

Uwharrie Charter Academy

Board of Directors Meeting

February 13, 2020; 6:30 pm at Central Office

Minutes

Board Members Present

Stacy Griffin	Angela Kern	Kristian Allen
David McRae	Holly Moorhead	Maxine Wright
Carter Bills	Ashley Duggins	Greg Zephir
Aaryn Slafky	Eric Ward	

Others Present

Casey Harris
Chad Douglas
Ryan Nelson

*20 members of the public when the meeting was called to order

**Nine of the 20 remained following the E3 Awards

***Four remained following the Finance/Facilities update

UCA Board Ethics Statement

Uwharrie Charter Academy will make decisions that are morally sound, environmentally responsible, fiscally fit, safe for the community, adaptable and promote the development of its students, always with integrity.

Call to Order

Stacy Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Public Comment

No members of the public exercised their right to speak.

Teacher Presentations

Casey led the presentation of the E3 awards to include:

- Elementary School: Student- Braden Kishbaugh & Employee- Coleen Stanley
- Middle School: Student- James Ellis & Employee- Suzanne Bryant
- High School: Student- Kaiya Whitehurst & Jamie Parrish

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Maxine Wright, seconded by Kristian Allen, to approve the Consent Agenda, including the Treasurer's report, Interim Superintendent/CAO Report, COO Report, CFO Report, and November 14, 2019, Minutes, as presented. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Finance/Facilities

Ryan Nelson, CFO, presented updates around the latest with financial updates both from day-to-day UCA fiscal operations and from items stemming from the Financial Committee Meeting, to include:

- a. Audit Update – CFO has discovered the audit company the school has been using, Rives & Associates, is battling ongoing reputational issues. Jay Sharpe, the school’s contact at the existing firm, has an upstanding reputation and parted ways to distance himself from the firm. He maintains a good relationship with and continues to do right by the school. Jay has started a new firm, Sharpe Patel, with a new partner. The CFO recommends shifting our audit business to Sharpe Patel in the best interest of UCA moving forward.
 - **Vote:** A motion was made by David McCrea, seconded by Eric Ward, to change UCA’s audit company from Rives & Associates to Sharpe Patel contingent upon no long term contractual agreement exists with Rives & Associates and that the rate does not increase. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Governance

- a. Reports from Committees – Holly Moorhead, on behalf of the Governance Committee, introduced Mrs. Rhonda Dillingham, from the NCAPCS Board, as a guest speaker to the UCA Board.
- b. NCAPCS Presentation – Mrs. Rhonda Dillingham provided detailed information to the Board to gain a better understanding of the organizations that exist and gain a better understanding of where UCA should consider being involved and decide where UCA would be best served using its resources, to include:
 - North Carolina Association of Public Charter Schools (501-C3) – provides a number of resources that include four lobbyists at the State Legislature, continued education for BOD training, etc...
 - North Carolina Coalition for Charter Schools (501-C6) – campaigns for specific candidates
- c. UCA BOD Teacher Representative Position – positions would be non-voting, liaison roles for each school (Elementary, Middle, and High) to the Board. They would be a resource to the Board for the School, a voice for each school to enhance the highest quality decisions on behalf of each school from the Board. Each Term would be for one-year and it would be a commitment with access to Board materials (except for Closed Sessions) and an expectation to attend all Board meetings during the Term.
 - **Vote:** A motion was made by Holly Moorhead, seconded by Kristian Allen, to approve the Teacher Representative position and agreement with agreed upon language adjustment for of how new business is brought forth. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.
- d. UCA BOD Google Docs Oversight by BOD Secretary – all agreed the Secretary role will champion this moving forward in collaboration with, and with oversight, of the appropriate Administrative team personnel.
- e. Lottery Update – all tracking positively as reported by Casey Harris, Chief Academic Officer & Interim Superintendent
- f. Title 1 Audit Update – Administration Team was recently interviewed which went well, as reported by Casey Harris, Chief Academic Officer & Interim Superintendent. Biggest takeaway being a new school improvement plan needed which the Administrative Team will address during its leadership meeting this month.
- g. Superintendent Search Update – Stacy Griffin, Board Chair, reported that the first review has taken place but the position remains open. The number of applicants meeting the criteria with educational backgrounds is 12, that remain for consideration.

Other Business/New Business

David McRae, on behalf of the Finance Committee, resurfaced focus on the school's strategic planning towards building a new high school. Important timeline notes to consider, as the Finance Committee moves forward with planning to move in a new High School with the date of June, 2023 in mind, other important benchmark dates include:

- April, 2022: Break ground
- April, 2021 – April, 2022: Secure financial requirements
- April, 2020 – April, 2021: Solidify plans, site, and costs

Closed Session – Personnel (GS143-318.11 (a)(6))

A motion was made by Carter Bills, seconded by Maxine Wright, to go into Closed Session, as noted in the Agenda for the reason of discussion around Personnel GS143-318.11 (a)(6). All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The Open Meeting concluded at 7:49pm.

A motion was made by Eric Ward, seconded by Greg Zephir to come out of Closed Session at 10:15 pm. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Greg Zephir, seconded by Aaryn Slafky, to adjourn at 10:16pm. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

UCA Board Vision Statement

Uwharrie Charter Academy is the model of innovative learning environments where curiosity, adaptability, and critical thinking are inspired through transformative methods and passionate educators preparing graduates for the rapidly evolving world.