

**National Association of the Deaf  
NAD Board of Directors Meeting  
Leesburg, VA  
October 8, 2022**

**Thursday October 8, 2022  
Freedom Center**

Board Members Present: President Jenny Buechner (2022-2024); Vice President Stephanie Hakulin (2022-2024); Secretary Milmaglyn Morales (2022-2024); Treasurer Michelle Cline (2022-2024); Region I Board Members: Jacob Leffler (2020-2024) and Nicholas LaLanne (2022-2026); Region II Board Members: Linsay Darnall, Jr. (2020-2024) and Kevin Ryan (2022-2026); Region III Board Members: Lisa Rose (2020-2024) and Michael Deuel (2022-2026); Region IV Board Members: James Christianson, Jr. (2020-2024) and Laura Kim (2022-2026); Affiliate Board Member: Tyese Wright (2020-2024); Appointed Board Members: Kimberly Thornsberry (2022-2024) and Vyron Kinson (2022-2024).

Ex Officio Member: Howard Rosenblum, Chief Executive Officer.

Staff: Lizzie Bloom, Director of Communications; Chris Payne-Tsoupros, Education Policy Counsel; Sarah Honigfeld, Education Policy Specialist; Emily Addison, Content Coordinator; Zainab Alkebsi, Policy Counsel; Dominique Yeboah, Front Desk Assistant; Tom Wells, Director of Finance; Drake Darrah, Skadden Fellow/Staff Attorney; Chanel Bonheyo, Director of Youth Programs

President Jenny Buechner called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM EST.

President Jenny Buechner conducted the Oath for the new board members; Region I Board Member Nicholas LaLanne (2022-2026), Region III Board Member Michael Deuel (2022-2026), and Appointed Board Members: Kimberly Thornsberry (2022-2024) and Vyron Kinson (2022-2024).

President Jenny Buechner explained the agenda for the board meeting.

The board reviewed the minutes from July 4, 2022 Board Meeting.

MOTION: Kevin Ryan moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Linsay Darnall, Jr. Carried.

Jacob Leffler moved to ratify the motions made since the last Board meeting. Seconded by Michael Deuel. Carried.

Linsay Darnall, Jr. moved to approve Nicholas Lalanne as Region I Board Member, Vyron Kinson and Kim Thornsberry as Appointed Board Members. Seconded by Michael Deuel. CARRIED.

The Board agreed that Dawn Marie Caggiano should be selected as Affiliates Board Member. Jenny will follow up with the board after Dawn accepts the offer.

The board discussed the Event Representation spreadsheet, which is for the Board to fill in all events that they attend representing the NAD.

Vice President Stephanie Hakulin reviewed the list of Section/Committee members with the board including board and staff liaison assignments.

Secretary Milmaglyn Morales did not have a report to share.

Treasurer Michelle Cline provided the financial report by sharing the summary of the AR Aging report and the Finance Assets with the Board. She also reviewed the current 2022-2023 budget with the Board.

Region I Board Members Jacob Leffler and Nicholas Lalanne shared that many state associations in Region I are focusing on legislation, including LEAD-K, and commissions for Deaf and Hard of Hearing. They also shared that the State Associations in Region I will host a State Association Day in 2023.

Region II Board Members Kevin Ryan and Linsay Darnall, Jr shared that the Indiana Association of the Deaf will have an election for a new President soon. They also shared that many states have started their legislation sessions.

Region III Board Members Michael Deuel and Lisa Rose shared updates about the hurricane aftermath in Florida, the Deaf Center in Arkansas. They also shared concerns regarding Deaf Employees at Louisiana School for the Deaf, and the Atlanta Day School for the Deaf Superintendent.

Region IV Board Members Dino Christianson and Laura Kim shared that the president of the Colorado Association of the Deaf resigned, and they have an interim president. They also shared that the Nevada Association of the Deaf held a special meeting via Zoom and now has a new president and vice president.

Affiliates Board Member Tyese Wright did not have a report to share.

Appointed Board Member Kimberly Thornsberry shared that she is working on finding committee members to work on the Addressing Deaf Youth Well-Being priority and asked the board for suggestions to serve on the committee.

Appointed Board Member Vyron Kinson shared that he and Stephanie Hakulin will split responsibilities for the Dismantling Racism priority. Stephanie will continue to work on the webinars and Vyron will support the curriculum development. .

CEO Howard Rosenblum shared that for the first time since he began working at the NAD, one of our cases will be heard at the Supreme Court. This case is about the ability to pursue ADA claims against a school district separate from special education claims, which has been the practice but in our case the district court and appeals court rejected it so we are bringing it to the Supreme Court to resolve.

President Jenny Buechner called for a recess at 2:52 PM.

The meeting resumed at 3:15 PM.

Vice President Stephanie Hauklin reviewed the 2022-2024 Committees and Sections with the board.

President Jenny Buechner reviewed and discussed the goals for the 2022-2024 priorities with the board.

#### **Addressing the Deaf Youth Well-Being:**

The priority specifically asks that the NAD develop a survey, and create a mentoring training program, to encourage youth to participate in leadership. The board discussed that the committee may need to identify what age range this priority would apply to, and instead of establishing a program under the NAD, perhaps the committee could consider developing a toolkit for local and state organizations to use.

#### **Achieving Equity in Deaf Education:**

This priority is being continued from 2020-2022, to complete their tasks in developing a checklist for schools and for parents to see what resources their school or program may have or may be lacking.

#### **ASL resources for Babies:**

This priority asks that ASL be included as a resource for babies who have hearing loss. This priority will be asked with the existing Language Deprivation committee as part of their ongoing work in addressing the issue as a whole.

#### **Deaf Senior Issues:**

The priority asks that we continue to focus on Deaf Senior issues. The committee shared that they would like to work on a partnership with the AARP to identify which videos need to be

made available in ASL, as well as a partnership with Advancing States on Aging, to develop a model approach to providing accessible services and programs for Seniors who are Deaf, DeafBlind, Deaf Disabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late Deafened. The committee is asking for new committee members.

**Dismantling Racism in the Deaf Community:**

The priority states that we need to continue the work, however there is a need to include other marginalized community members in the work. The focus will be to continue to provide webinars, as well as complete the training curriculum for states to use in their communities.

President Jenny Buechner reviewed the priorities that were referred during the 2020 NAD Biennial Meeting with the Board to make sure that they had been addressed.

Treasurer Michelle Cline led a discussion with the board regarding the classification of our Affiliate memberships.

President Jenny Buechner adjourned the meeting at 4:54 PM ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Milmaglyn Morales  
Secretary