

Uwharrie Charter Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
April 15, 2021; 6:30 pm Central Office

Minutes

Board Members Present

Carter Bills	Holly Moorhead	Maxine Wright
Eric Ward	Wanda Pegg	Kristian Allen
Angela Kern	Greg Zephir	
Chelsey Butler	David Van Derveer	

Others Present

Sharon Castelli	Colleen Stanley (Teacher Representative – Elementary School)
Casey Harris	Danielle Dills (Teacher Representative – Middle School)
Ryan Nelson	Shelly Fossati
Charity Shore	

Members of the public joined via Zoom

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 6:52 pm.

Public comment

No Public Comment

E3 Awards

HS – Shelly Clemons – Teacher: Mrs. Shelly Clemons is very deserving of this month's E3 award from the high school. Every successful school has someone that does a little bit of everything, and at UCA High School, that person is Mrs. Clemons. She leads our Yearbook team that creates an amazing product each year. Even with the restrictions of Covid, Mrs. Clemons and her students have found ways to make our yearbook exciting and personable. Her business classes also give our students real world experiences, and we are overly excited about several new courses she plans to teach next year. Mrs. Clemons is also a key member of our prom, homecoming, and graduation teams. We count on her during this busy time of year, and she always delivers. Congratulations on receiving this month's E3 award.

HS – Keri Massie – Student Winner: This month the high school would like to recognize Keri Massie as our E3 award winner. Keri is the real MVP of our girls' soccer team, as she keeps everyone together in her role as manager. If you have been to a soccer game, you have seen Keri running up and down the sideline patching up scrapes and bruises, rounding up flying soccer balls, and just keeping everyone's

spirits up. After the game is over, she cleans up all the gear and makes sure everyone knows where they are going to dinner. We are so thankful for her kind and serving spirit that keeps everyone fired up. Keri is also a great student and willing to help anyone in need. Congratulations Keri, we are proud of you!

MS – Kari Dye – Fifth Grade Math Teacher: Kari Dye teaches fifth math and science for the middle school and we are excited to recognize her this month. She has worked on our two-man virtual team and has done a great job working to make this year meaningful for her students. Ms. Dye is always willing to go above and beyond to help her coworkers and students. She will volunteer to help wherever needed. Her dedication to her students and their learning is evident. We are proud to honor her as our middle school recipient.

MS – Grat Dalton – Student Winner: Grat is an eighth grade, student athlete at the middle school. He has worked to maintain the balance between academically advanced classes and being a member of the baseball team. In the classroom, he is a good student who brings spunk and humor daily. He is also known for his honesty. On the baseball field, he is a great player and leader who is always encouraging his teammates. Even from the dugout, he continues to coach up younger players to make them better and displays good sportsmanship throughout.

ES – Lana Lippard – Teacher: Mrs. Lippard is very deserving of our E3 award. She is very patient and loving with each of her students. She communicates frequently with parents and has built a community of trust in her classroom. There have been many different obstacles this year due to COVID and changes in schedules, but Mrs. Lippard has met those challenges and rose to the occasion. Mrs. Lippard strives to create the best learning environment possible for her students and we are thankful to have her on board. Thanks for all you do, Mrs. Lippard!

ES – Landon Thorpe – Student Recipient: Landon has really matured this year. On most days, he is working diligently in class. He is taking pride in his work, writing nicely, and putting forth extra effort in reading class. He willingly accepts new students into his group and shows them the expectations. Landon is really working hard and is worthy of the E3 student award!

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Ward, seconded by Dr. Kern, to approve the Consent Agenda, Superintendent's Report, Treasurer's Report, CFO Report, March 11 Minutes, April 6 Called Meeting Minutes. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

Finance/ Facilities (30 Minutes)

1. Finance Committee Report – Mr. Ward reported that there was an update on the RFP proposal and bid, which will be covered in the next agenda item.
2. Update on RFP and Bid Proposal (Vote Needed) – Mr. Ward spoke about the new construction project and the process the Finance Committee followed to review the bids from various construction companies. The committee narrowed the search down to two companies. The committee is recommending Shelco based upon the vision of the project and what things could look like for future projects. Both proximity and overall site plan were major contributing factors to final recommendation. Ms. Allen commented that she was very impressed with submitted plans, budgets and prior projects presented and very thankful for all the time and effort the finance committee spent putting this together these recommendations. A motion was made by

Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Van Derveer, to approve the bid for Shelco in the new construction for the high school facility and trades building. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

3. ESSERS II Funding and possible expenditures – Mr. Nelson reported that UCA has been awarded ESSERS II funding that would focus on sustainability in response to learning loss. He said this is the most robust in terms of what it can be spent on and that there will need to be a strategic plan in place for each grant. Ms. Stanley asked if there would be a Specials Teacher position created for the elementary school now that there are 5 teachers per grade level, to which Dr. Castelli responded that there has been previous discussion on that in executive meetings. Mr. Nelson also reported that this is a one-time fund, not recurring. These funds will go to capital improvements, salaries, HVAC, and technology.
4. Website Subscription (Vote Needed) - Mr. Nelson reported that the Ling website would be a little higher with an annual cost of \$6300, which is about \$800 more than what we have been paying annually. A motion was made by Mr. Zephir, seconded by Ms. Pegg, to approve the three-year subscription for the website. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.
5. New Positions – Fall 2021
 - A. Five new teachers at the elementary school (Vote Needed) – A motion was made by Ms. Allen, seconded by Dr. Kern, to approve five new teacher positions at the elementary school, using ESSERS funding. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.
 - B. One instructional Coach – Middle School – Dr. Castelli reminded the Board that this position was previously approved and shared that they are ready to move forward with filling this position, using ESSERS funding.
 - C. One Nurse – contracted and paid through supplement funding – PRC 169 funding This would be a contracted service for next year, similar to a pilot year with the intent to keep the nurse in place going forward. A motion was made by Mr. Van Derveer, seconded by Ms. Allen, to approve the use of the one-year GEER grant to fund a nurse position. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

Governance (10 Minutes)

1. Governance Committee Report – Ms. Allen reported that the committee met March 18 on zoom. Highlights from the meeting included discussion of handbook updates, which are updated on the Board's google drive.
2. Board Policy Handbook Update (Vote Needed) – The Governance Committee is recommending the following two language changes to the Board Policy Handbook: 1) The addition of this language to section 107: *Members of the Finance Committee will be members of the BOD, subject to the conditions stated in the UCA Bylaws, and the Superintendent of the School, Finance Director and Director of Operations. Additional Finance Committee members who are not members of the BOD may be appointed by Committee Chairperson. The Treasurer shall serve as the Chair of the Finance Committee.* and 2) The inclusion of the full North Carolina Statute

(143-318.11) for closed sessions (the policy previously listed the Statute number rather than the entire language). A motion was made by Ms. Allen, seconded by Dr. Moorhead, to approve revisions to the Board Policy Handbook as presented in the drive. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

3. SOP for Sick Leave – Dr. Castelli reported that an SOP for sick leave has been written and presented to staff.

Academic Excellence (30 Minutes)

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 3-May 7 and that the committee proposes providing bagels from Asheboro Bagel that week.
2. COVID - 19 Update – Dr. Castelli noted that the Randolph County Health Department did not have a new update on case counts, however she shared that Randolph County has moved from red to orange status.
3. Lottery Update – Dr. Castelli reported that the Lottery for the 2021-22 school year is now closed. Both elementary and middle school openings are filled. The high school looks good, and is continuing to accept applications.

Other Business/New Business

Dr. Castelli reported that NC DPI issued a waiver of the percentage of students required for end of grade testing.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Ward, seconded by Ms. Allen 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 7:37 pm.

Mr. Harris, Mr. Nelson, Ms. Dills, Ms. Stanley, Ms. Shore, Ms. Fossati, and members of the public left the meeting.

Mr. Bills called the Closed Session to order at 7:54 pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Zephir, seconded by Dr. Moorhead, to come out of closed session at 8:27 pm. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Van Derveer, seconded by Mr. Zephir, to adjourn at 8:29 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.