

**Uwharrie Charter Academy
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
October 12, 2023 6:30pm Central Gym
Minutes**

Board Members Present

Valery Dambreville	Becca Mead	John Reid
Chelsey Butler	Eric Ward	
Carter Bills	Greg Zephir	
Kristian Allen	Regina Rush	

Board Member Absent

Ryan Terry	Jonathan Thill
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Administration Present

Michelle Barfield	Chris Wheat	Ryan Nelson
Sharon Castelli	Cody Fracheur	

Teachers Present

Tony Martin (HS)	Chelsea Miller (MS)	Colleen Stanley (ES)
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Call to Order

- Chairperson Chelsey Butler called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

Public Comment

- No public comment

E3 Awards

- Harrison Taylor -- We are very blessed here at UCA to have so many incredible students in our classes. Some of them demonstrate great academic ambition and prowess, some are very involved in extracurricular activities, and some are just wonderfully kind human beings. And there are some who are all the above, like Harrison Taylor. He's as talented, as kindhearted, as committed, and as academically driven as they come, and he is as deserving as anyone to be recognized as the E3 student this month! - Mr. Moore. Harrison is an enthusiastic and inspiring kid. He loves learning and sharing ideas. Each day, he walks in with a positive attitude and a smile on his face. Harrison models integrity in all of his actions and interactions with other people. - Mrs. Duggins
- Mr. Martin has been an amazing addition to UCA. When you bring a teacher on, you want them to jump right in and make a difference in your school. Mr. Martin has gone above and beyond that statement. He has taken on more duties and responsibilities than most teachers that have been here for years. He has started our automotive program from nothing. He helped pick out equipment, meet with vendors, design and set up the

instructional space, and meet with area businesses to help secure internship options. He did all of this before he even signed his contract. He has gone out of his way to make his students feel at home in his classroom. When he leaves at the end of each day, he chases kids out of his room that are working on their cars or other things. He has supported and aided our construction trades and metals teachers with various tasks and projects. He is even working very closely with our culinary teacher to help fundraise money for both their classes. Finally, when Mrs. Kearns sent out the email for a teacher to represent the high school at our district board meetings, Mr. Martin again jumped right up and took on this responsibility as well. Mr. Martin is an example of the type of teacher any administrator could hope to have at their school. He is someone you can lean on, run ideas by, and is always willing to go the extra mile for his fellow coworkers and his students. That is why Mr. Martin was selected for this E3 award.

Consent agenda

- A motion was made by John Reid, seconded by Becca Mead to approve the Superintendent's Report, Assistant Superintendent's Report, Treasurer's Report, CFO Report, September 14, 2023 Minutes. Vote taken by Voice. All approved. None opposed. Motion Carried.

Finance/Facilities

- Finance Committee Report: Mr. Nelson provided an update – August was a pretty uneventful month at the spending forefront. Golden Leaf we are starting to draw down those funds. Capital Projects -- we have items that were earmarked and budgeted from last year and fell during this current year BVA. The State Budget was made law this past week – and we got the Salary Schedule was given to us from DPI late last week. Mrs. Barfield and Mr. Nelson will start work on moving Teacher Salaries to the new schedule. We have a deficit now. Because payroll is a such a late event, we don't have accessed until the funds until the following month – and items will start to line up about 3-4 months into this School Year. We still don't have a our per pupil rate at this moment, but beginning Teachers saw the biggest increment of \$2K increase. Whereas Veterans teacher only saw about \$1K increase. Supplement is not a line item, as Salaries have not been set by Mrs. Barfield and Mr. Nelson.
- Construction Update: Mr. Wheat provided an update – softball lights are being installed, a project that started last year and is being completed this year. Middle School Softball lights will be done by next week. Fencing (get update from Wheat). Round about is being pushed back to June by NCDPI, good for traffic, but negative impact is that we won't be able to close our contract. Met with Shelco, and we will keep the contract open until the roundabout is completed. We can access the funds if say an HVAC went out at the HS, but otherwise we do not access to funds. We were under budget with the build, and we will see a refund from DOT from the Round About project eventually. We are on the hook for the roundabout upfront, just the process that is in place with DOT. The ventilation for the Welding class will close out the Golden Leaf Grant. We did such a good job with this grant, that we will likely be successful with an application in the Spring. Our new groundskeeper is

doing great, and he has been seeding this past week. He will be responsible for field maintenance.

- Septic Update: The county commissioners did take on the Septic pump and dump for us, and is paying for that bill on our behalf. We thank our local government for helping us!

Governance

- Governance Committee Report: Ms. Mead provided an updated – we have 4 applications for Board Members. We might extend the application past Oct 31, as applications came in last year at the end of the window.

Academic Excellence

- Academic Excellence Committee Report: Mr. Dambreville asked the Teacher Representatives to speak about their schools. Mr. Martin (HS) updated that Ms. Farmer and the FFA Chapter hosted RLC – which is a leadership conference for the Region. Ms. VanSickle, in her English classes, she is emphasizing 21st century skills and life skills in her classes. She has had multiple guest speakers come in a discuss soft skills that are needed in the work force – and how do the skills that they are learning in English class will apply. Ms. Smith, in her science classes, is working on portfolios demonstrating what they are learning with human cells under a microscope. Cookies and Carwash raised \$360 per program by partnering for a joint fundraiser. Ms. Miller (MS) updated that we had the largest number of turnout for our student instrument rental night. Softball is undefeated. Large showing for basketball tryouts. Field Trips have also been taking place. Successful Parent Conference Day across the day. Walkthrough Wednesdays have been taking place, and have held in house PD. They will be having differentiated PD on problem-based learning through the year. They are looking at Cross-Curricular Steam activities in our Steam classes. They just had a successful Flex Day this past Thursday. They have an upcoming Harvest Sale. Ms. Stanley (ES) – reported that they have hired a new After School Care position and will be hiring a new instructional assistant. CoGAT testing is coming next week to identify AIG Students. Ms. Stover and Ms. Barfield have been working on getting that ready. Ms. Baughman and Ms. Stover are pulling groups, along with Dr. Whatley pulling small reading groups as well. They just had their first Walkthrough Wednesdays – and will start matching Teachers will other Teachers to observe for future walkthroughs. Monster Night is coming up, and the t-shirt has been designed by 2 elementary students. Elementary had a successful parent conference day as well – 4th grade met with almost every parent! Elementary wants the Cookie and Carwash to come to the Elementary School, if they are portable!! Ms. Lee Haywood has made it to the next round of the Teacher of Year competition. We have been approved for 2 Full-Time Guidance counselors to facilitate SEL and mental health. One will be assigned full-time to Elementary. The second will be split between Elementary and Middle! One of them has already toured the school, and the second is still being hired. Hopefully both will be in place by November!!
- 2022-2023 SIT Plan and Data Update: Dr. Castelli reported that there are 2 items, in their packets regarding our Data. They were provided the EVAAS data by student group, along with the SIT plan that is in the District IndiStar Platform. She then went over the Data PowerPoint that shows all the proficiency data along with growth data. Mr. Reid inquired

about the Certified Teacher observations that are mandated because of our Low-Performing Grade. Dr. Castelli said that what they look for is the Standard match their activity, can students talk about what they are learning. For this initial observation is a 45-minute observation. And the next step could be modeling, by instructional coaches. Looking at trend Data at the teachers and looking at modified plans to improve instruction. Mr. Wheat talked about how we developed our Framework around the State Template, but putting our Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships as part of the evaluation. This doesn't always translate to state testing but is important to us as a Charter.

Other Business/New Business

- Ad Hoc Committee – Football Update: Mr. Wheat reported that they started their Ad-Hoc committee. They have had one meeting. They are looking to get a contractor out to get estimates to see what Fundraising would be needed for this building to take place that is NOT tied to UCA funds. What it would like to rent facilities to start the program next year. Contacting local charters about how they started a football program. If we built on site, we could sell some timber. We could be looking at starting a youth program in 24-25, and building it over the next couple of years, as a tentative timeline to have High School Football by 27-28 school year.
- Carter Bills – Dr. Castelli is celebrating her 3-year anniversary with the UCA.

Closed Session – Personnel GS143-318.11

- A motion to move to closed session by Kristian Allen, seconded by John Reid at 7:52pm. Vote taken by Voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Adjourn