

**National Association of the Deaf
NAD Board of Directors Meeting
San Juan, Puerto Rico
April 11, 2024**

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Colegio San Gabriel para Sorda - San Juan

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); 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); Appointed Board Member: Kimberly Thornsberry (2022-2024); Affiliate Board Member: Dawnmarie Caggiano (2022-2026).

Not present: Region I Board Member: Nicholas Lalanne; Region IV Board Member: James Christianson, Jr. (2020-2024) and Laura Kim (2022-2026), Affiliate Board Member: Tyese Wright (2020-2024); Appointed Board Members: Vyron Kinson (2022-2024); and Ex Officio Member: Howard Rosenblum, Chief Executive Officer.

Staff Present: Lizzie Bloom, Director of Engagement

President Jenny Buechner called the meeting to order at 1:38 PM after a tour of the Colegio San Gabriel para Sorda and Zoé Maria Rodriguez Meléndez's presentation on Puerto Rico and its Deaf Community earlier in the day.

President Jenny Buechner explained the agenda for the board meeting.

During the board meeting, President Jenny Buechner gave updates on various matters. She informed the board that the NAD office moved to a different suite in the same building we've been in. Jenny also shared that the World Federation of the Deaf will have their board meeting during our NAD Conference and that Dr. Bobbie Beth Scoggins will serve as the liaison for the World Federation of the Deaf. Additionally, President Buechner talked about requests from the community asking for Deaf Self-Advocacy Training.

Vice President Stephanie Haulkin requested the board's assistance in sending a prompt to all committee chairs as NAD has not yet received any priorities.

Secretary Milmaglyn Morales announced a new Conflict of Interest form that the board will use for this and future meetings.

Treasurer Michelle Cline presented the financial reports for Accounts Receivable and Statements. She informed the board that she is meeting with Tom Wells, Director of Finance,

regularly and will continue to work closely with him for the time being. Additionally, she mentioned that she is providing support with the NAD Team members for conference sponsorship.

Treasurer Michele Cline also provided an update on various topics including the DCMP, Affordable Connectivity Program, Conference Site, ASL Resources for Deaf Babies Priority-Community of Practice, and a visit to the conference.

Zainab Alkebsi, Policy Counsel, provided an update remotely via Zoom on the Law and Advocacy Center, assignments and explained the DCMP process. Additionally, Zainab shared details about the CSD-SVF panel and the Deaf Employment Summit that will be hosted by Gallaudet University in 2025 in collaboration with the NAD, National Technical Institute of the Deaf (NTID), and Communication Services of the Deaf (CSD). She mentioned that the committee had planned on hosting a webinar this spring, however will be postponed until the fall of 2024.

Jenilee Marques, Operations Manager, provided an update remotely via Zoom on the contacts we received from the community. During the meeting, she shared demographic information based on the inquiries received by the NAD headquarters. Additionally, Jenilee provided updates on staffing.

President Jenny Buechner called for a recess at 4:00 PM.

The meeting resumed at 7:08 PM.

President Jenny Buechner convened an Executive Session.

President Jenny Buechner called for a recess at 10:00 PM.

Thursday, April 12, 2024

Colegio San Gabriel para Sorda - San Juan

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); 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); Appointed Board Member: Kimberly Thornsberry (2022-2024); Affiliate Board Member: Dawnmarie Caggiano (2022-2026).

Not present: Region I Board Member: Nicholas Lalanne; Region IV Board Member: James Christianson, Jr. (2020-2024) and Laura Kim (2022-2026), Affiliate Board Member: Tyese Wright (2020-2024); Appointed Board Members: Vyron Kinson (2022-2024); and Ex Officio Member: Howard Rosenblum, Chief Executive Officer.

Staff Present: Lizzie Bloom, Director of Engagement

The meeting resumed at 8:01 AM.

President Jenny Buechner explained the agenda for the board meeting.

President Jenny Buechner requested updates of the 2022 - 2024 priorities and sections.

Transforming Deaf Racism, Equity, and Accountability, formerly known as Dismantling Racism

Alan Wilding, Co-Chair of the committee shared an update via video, in which the board watched. In his video, Alan shared that the committee is currently working on finalizing the curriculum, and awaiting the board's review and input on the draft of the Curriculum.

Well Being of Deaf Youth

Kimberly Thornsberry, the Board Liaison, suggested continuing the project and inquired about obtaining a grant to support it.

ASL Resources for Deaf Babies

Michelle Cline, the Board Liaison, shared an update on the accomplishments of the Community of Practice project. The committee recommended continuing the project.

Deaf Senior Issues

Board Liaisons Dawnmarie Caggiano and Kevin Ryan shared that the task force recommended putting all Senior Resources on the DSA website, which DSA has worked on and is the most updated. It is recommended to put the web link from the DSA Senior Resource page on the NAD website, directing people to the DSA page. The current information on the NAD page should be removed. The Senior Resource page will be maintained by DSA with assistance from NAD. Deaf Seniors of Georgia asked Dawnmarie to present a workshop on caregiving with Kevin.

Sections/Committees -

Deaf Interpreter Section:

Board Liaison Milmaglyn Morales provided an update about the Continuing Education Units (CEUs). Additionally, the committee chair is currently reviewing all NAD's webinars to determine if CEUs can be added. As a part of this process, the committee will need to create a guideline for CEUs.

SAAC:

Board Liaison Michelle Cline informed that the committee is presently working on a mentoring program and will develop a guideline to assist individuals in running a mentoring program. In addition, Michelle shared that the SAAC will not be hosting a mixer event. However, an award

presentation is scheduled to take place during the conference. The board has agreed that the badge ribbons to state presidents will be distributed.

Deaf Interpreter Committee:

Board Liaison Kevin Ryan provided shared that the committee distributed a second survey, which will also help improve RIT/NTID's Interpreter Training Program and expanding the Deaf Interpreter pool.

Bylaws Committee:

No Updates

Youth Section:

Board Liaison Michael Deuel informed the board that the section is planning to host a Youth General Assembly on April 20th. However, the number of registrations for the assembly is quite low. So, the Board discussed whether we should suggest to NADYS to consider postponing the YGA. They also talked about postponing the YGA to May 17th. Michael also shared his concerns about the committee dynamic and how scheduling a meeting is becoming a challenge. The board proposed a few solutions to address the concerns.

DeafBlind Section:

Vice President Stephanie Hakulin provided an update on the committee's work progress. The committee is currently facing difficulties in recruiting DeafBlind individuals with diverse backgrounds. Additionally, Jose "Ovi" Velasquez has been appointed to take meeting notes. The committee is also planning to host a fundraising event during the conference. The Board has decided to share the Section Guidelines with all section chairs to help them prepare for the conference.

Deaf Culture and History Section:

Board Liaison Linsay Darnall, Jr shared that Thomas Swope will not run for chair again in the next term.

NAD History Committee:

Chair Linsay Darnall, Jr shared that the NAD History Committee will update the history information for the NAD's website.

Rapid Response Team:

Chair Linsay Darnall, Jr shared that the team will review the genetic engineering and will develop a statement.

Past Priorities Updates -

2018 VR Priority:

President Jenny Bucehner is not able to provide updates at this time.

2018 Interpreting Priority:

President Jenny Buechner shared that the Interpreting Standards need to be reviewed by a focus group; however, with the current situation, she was unable to gather a group.

Board Reports

The Board members shared their reports in writing and did not have any urgent matters to discuss in person except:

Region III Board Member Lisa Rose informed the Board about an unfortunate incident that took place in Oklahoma. A Deaf individual was stabbed and taken to the hospital, but their family has not been contacted yet. The family is having trouble finding an advocacy/interpreter position statement on the website.

Region III Board Member Lisa Rose expressed concern about the possible dissolution and audit of the Texas Association of the Deaf and asked the board for suggestions on how to address these concerns.

Affiliates Board Member Dawnmarie Caggiano shared updates on new members joining the monthly Affiliate meetings and the upcoming CVTA webinar on April 30th.

Region II Board Linsay Darnall, Jr shared an update on the strategic planning and announced a meeting with the consultant in two weeks.

Region I Board Member Jacob Leffler recently held a Membership committee meeting and shared some important updates. The Membership committee met with the Strategic Planning committee and discussed the Membership project and has agreed to hold off from making recommendations for changes or dissolving membership for the time being. At the upcoming conference, the committee plans to ask the community members for their valuable input on the matter of dissolving the membership.

Updates on the NAD Conference 2024 was shared by Conference Co-Chair Milmaglyn Morales.

- The Board has decided to form a safety task force, with Stephanie Hauklin and Lisa Rose as leaders. They will work closely with Sara Bianco, the NAD conference planner.
- The Priorities committee, chaired by Jacob Leffler, will conduct a poll with community members in advance of the conference, to collect feedback on their top three priorities. The results of the poll will be shared during the forum at the conference. As of now, no priorities have been submitted, but the submission deadline is April 30th.
- The Bylaws committee is responsible for working on bylaws proposals in English and ASL. No proposals from the community have been received as of now.

- The Elections committee does not have any updates since the announcement was released two weeks ago.
- Lisa Rose, the COR Co-Chair, will provide updates on Delegates every Friday. She has also informed the Board that Nicholas Lalanne, the other Co-Chair, is requesting support from the Board. Furthermore, Lisa shared that there are currently 57 primary delegates and 13 alternate delegates. She also showed the Board the location of the COR space on the hotel map.
- Lisa Rose expressed concern about the veterans vs new delegates and asked what the Board would do for them on Canvas. Additionally, she requested that the Board create two questions for the Canvas Course for Delegates.

President Jenny Buechner called for a recess at 12:00 PM.

The meeting resumed at 1:00 PM.

President Jenny Buechner explained the schedule for the remainder of the day.

Kathleen O'Reagan, a consultant for Interpreting Agency Accreditation, reviewed the accreditation processes and rubrics for the standards and shared the website with the Board. The Board shared feedback, and a workgroup was created to finalize the fee structure and rubrics for the standards on behalf of the Board.

President Jenny Buechner shared that Jeff Bronk who created an Emergency Preparedness Toolkits requested to share them with delegates at the conference. The Board has agreed that the toolkits can be distributed at a meet-up during the 2024 NAD Conference.

President Jenny Buechner shared information about the Bernstein Leadership Institute at Gallaudet University. Allie Rice, the new Director, recently reached out to Jenny and asked if the board would like to partner with the Bernstein Leadership Institute. The board has requested more information on this matter. President Jenny Buechner will follow up with Allie to obtain the necessary details.

Motion: Dawnmarie Caggiano moved to ratify the motions made since the last in-person Board meeting. Seconded by Michael Deuel. Carried.

February 28, 2024

MOTION: Laura Kim moved to approve the resolution of the agreement's signatory power for Tom Wells. Seconded by Tyese Wright. Carried.

March 17, 2024

Motion: Kevin Ryan moved to approve the January 2024 minutes as read. Seconded by Lisa Rose. Carried

There was no additional new business from the board.

President Jenny Buechner shared information regarding the schedule of two community events scheduled for tomorrow.

President Jenny Buechner requested the board to reconvene for an Executive Session later that evening at 7pm.

President Jenny Buechner adjourned the meeting at 4:00 PM.