Uwharrie Charter Academy

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

March 9, 2023

**Board Members Present:**

David VanDerveer Becca Mead Jonathan Thill John Reid

Kristian Allen Ryan Terry Chelsea Butler

Board **Members Absent:**

Carter Bills Greg Zephir Eric Ward

**Administration Present:**

Michelle Barfield Chris Wheat Ryan Nelson

Sharon Castelli Cody Fracheur

**Teachers Present:**

JT Trogdon (HS) Sherry Fiquette (MS) Jessica Hoffmire (ES)

**Call to Order**

* Chelsey Butler called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

**Public Comment**

* No public comment

**E3 Awards**

* **Teacher - Mrs. Brown**
* Mrs. Brown is recognized as our E3 high school staff member for the month of March. Mrs. Brown teaches our Occupational Course of Study class.
* Her enthusiasm and dedication to her students are evident in the classes she teaches. The lessons, projects, and activities keep the students engaged in the curriculum throughout the semester. She creates lessons relevant to her students on a daily basis. Outside the classroom, she creates real-world experiences for her students. She has her students run the weekly Good Vibes Cafe. The cafe sells coffee and breakfast items to staff and students on Friday mornings. Her students help run the business by purchasing supplies, preparing tea and coffee drinks, and serving food. They are also responsible for counting change and calculating profits.
* She has also created a volunteer project for her students. Her class has put collection boxes at all three schools to collect pull tabs from aluminum cans. This project helps support the Ronald McDonald House in Winston-Salem.
* Mrs. Brown demonstrates the highest professional commitment to her students and colleagues.

22-23 Ronald McDonald House email from Mrs. Brown to the staff

* We just wanted to take a minute to let everyone know that UCA "Pulled Together and Crushed It for RMH"! We are excited to announce that we met our goal and collected over 153,300 can tabs and 275+ pounds of aluminum cans (8,250 cans). Together, this will cover the cost of operating a room at RMH for 2 nights, totaling over $166. This would not have been possible without the support of all students, staff, families and the love of competition from some of our elementary students! Tomorrow, we will deliver 7 boxes of tabs, a check for $88, and some items from the RMH Wish List that were purchased using change we have collected and a portion of the proceeds from our Good Vibes Coffee Cafe set aside for donation to local charities. Since this was such a success and is a worthy cause, we have decided to continue our efforts, and make this project part of our Community-Based Training, so please encourage everyone to keep saving their cans and tabs.
* **Student - Ashlyn Carpenter**
* Ashlyn Carpenter is recognized as our E3 student from the high school. Ashlyn is currently taking two classes at RCC to finish her high school career. What makes Ashlyn exceptional is her commitment to UCA. Every day from 11:55- 1:45, Ashlyn volunteers as our lunch helper. She helps Mrs. Kinney keep all items stocked and helps keep the lunch area clean and organized. She always has a smile on her face. Ashlyn works at Food Lion on Highway 49 in the afternoons and weekends. She is still undecided about her plans for next year but has many options. We will miss her, but I know she will do great things in the future.

**Consent agenda**

* Motion made by John Reid, seconded by Jonathan Thill, to approve the Superintendent’s Report, Assistant Superintendent Report, Treasurer’s Report, CFO Report, and February 9, 2023 minutes. Vote taken by voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Finance/Facilities**

* Finance Committee Report – Mr. Nelson reported that everything is going well. The reason there is year-to-date deficit is just because of the cut off between the end of the month and that state funds drawn down to cover the previous month’s payroll. However, everything is tracking well.
* Construction Update – Mr. Wheat reported that construction is on time, and right under budget. Admin building is set to be finished April 7th, but we are trending a few days behind. But it may be possible to hold the April Board meeting at the new building after Spring Break. HS has been having tours of the new building this past week with various departments.
* Modular Contract – Dr. Castelli reported that initial upfront cost would be $175K for the Modular Building. The contract we have received is $177,359 – this will make our monthly rate $16,592. The rental has gone down, but the initial upfront cost has gone up -- which is the first month’s rent, damage deposit, 50% of the upfront fee.
  + Motion made by David VanDerVeer, seconded by Ryan Terry, to approve the Modular Contract at $177,359, along with releasing the funds for the first month’s rent, damage deposit, and 50% of the upfront fee, along with a budget amendment. Vote taken by voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.
* GC Contract for Modular Installation – Mr. Wheat reported that the Modular Contract does not include a general contractor to prep the site for the modular installation. We have 3 current bids that we need to take to the finance committee in a called meeting in the next two weeks being that the bids came in after Finance committee met.
* Softball Light – Mr. Wheat reported that the Finance committee met and discussed the Softball Light installation. There is a place holder in this year’s budget for $80K for lights to provide some equity to our lady softball team. 4 quotes were presented to the board this evening. Tommy Lawrence came in at the $80K budget utilizing used poles and fixtures, with new bulbs, along with a 1 year warranty, and summer installation. Difference in life span – LED last longer than Halide lights was mentioned by Becca Mead. John Reid asked what is the life duration of a used pool? David VanDerVeer said the wood poles will last a long time. Kristian Allen in favor of the proposal, and subsequently changing the lighting in the future over to LED. Chelsey Butler said the team will be excited to have lights in general.
  + Motion made by Kristian Allen, seconded by David VanDerVeer, to approve Tommy Lawrence Electrical/Roxboro with the quote of $75-$80K for Softball Light Installation. Vote taken by voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.
* Capital Analysis Update – Mr. Nelson report that an outside party will come out to look at the structure of our buildings (Central Gym and Middle School) as part of our Bond Compliance. The company will be looking at the life of HVAC systems, roof, etc. so we can earmark and prepare for our future needs. $10K-$25k was the initial range quoted, but the actual quote came in at $6,200 for this Capital Analysis to be completed.

**Governance**

* Governance Committee Report – Kristian Allen reported that they met and discussed the FFA Scholarship proposed by Ms. Farmer. The amount will not stay static from year to year, but rather flexible based on the funds available. Ms. Farmer will develop the application for this scholarship.
  + Motion made by Jonathan Thill, seconded by Becca Mead, to approve the FFA Scholarship. Vote taken by voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Academic Excellence**

* Academic Excellence Committee Report: ES – continue to work on the Pride Program and had another Pep Rally. Environmental Literacy preparing to celebrate Earth for the month of April. Math program – practicing that program for next year. MS – Middle of their assessment time – iReady, NC Checkins for 6th grade. Making sure to hit their marks and closing the gap and filling the holes with their students. Leadership Randolph visited during their Steam class. The Steam store is in full swing and doing well. There are 165 8th grade students currently on their Washington D.C trip. HS – Flex day this past Tuesday, and everyone came back safely. Elective Fair tomorrow for 9-11th grade students. Students will also complete an audit of the classes they have taken. Spring sports have started. 50 students registered today for RCC Courses. Mini-Conference is Mar 17th for our entire district.
* Remediation Summer Camp Plan – DPI requires us to submit a remediation summer program. This will help the proficiency, it does not help with overall growth. Elementary and High School have decided to not participate in the Summer Program. However, the MS has submitted a plan to readminister ALL EOG’s at 5-8.
  + Motion made by Becca Mead, seconded by Ryan Terry, to approve the Remediation Summer Camp Plan at the Middle School to readminister the EOG’s. Kristian Allen asked how many students might be a part of this, and Dr. Castelli clarified that it would focus on students with high Level 2’s, but we would not know until scores came back. Vote taken by voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion Carried.

**Other Business/New Business**

* Tiered Business Partnership Update – Mr. Wheat reported that they created 3 levels of Tiered Partnership Levels – the Soaring Eagle, Golden Eagle, and Eagle Sponsor. This will be highlighted in the main entrance of High School on a Mountain Mural Wall with raised acrylics. Classroom naming rights is open ended. John Reid asked if this was a recurring sponsorship? Looking at a 5-year renewal timeline because it includes promotion through UCA website, and Social Media Links. Jonathan Thill said that we should look at established business versus brand new business. Ryan Terry suggested that only the higher tiers have the renewal part. Ryan Nelson said that they could look at partial payments over the years. Jonathan Thill asked if anyone talk to RCC about their naming rights for one of their buildings. Would that apply to our HS – like all the tools coming from Snap-On. Nelson mentioned that there was a discussion around Milwaukee Tools and revisiting that conversation. JR mentioned that as examples – sport passes, preferred parking – way to recognize their contribution to our school. Dr. C asked would all tiers be eligible for the Athletic Pass. Consensus from Board Members is that an athletic pass would be a nice investment. It was suggested that we create swag for the sponsors. Suggestion was to make the Eagle a one-year, Golden Eagle a 3-year, and Soaring Eagle a 5 year – family of 4 athletic pass.
* FFA Tobacco Trust Grant – Dr. Castelli reported that Ms. Farmer received a grant and will be spending over $10K, and wanted to inform the board that we are simply serving as the pass-through for this funds – but due to the amount, the board needed to be aware. These monies are going directly to her program.
* John Reid asked for an update on the Athletic Trainer. Dr. Castelli reported that home games would be where we would need an Athletic Trainer at events vs practices. It was also reported that we could look to partner with an off duty EMT to serve in that role.

**Closed Session – Personnel GS143-318.11**

* Motion to move to closed session at 7:24pm by David VanDerveer, seconded by John Reid. Vote taken by voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Adjourn**