

**Uwharrie Charter Academy**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**April 21, 2022; 6:30 pm Central Office**

**Minutes**

**Board Members Present**

Carter Bills	Maxine Wright	David Van Derveer
Eric Ward	Kristian Allen	Aaryn Slafky
Angela Kern	Jonathan Thill	

**Not Present**

Chelsey Butler	Greg Zephir
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**Others Present**

Sharon Castelli	Kaye Williams (Teacher Representative – Elementary School)
Chris Wheat	Suzanne Bryant (Teacher Representative – Middle School)
Ryan Nelson	Paul Jasin (for Bond update portion)
Michelle Barfield	Beth Kearns, HS Principal
	Shelly Clemons, HS teacher

**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**

Board Chair Carter Bills called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm.

**Public comment**

No Public Comment

**E3 Awards**

**Jocelyn Thigpen – High School Student E3 Award Recipient for April 2022**

Jocelyn has met challenges in and out of the classroom head-on without letting anything hinder her from going above and beyond. As academic content became increasingly more intense and rigorous she upped her game and worked even harder while many of her peers rushed through their work and did just enough to get by. Instead of taking that cue from her peers, she asked more questions, studied longer, and thought more deeply. Jocelyn has always valued the role teachers play in her education and she respects their expertise. She considers their feedback and will make corrections and edits as many times as suggested without complaining. Jocelyn's confidence and desire to learn make her a great leader in the classroom. She can organize a group and encourage them through a project resulting in a final product of which all can be proud. Even with the challenges of remote learning and Covid protocols,

Jocelyn has adapted, remained positive, and excelled. Her work ethic and drive to meet her goal of graduating high school has kept her focus on point. Her motivation to become a successful adult is evident in her willingness to get a part-time job even while attending school. She has learned how to manage her time, to work ahead of schedule, and to advocate for herself when she needs support. She embraces opportunities and meets challenges head-on with her amazing spunk and humor. We have no doubt that Jocelyn will fulfill her vision of becoming a cosmetologist and she will be a blessing to those around her. We have enjoyed every minute of watching

### **Shelly Clemons – High School Teacher E3 Award Recipient for April 2022**

This month, the high school would like to recognize Shelly Clemons as our E3 employee. Mrs. Clemons has taught at UCA High School since 2016. Every day she shows up at 7:30 to monitor our early arriving students. In the evening, she can be found at after-school events taking pictures for the yearbook, and routinely works the gates at different sporting events. Mrs. Clemons teaches our Life skills, Marketing, and Yearbook classes each semester, and she also is in charge of all school and sports pictures and the yearbook. She collaborates with Mrs. Jody Smith to plan the prom and graduation each year. Mrs. Clemons is the perfect example of a UCA teacher. She is extremely flexible and has excellent relationships with her colleagues and students. One example of her willingness to do what is needed for our students is her flexibility with the classes she teaches. Next year the state has required adding Economics and Personal Finance (EPF) as the fourth social studies class beginning with our rising juniors. When asked if she would be willing to teach four sections of EPF starting next year, she said yes without hesitation and said she would do whatever we needed her to do. She is a great example of what is right with UCA!

### **Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Van Derveer, to approve the Consent Agenda: Superintendent's Report, Assistant Superintendent's Report, Treasurer's Report, CFO Report, March 10, 2022, Minutes, March 31, 2022 Called Meeting Minutes. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

### **Finance/ Facilities**

1. Finance Committee Report – Mr. Nelson reported that the financial health of the District is well. He shared that the 2022-23 budget draft was presented to the Finance Committee and that it is currently under review. He expects to present an updated draft for the Board to review at the next Board meeting.
2. Van purchase – The District has been presented with the opportunity to purchase a 2003 Freightliner bus. Both Mr. Wheat and the UCA mechanic have inspected the vehicle and recommend it. Mr. Wheat shared that it will allow many teams to be able to travel in one vehicle rather than two. Mr. Ward, on behalf of the Finance Committee made a motion, seconded by Mr. Van Derveer, to authorize a budget adjustment to fund a vehicle acquisition up to \$33,000. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.
3. Celebration of Supplement Release – Ms. Allen made a motion, seconded by Dr. Thill, to release the spring employee supplement in the amount of \$198,015. 51 this May. Vote taken by roll call.

All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

4. Update on Softball and Field House – Mr. Wheat reported that the Field House at the Ludlum Road facility is now open and that upgrades to the softball field are underway. Those upgrades include a security gate, scoreboard, flag pole and cameras. He shared that lights will be the next request to come before the Board at a future meeting. He said that the soccer program will move to this facility so that the current field can be converted to a playground for the Elementary School and that we may need to consider renting a field for the 2023-24 soccer seasons.
5. Update on Bond – Paul Jasin joined the meeting to provide an update on the Bond issuance, which closed on April 21. The bond is for \$45,995,000 at a rate of 5.058%. The covers construction of the new high school and payoff of the USDA loan. Mr. Jasin reported that the rate is still below average and that the Board has the option to refinance or prepay after 10 years. Mr. Bills expressed accolades to Mr. Jasin, Dr. Castelli, Mr. Wheat, Mr. Nelson and the Finance Committee for their collective hard work.

#### **Governance (10 Minutes)**

1. Governance Committee Report – Ms. Allen announced that the committee is starting to update the Board manual, which is updated annually and issued at the beginning of each new Board year. She asked that Board members review and send ideas for updates or edits to her by May 1. The manual can be found in the Board file drive.

#### **Academic Excellence**

1. Academic Excellence Report – Dr. Kern noted that the committee meeting report is in the Board google drive. She announced that Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2-May 6 and that she is still accepting donations for the Asheboro Bagel delivery to each school. She asked for one more volunteer to help deliver. Dr. Castelli outlined upcoming important District dates and that three students have been accepted into the Apprenticeship Randolph program. She invited Board members to attend the SIT school improvement working session on May 13 from 2-4 pm.
2. COVID-19 Update – Dr. Castelli reported there are currently no positive cases and no one in quarantine.

#### **Other Business/New Business**

N/A

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

A motion was made by Mr. Ward, seconded by Ms. Wright to go into Closed Session as notified in the Agenda for the reason of discussion around Personnel GS143-318.11 (a)(6). Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The Open Meeting concluded at 7:20 pm.

All attendees left the meeting except Dr. Castelli and members of the Board.

Mr. Bills called the Closed Session to order at 7:27 pm.

Dr. Castelli left the Closed Session at 7:51 pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Ward, seconded by Dr. Thill, to come out of closed session at 8:42 pm. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dr. Kern, seconded by Ms. Wright, to authorize Mr. Bills to negotiate a superintendent contract renewal for Dr. Castelli based on the terms discussed in closed session. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

### **Adjourn**

A motion was made by Mr. Van Derveer, seconded by Mr. Ward, to adjourn at 8:45 pm. Vote taken by roll call. 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.