

**Uwharrie Charter Academy
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
April 11, 2024, 6:30pm Central Gym
Minutes**

Board Members Present

Valery Dambreville	John Reid	
Ryan Terry	Chelsey Butler	Eric Ward
Greg Zephir	Jonathan Thill	
Kristian Allen	Regina Rush	

Board Member Absent

Carter Bills	Becca Mead
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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 6:30pm.

Public Comment

- No public comment

E3 Awards & FFA Presentation

- FFA Presentation – Mr. Wheat stated that Ms. Elizabeth Farmer is our Advisor of our FFA Program. Ms. Dill for our NC FFA is here to present a tobacco trust fund and academic improvement grant to our UCA FFA Chapter. This is not the first time that Ms. Farmer has been presented with this award. This year’s fund is purchasing a chicken coop, as well as some other equipment – this will enhance her students’ experience specifically with poultry production. She was given \$17, 875.00 for her grant award, and it is her largest one that she has been awarded.
- As with any school, we ask a lot of our administration and our staff and this year has been no exception. During this school year, we have had some major changes occur at all three schools. At the Middle School, we had a teacher leave us that served as an 8th Grade Math Teacher. As you can imagine this impacted the entire school as I was able to meet with these children myself. Once again, our heart for our students led Ms. Rachel Cashatt to tell Ms. Priest that she will take over these classes while still providing Science lessons to her students. I have even popped in on Ms. Cashatt and saw children

engaged and happy. There are not enough words to express our gratitude to Ms. Cashatt.

- Tonight, as we gather to honor the recipients of the Eagle Excellence in Education Award, it brings me immense joy to shine a spotlight on a truly exceptional young man within our midst. With a heart overflowing with kindness and a spirit that radiates warmth, Bryce Skeen embodies the very essence of what it means to be an exemplary member of our UCA community. His genuine care extends far beyond the confines of his own concerns, as he consistently demonstrates unwavering compassion towards his classmates, teachers, and every staff member he encounters. What sets him apart is not just his kindness, but the sincerity with which he extends it. Whether it's a simple smile in the hallway or a heartfelt inquiry into our well-being, Bryce Skeen never fails to make those around him feel valued and appreciated. His respectful demeanor and genuine concern for others are evident in the way he personally checks in with teachers, not merely to inquire about assignments, but to genuinely ask how we're doing and if there's anything he can do to help. Tonight, as we present him with this award, let us celebrate not just his actions, but the profound impact they have had on our school community. Congratulations, Bryce Skeen, you are a shining example of the transformative power of kindness, and we are immensely proud to honor you tonight.

Consent Agenda

- A motion was made by John Reid, seconded by Regina Rush to approve the Superintendent's Report, Assistant Superintendent's Report, Treasurer's Report, CFO Report, March 14, 2024, Minutes. Vote taken by Voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Finance/Facilities

- Audit Presentation – Mr. Jay Sharpe joined via Zoom to present his Audit Findings for UCA. The audit is complete, prepared, and approved. He went over the Role and Objectives of the Audit Process. The Results – we received an Unmodified Opinion, which is the best finding that we could receive. The findings show no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. There were adjustments, but nothing outside the ordinary during an audit process. He went over the Required communications, which was an efficient process with Mr. Nelson's team. He then went through the 2023 Financial Highlights for UCA. He went over Revenues and Expenditures, and the Fund Balance. Everything looks good even with the building of the new buildings. He went over the Cash Reserves, Working Capital, and the Functional Expense.
- Finance Committee Report: The audit presentation covers this month's Finance Committee report per Mr. Nelson and Mr. Ward.
- Supplement Release – this is our May supplement that we request Board Approval. Dr. Castelli did mention that they investigated Randolph and Asheboro City Schools supplements. There was discussion about keeping UCA competitive with our local districts.

- i. A motion was made to approve the Supplement Release for \$232,999.00 by Eric Ward, seconded by Kristian Allen. Vote taken by Voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion Carried.

Governance

- Governance Committee Report: Ms. Allen went over the Revised Bylaws, and the changes that were made to the document. There was no further discussion, but they do need to make error corrections, one was a typo, and one was an update from a previous Bylaw amendment, and the address needs to be updated. Mr. Zephir inquired about the confidentiality clause, and whether or not Board Members on the Advisory Council could have access to sensitive information. They asked that our attorney please double check on this part.
- Bylaw Change – Term Limits
 - A motion was made to approve the Bylaw Change to include the address change, and the two typos by Greg Zephir, seconded by Kristian Allen. Vote taken by Voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.
- SOP for Athletic Purchase Orders – Dr. Castelli presented the updated SOP with the help of Mr. Nelson and Mr. Wheat’s input. The bolded items were the changes that were made from the previous board meeting. This is very similar to Randolph County’s SOP and will be added to an Athletic Handbook that Dr. Castelli hopes to present to the board at the June Meeting. Mr. Reid stated a couple of wording changes that he suggested to the document.
 - A motion was made to approve the SOP for Athletic Purchase Orders by Kristian Allen, seconded by Jonathan Thill. Vote taken by Voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Academic Excellence

- Academic Excellence Committee Report – Mr. Dambreville said that we had a great meeting. Mr. Martin, on behalf of the HS, talked about the FFA Award. Some of our students will be presented with a bilingual endorsement at Senior Awards night. FFA Students will be competing in the Regional Rally. There is an FFA Officer who is outgoing at the Regional Level, but one coming in at the Regional Level for the next year. Our Olympiad Team competed last week. The Skills USA Team competed at the Regional Rally – we had multiple students’ places in various competitions. It was a good showing for our first time at Skills USA. 12 Students will be going to the State Rally in a couple weeks. Ms. Miller, on behalf of the MS, talked about Ms. Haywood making it to the top 9 for State Teacher of Year, while she didn’t win, it was honor be at that Level. They are gearing up for their Color run. Nc Check-ins is coming up. 8th Grade went to DC. Middle School also had the most teachers present at the Mini-Conference. The board inquired about the 8th grade students that stayed behind – it’s a variety of reasons, not primarily financially. Mr. Dambreville inquired about the tutoring – Ms. Miller talked about EVAAS, and the percentile rank of a passing score of the Math EOG. There is a grant for tutoring, and the note that went home to students was geared towards the 40-70% chance of passing the EOG. And they decided to revamp, and they

are now getting students to sign up for a Math bootcamp rather than tutoring. Colleen Stanley on behalf of the ES – they are gearing their tutoring to their bubble kids as well in EVAAS to help give the students a push for their EOG. They had a Solar Eclipse event this week with the help of the PTO. They are getting ready for testing, IReady, NC Check-ins is done, and EOY Testing. They are looking at their placements for next to ensure students are matched well. Testing is the last week of May with K-2 being virtual during testing. Their Care Graduation is coming up. Dr. Castelli said that 2 Grants are supporting are tutoring at both ES and MS Campuses. The Career Academy completed a Grant, and internships are going well. They are increasing the number of internships for Summer/Fall. They had 100% pass rate for Safe Serve in Culinary. Mr. Ward is going to be certifying our students for safe transport of Freon!! Mr. Dambreville celebrated the energy that is brought to Academic Excellence by our Administration and staff. Mr. Ward is really pleased with the Internship program, and how it has come together. He is personally pleased with his intern and helping to support the student in being successful in school, and his internship. Mr. Martin has a student that really wants to get an internship with Toyota, and he's doing much better in school because he has a goal to get this internship. Mr. Reid asked about how they are motivating the business owners to engage in this process. Mr. Martin said it is about the skills gap that we are seeing in the businesses. Mr. Wheat talked about how we go through a vetting process with each student. All the juniors are presented with their opportunities available. They need to be in good standing with grades, and behavior. And then Mr. Green went to the businesses and presented these businesses with students who are interested.

- Summer Plan for Testing – Dr. Castelli stated that this is a DPI requirement to have board approval to readminister an EOG to the student during Summer Program.
 - A motion was made to approve the Summer Plan for Testing by Greg Zephir, seconded by John Reid. Vote taken by Voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Other Business/New Business

- Ad Hoc Committee – Football Update – Mr. Wheat stated that they met in March. They approved a logo for fundraising purposes. They know this is still a few years away. They are getting their Youth League underway and have met varied criteria. We have two leagues to be a part of – and 2 are asking weekly if we are going to join their league. The last remaining hurdle is fundraising for equipment, they are looking to raise about \$15K-\$20K. The coaches that are meeting this coming week will be asked to help with the fundraising efforts.
- Ms. Butler sent out an email about an event for the Teacher Appreciation Week at Bicentennial Park. She's asking the board to donate funds to buy the Hot Dogs for the meal.
- Ms. Rush about the wait list for the Lottery – Lotterease handles the updates on their platform.

Closed Session – Personnel GS143-318.11

- A motion to move to closed session at 7:51 by Eric Ward, seconded by Ryan Terry. Vote taken by Voice. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Adjourn