

**Uwharrie Charter Academy**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**October 10, 2019; 6:30 pm at Central Office (Main Gym)**

**Minutes**

**Board Members Present**

<b>Stacy Griffin</b>	<b>Maxine Wright</b>
<b>Ashley Duggins</b>	<b>Carter Bills</b>
<b>Aaryn Slafky</b>	<b>Kristian Allen</b>
<b>Angela Kern</b>	<b>Eric Ward</b>

**Others Present**

<b>Heather Vuncannon</b>	<b>Casey Harris</b>	<b>Chad Douglas</b>
<b>Ryan Nelson</b>	<b>Jennifer Way</b>	<b>Susan Yow</b>
<b>Caroline Auman</b>	<b>Sherry Ficquette</b>	<b>Nicole Catherwood</b>

**(+22 Additional Members of the public sat in the bleachers)**

**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**

Lisa Garrison– presented opposition towards the changing of bylaws (a discussion topic on the agenda; not presented for a vote by the BOD)

Mac Whatley– presented opposition towards the changing of bylaws (a discussion topic on the agenda; not presented for a vote by the BOD)

## Teacher Presentations

The board heard from three UCA teachers from each level of the school system:

- Caroline Auman (Elementary School)
- Sherry Ficquette (Middle School)
- Nicole Catherwood (High School)

The Board enjoyed hearing updates from teachers at each school and how they are making a difference, preparing UCA students in creative ways for the rapidly evolving world.

## Consent Agenda

The BOD Secretary identified one wording clarification needed to the Financial Threshold, as delivered by Ryan Nelson, in order for the September Minutes to be approved. All BOD members and UCA Administration agreed. **A Motion was made by Kristian Allen to approve the Chief Academic Officer's report, Treasurer's report, and the September minutes (contingent on said wording clarification to the Financial Threshold) that were submitted, seconded by Aaryn Slafky. All in Favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.**

## Finance/Facilities:

a. **Facility Needs** – Eric Ward lead the BOD through a presentation that displayed the Finance Committee's recommended solutions around identified facility needs at UCA. The presented solution included economies-of-scale to the project, working with one company, to accomplish multiple improvements while the ongoing work will take place. These improvements would include: more parking to create 120 new parking spaces, completion of the softball/baseball complex at Ludlum Rd, a parking area/proper entrance/exit traffic flow as the number of athletic events going on at the field is increasing, the fencing, a backstop and dugouts need to be completed on the softball field, and a multipurpose building to include space for concessions, bathrooms, locker rooms, storage, and growth for the complex. Eric explained that multiple quotes were sourced and the solution delivered included the best option for UCA given the ability to do all of the work at the most efficient cost. **A motion was made by Eric Ward, on behalf, of the entire Finance Committee, to approve the Facility Needs Project as presented, Ashley Duggins seconded. All in Favor, none opposed. Motion Carried**

b. **Safety Grant** – Info delivered for this \$8,600 opportunity by Superintendent and was received with support (info only). Superintendent hopeful to hear decision on the grant by 10/25/19.

c. **Thresholds with Authorization Level Policy**- CFO underscored the clarification noted in the Consent Agenda. As voted in within the September Minutes:

**Check Signing Authority Thresholds Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to establish thresholds related to check signing authority.

- \$2500 or less- CEO or Superintendent can sign
- \$2501- \$9999- CFO and Superintendent can sign
- \$10,000 and up- Superintendent and Board Treasurer must sign

**Governance:**

a. **Report from Committees**

- **Governance Committee**- will continue meeting each Thursday, one week following the board meeting each month.
- **Academic Excellence Committee**- Committee Chair provided insight to include updates on the computer additions to the School as well as for classroom walk through opportunities.
- **Finance Committee**- no further updates in addition to presentation, vote, and other items as noted within Finance/Facilities above.
- **Executive Committee**- no additional updates at this time.

b. **Policy Review** – delivered by the Governance Committee. Recapped final wording, as reviewed in the September meeting, to include three proposed policy clarifications for vote as recommended by the Governance Committee:

- **Employee Drug Policy**
  - **A motion was made by Ashley Duggins to approve, Aaryn Slafky seconded. All in Favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.**
- **Hiring Policy**
  - **A motion was made by Ashley Duggins to approve, Carter Bills seconded. All in Favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.**

- **Nepotism Policy**

- **A motion was made by Ashley Duggins to approve, Angela Kern seconded. All in Favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.**

- c. **Proposed Bylaw Amendment Discussion-** Scenarios of the need for potential Board Member term extensions for the reasons of- the overall health of UCA, proper leadership succession planning for the BOD, and in the event of needed, extreme circumstances were delivered. Derived by the entire Governance Committee, the discussion was presented by Kristian Allen, Ashley Duggins, and Aaryn Slafky that proposed the BOD consider further discussion with an eye to the future and in the interests of the continued well-being of UCA. The Superintendent spoke emphatically against any idea of changing the bylaws citing this as dangerous. The Governance Committee underscored that the topic was simply for discussion at this time and inquired to ask how this might be dangerous. The Superintendent noted that the absence of clear wording around a definitive end to Board Member terms and lack clarity on what might be deemed as extreme circumstances, that would cause the potential need for term extensions, was threatening in her mind. The BOD appreciated and agreed with the Superintendent's sentiments, noting that language clarifications around both are needed and that wording should be crafted to apply the noted protections. The Governance Committee agreed to craft the changes and bring for continued discussion at a later date. No vote was needed or requested at this time.
- d. **Department and Committee Goals for Superintendent-** Board Chair delivered a reminder for these to be submitted by the December meeting with an eye towards the goal of a continually improved evaluation process in 2020.
- e. **OML Clarification-** Board Chair delivered reminder for this process for all parties involved.

**Academic Excellence:**

- a. **Report from Chief Academic Officer-** Relayed goals for school improvement plus delivered the beginnings of info on a plan around Title 1.
- b. **Stop the Bleed; SS-ARS app-** Superintendent provided description of these programs, reasoning for the need, and plans for appropriate rollout at the School System- which were well received.
- c. **Football Research-** COO/Athletic Director provided a FYI that the school was beginning to put research behind the prospect of adding football to UCA- what that would entail and look

like for UCA. The BOD emphasized to review from all angles, what the addition of football might look like from all aspects of the school system (e.g. athletically, culturally, academically, financially).

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

Ratified Title 1 policy email vote that took place on 10/2. Board Chair requested a motion to ratify the vote. **A motion was made by Aaryn Slafky to ratify the 10/2 vote, Ashley Duggins seconded. All in Favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.**

#### **Closed Session**

**A motion was made by Carter Bills to go in to Closed Session, as noted on the Agenda for the reason of discussion around Personnel; 143-318.11 (a)(6), Eric Ward seconded. All in Favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.** The Open Meeting concluded at the Central Office Gym (8:36pm).

#### **Adjourn**

**A motion was made by Angela Kern to Adjourn, Maxine Wright seconded. All in Favor, none opposed. Motion Carried (12:56am).**

#### **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

Respectfully Submitted,

Carter Bills  
UCA – BOD  
Executive Committee, Secretary