AEROGRAM February, 2021

I want to take this time to thank the 2019-2020 AERO Board. 2020 was an unprecedented year for everyone, and the COVID-19 pandemic has reshaped our lives – at home, at work, and in the community. The AERO Board, like all organizations, had to get creative and think of innovative ways to continue to meet and provide a high quality service for our members. The AERO Webinar series allowed us to offer professional development opportunities even under the current health guidelines. This new virtual platform enabled us to offer a few webinars that were specifically for transition-age youth and their families, and develop a statewide Braille Pen Pal program. While everyone was looking forward to wrapping up the year, our ad hoc committee continued to work together to finalize the AER Ohio Position Paper, *Orientation and Mobility (O&M): Essential Service.*

As the 2021 AERO President, I’m honored to have the opportunity to serve our organization and excited to work with professionals that, despite the circumstances, were able to move forward and bring these groundbreaking ideas to fruition.

 Staci Wills, AERO Board President

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“*Alone we are smart. Together we are brilliant*.” ~ Steven Anderson, Educator

**2021 AERO Board**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| AERO Executive Board | 2020 & 2021 Board Member | 2021 & 2022 Board Members |
| **President:** Staci Wills**President-Elect:**  Stephanie Welch-Grenier**Past-President:** Vicki Lorenz**Secretary:** Molley Alford**Treasurer:** Jordy Stringer | Lisa Milliron Jennifer Perry Jess Chandler Megan Rust | Andrea JarrettHeather ReynoldsMelanie SargentMissy Wilson |

**AERO Division Chairs**

**Education and Curriculum:** Shelley McCoy

**Information & Technology:** Jordy Stringer & Dan Kelly

**Low Vision Rehabilitation:** Lisa Milliron

**Multiple Disabilities, Deafblind, and Early Intervention:** Jenni Remeis

**Orientation and Mobility:** Jessica Chandler & Jennifer Perry

**Vision Rehab Therapy:** Stephanie Welch-Grenier

**Physical Activity & Recreation:** Anna & Brendan Devine

**Itinerant Personnel:** Molley Alford

**Committee Chairs**

**Communications & Publications:** Vicki Lorenz

**Awards & Scholarships:** Ying-Ting Chiu

**Public Policy:** Stephanie Welch-Grenier

**2021 AERO Board Meetings**

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Virtual format, until further notice.

April 7, 2021 July 14, 2021 September 29, 2021 December 2, 2021

Board meetings are open to the all AERO members. If you are interested in joining us, please email info@aerbviohio.org and a link will be provided.

**AERO Updates and Information**

Please continue to check the website for information regarding the face mask fundraiser, upcoming webinar series, and the 2021 AERO Division Day Conference.

**Member Spotlight**

Did you know that OSSB is the oldest public school for the blind in the country? If you get a chance to visit the school, you will see that there is a new tactile mural that has merged the history of the Ohio State School for the Blind with beautiful tactile and visual art. AERO President-Elect, Stephanie Welch-Grenier is a Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments, Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist, and Vision Rehabilitation Therapist, and provides services for students and adults in Central Ohio, but these titles hide the fact that she is also a talented artist. Stephanie and her husband, with permission to come into the building during the evening, installed this incredibly rich piece of art for all to enjoy. You can read the entire article in the OSSB Panther Paws News found at <https://www.smore.com/8v5pg>.

**VRT Division Announcement**

**Free Talking Glucose Meter**

 Accessibility Pharmacy is hosting their first educational webinar of 2021 to discuss talking glucose meters for those living with diabetes. Those in attendance will receive a free Prodigy Talking Glucose Meter. For more information visit, <https://www.accessiblepharmacy.com/prodigy-diabetes-care/>