For the two-year colleges, an increase in funding is recommended for those institutions with productivity increases for a total change in two-year college funding of $2,928,194. In addition to this new funding, $244,361 was reallocated from 4 institutions to 18 of the other two-year colleges. This distribution recommendation results in a total request for new general revenue funds of $8,969,108.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommendation for distribution of productivity funding to the Arkansas public institutions of higher education in the 2027-28 fiscal year as included in Table 08B.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to prepare appropriate documents for transmission to the Governor and the General Assembly of the 2027-28 productivity funding distribution recommendation of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That should any errors of a technical nature be found in this recommendation, the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to make appropriate corrections consistent with the policy established by the Board’s action on these recommendations.

There were no questions.

Dr. Katherine Dudley moved to approve Agenda Item No. 8. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 9
Operating Recommendations for 2027-29 Biennium

According to the provisions of A.C.A. §6-61-801 through §6-61-808, there is established the Arkansas Research Development Program for providing Arkansas Research Development Program Grants to publicly-supported universities in Arkansas by the Division of Higher Education. Act 610 of 2025 provides that after the sum of $13,200,000 has been deposited into the Higher Education Building Maintenance Fund, any additional deposits are to be transferred to the Research Development Fund to be used as provided by law.

> **RESOLVED**, That after review by the Legislative Council, the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to distribute up to $475,000 from the Higher Education Research Development Fund to the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville for continuing personal services and operating expenses related to ARE-ON.

There were no questions.

Lucas Pointer moved to approve Agenda Item No. 9. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 10
Personal Services Recommendations for Institution Personnel for 2027-29

Institutions of higher education, apart from UAMS, have 27,158 positions currently authorized. For the 2027-29 Biennium, institutions have requested a net new request of 117 positions. ADHE staff recommends the net increase of 117 positions, for a total recommendation of 27,452 positions (a 0.4 percent increase). UAMS currently has 12,874 authorized positions and had a net new position request of 170. ADHE staff recommends this net increase of 170 for a total of 13,044 positions.

> **RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommended number of positions, titles, grades, and maximum salaries for positions in academic, administrative, and auxiliary positions for the 2027-29 Biennium as recommended by staff.
>
> **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to make technical corrections consistent with Coordinating Board action.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board requests the Director to transmit the Personal Services recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly for consideration for the 2027-29 Biennium.

Chair Carr asked if there was a way to identify where the 117 positions are? Fuller said the positions are spread across the board all over the campus.

Dr. Katherine Dudley moved to approve Agenda Item No. 10. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 11
Recommendations for State Funding of Capital Projects

The Recommendations for State Funding of Capital Projects was removed from the agenda prior to the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 12
Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology
Northwest Arkansas Community College

The proposed Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology degree will prepare students to function as key members of a surgical team in hospitals and outpatient surgical centers. The 63-credit-hour curriculum requires the completion of 30 credit hours general education prerequisites prior to program admission. Once admitted, the remaining 33 credit hours include specialized surgical technology coursework delivered through classroom instruction, hands-on laboratory training, and supervised clinical experiences.

RESOLVED, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology (CIP 51.0909) at Northwest Arkansas Community College, effective Fall 2027.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Northwest Arkansas Community College of the approval.

Dr. Tony Kinkle, Vice President of Enterprise Relations, provided additional information.

Chair Carr asked if the other seven programs were at full capacity. Campbell said he would provide the enrollment numbers to the Board.

Lucas Pointer moved to approve Agenda Item No. 12. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 13
Master of Science in Nursing:
Family Nurse Practitioner (Rural Health)
Southern Arkansas University Magnolia

The proposed, fully online Master of Science in Nursing program with Family Nurse Practitioner (Rural Health) concentration is designed to prepare registered nurses for advanced practice roles as primary care providers, equipping graduates with the knowledge and clinical competencies necessary to deliver comprehensive, evidence-based care across the lifespan.

The 44 credit-hour curriculum includes core nursing coursework and specialized Family Nurse Practitioner content, with an emphasis on rural health disparities, population health, healthcare systems, and policy. Instruction will be delivered through online coursework supported by 540 hours of in-person clinical training and simulation experience in areas such as women's health, pediatrics, adult/geriatric care, and primary care. The proposed program is purposefully designed to meet the needs of working registered nurses, providing flexibility while permitting clinical training to be completed at approved sites.

> **RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Master of Science in Nursing in Nursing: Family Nurse Practitioner (Rural Health) (CIP 51.3805) at Southern Arkansas University Magnolia, effective Fall 2027.
>
> **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the Chancellor of Southern Arkansas University Magnolia and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Southern Arkansas University System of the approval.

Dr. Robin Stonce, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, provided additional information.

Chris Woodard asked how Southern Arkansas University collaborates with existing healthcare employers and whether there are incentives for nurse practitioner graduates to establish clinics in the region. Dr. Karen Landry, Chair of the Department of Nursing, explained that the program encourages students to complete at least 50 percent of their clinical training within their home communities. This approach is intended to strengthen connections between students and local healthcare providers, with the goal of increasing employment opportunities at area hospitals and clinics upon graduation.

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to approve Agenda Item No. 13. Dr. Katherine Dudley seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 14
Associate of Applied Science in Environmental Management
by Southern Arkansas University Tech

The proposed fully online Associate of Applied Science in Environmental Management (Municipal) program is a 60-credit-hour, workforce-focused degree intended to prepare students for careers in municipal utilities and environmental services, with technical emphasis in water treatment and distribution, wastewater treatment, industrial pretreatment, and solid waste management, along with supporting coursework in science, safety, and compliance. Graduates will be fully prepared to handle the operation and maintenance of municipal environmental systems, ensure regulatory compliance, assess performance, and deliver clear communications.

> **RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Associate of Applied Science in Environmental Management (Municipal) (CIP 15.0506) at Southern Arkansas University Tech, effective Fall 2027.
>
> **FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the Chancellor of Southern Arkansas University Tech and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Southern Arkansas University System of the approval.

Dr. Valerie Wilsn, Vice Chancellor for Academics and Planning Department, provided additional information.

There were no questions.

Lucas Pointer moved to approve Agenda Item No. 14. Dr. Katie Dudley seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Items No. 15 & 16
Arkansas Public Institutions
Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education approved institutional requests for new programs not requiring Board action unless further review is requested by the Board. During this period, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests from Arkansas public institutions to offer degree programs. The program notice lists appear in the Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Notification on pages 15-1 through 15-75 and in the Arkansas public institutions Letters of Intent on pages 16-1 of the agenda book.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 17
Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions

RESOLVED, That pursuant to A.C.A. §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial certification to the institutions listed on pages 1 - 2 to offer the specified degree programs to Arkansas residents for a period of three years through December 31, 2029.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of said institutions that the certification of the degree programs requires the institution to notify the Arkansas Division of Higher Education whenever any of the following occurs: (1) major reorganization of the controlling body; (2) changes in the charter or incorporation documents of the institution; or (3) changes in the method of operation of the institution's programs in Arkansas.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner to notify the administration of said institutions that any advertisement or published materials using the name of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board or the Arkansas Division of Higher Education must contain the following statement:

> Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board certification does not constitute an endorsement of any institution or program. Such certification merely indicates that certain criteria have been met as required under the rules and regulations implementing institutional and program certification as defined in A.C.A. §6-61-301.

Initial Program Certifications – Distance Technology

Carrington College, Sacramento, California
Southern California University of Health Sciences, Whittier, California

Dr. Katherine Dudley moved to approve Agenda Item No. 17. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Items No. 18 & 19
Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions
Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education approved institutional requests for new programs not requiring Board action unless further review is requested by the Board. During this period, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests from out-of-state and Arkansas private institutions to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents. The program notice lists appear in the Letters of Notification on pages 18-1 through 18-3 and in the Letters of Intent on page 19-1 of the agenda book.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 20
Academic Program Review

Arkansas Code §6-61-214 requires that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) review existing academic programs at Arkansas public colleges and universities to identify certificate and degree programs not meeting minimum standards of quality and to establish schedules for either resolving these concerns or removing the programs from the AHECB approved program inventory. Mason Campbell summarized the reports submitted to ADHE during the 2025-26 academic year.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 21
Academic Program Review
Recommendations of Notice

Arkansas colleges and universities are required to employ external consultants to review all certificate and degree programs over a period of 7-10 years with the findings from the reviews reported to the Coordinating Board. Accredited, licensed and state certified programs follow the usual review practices and the schedule of the accrediting/approval body. Mason Campbell presented a summary report on academic programs placed on notice for potential removal from the AHECB approved program inventory. These programs will be subject to a two-year notice period, during which the respective institutions are expected to bring the programs into compliance with the policy requirements. At the conclusion of this two-year period, any programs that continue to not meet the minimum standards will be recommended for deletion from the approved program inventory.

Dr. Katherine Dudley moved to approve Agenda Item No. 21. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 22
Concurrent Enrollment Initial Authorization

In accordance with the Concurrent Enrollment policy, an institution with Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board initial authorization for the Concurrent Enrollment Program can offer courses for concurrent enrollment for a period of up to seven (7) years. Institutions that wish to continue to offer courses for concurrent enrollment must request AHECB reauthorization. The Concurrent Enrollment Policy outlines clear criteria for continued authorization, focusing on the quality of instruction, student support, and institutional oversight. Each institution recommended for initial authorization has submitted the required documentation, which has been reviewed by a three-member team selected by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE). The positive evaluations from these reviews form the basis of this recommendation. ADHE staff recommends continued authorization for the following programs for a period of five (5) years.

There were no questions.

Remarks by Presidents/Chancellors and Guest

The next quarterly meeting will be held on October 23, 2026, at Arkansas State University Mountain Home at 9:00 a.m.

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

_____
Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

_____
Dr. Katherine Dudley, Secretary