

Uwharrie Charter Academy

Board of Directors Meeting

January 14, 2021; 6:30 pm Middle School Commons

Minutes

Board Members Present

Carter Bills	Kristian Allen	Wanda Pegg (remote)
Holly Moorhead	Eric Ward	Angela Kern
Chelsey Butler	Aaryn Slafky	David Van Derveer
Maxine Wright		

Others Present

Sharon Castelli	Colleen Stanley (Teacher Representative – Elementary School)
Casey Harris	Danielle Dills (Teacher Representative – Middle School)
Ryan Nelson	Amanda Whatley (Teacher Representative – High School) (remote)
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 6:38 pm.

Public comment

Jessica Hoffmire, 4th grade teacher ES, provided remarks concerning the plan for students to return to campus.

Amy Pope, Kindergarten teacher ES, provided remarks concerning teaching several groups and the proposed pods structure for this semester.

Lana Lippard, EC teacher ES, provided remarks concerning the UCA vision.

Ginny Stout, Parent, provided remarks concerning an email from the middle school about long term zoom meetings.

E3 Awards

HS – Brad Monroe – This month's staff E3 winner at the high school is our Athletic Director, Brad Monroe. Coach Monroe has navigated scheduling our fall athletic events in the face of several cancellations. He has also prepared our men's basketball team for a successful season by focusing on teamwork and being accountable. He is an excellent role model for our players and all students as well. His Music Production class is a huge component of our STEAM program, and we value his professionalism and character. Congratulations Coach!

HS – Maggie Kern – Student Winner – We would like to recognize Maggie Kern as this month's E3 student winner from the high school. Maggie has consistently performed at the highest level in all her

classes, both at UCA and RCC. Maggie will graduate with her Associate in Arts degree from RCC in addition to her high school diploma. Her hard work has not gone unnoticed by colleges and universities in the admissions process. She has been accepted to Elon University and awarded the Presidential Scholarship totaling \$24,000 over four years. She was also invited to apply for the Honors and Fellows programs at Elon. Maggie has also been accepted to Furman University where she was awarded the Bell Tower Scholarship totaling \$108,000 over four years. Impressively, Maggie has been selected as a semi-finalist for 2 highly competitive scholarship programs; The Park Scholarship for NC State University as well as The Morehead-Cain scholarship for UNC Chapel Hill. Maggie's future is so bright, and we can't wait to watch her soar!

MS – Lee Haywood – Ms. Haywood is a dedicated teacher and has even been recognized by her art peers in our state as an outstanding teacher. She leads at the state level in her professional organization as well as leading in our school. Her colleagues share that "Ms. Haywood demonstrates a positive outlook despite the challenges of online learning, is a peacemaker when tensions are high, and has helped us come up with ideas to solve scheduling issues." She has been amazing during the transition to fully online learning and has been creative in making art hands-on during virtual learning. She builds great relationships with her students and works to promote her students and their artwork.

MS – Tobe Snodgrass – Student Winner – Tobe is an exceptional student who consistently works to do his best. His teachers report that he reaches out when he does not understand and impresses them with his hard work and dedication to his studies. They say that Tobe never gets discouraged and is a rockstar!

ES – Lem Yow, Custodian – Lem is one of the kindest people you will meet. He was a great addition to our Elementary family, and we appreciate all he did for us. He never hesitated to help someone in need. Lem was encouraging to our students and staff and always friendly. He is reliable and hardworking. We will sorely miss him! We want to wish him all the best in retirement.

ES – Charlie Morris – Student Winner – Charlie always has a smile on his face and is excited about learning and school and encourages others. He has shown courage in challenging times and is a great role model to others! We are so proud of his accomplishments this year and want to help him continue that path.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Van Derveer, seconded by Dr. Kern, to approve the Consent Agenda, Superintendent's Report, Treasurer's Report, Operations Report, CFO Report, December Minutes. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

Finance/ Facilities

1. Finance Committee Report – Mr. Ward gave a brief summary of the report stored in the Board drive.
2. CARES Act money update – Dr. Castelli explained that some of the costs for the Elementary School expansion could be covered with CARES funds, including items such as technology for classrooms.
3. Expanded Space at Klaussner Facility – Dr. Castelli made a presentation that outlined a three-year strategy for adding space at the Elementary School for the remainder of the lease of the building. The lease ends June 2023.
 - A. Short-Term Goal – Return to School K-4
 - Lease agreement for additional space – Shown in presentation
 - Financial Plan (CARES vs. UCA funding) – Shown in presentation
 - Mapping of space and how it will be allocated – Shown in presentation

- Human Resources support, Student monitoring and support (Specialists, TA's ad/or long-term subs) – Shown in presentation
- B. Long-Term Goal – If expanded space is taken on with Klaussner, UCA would like to consider moving the 5th grade within the new space at the Elementary School beginning for the 2021-2022 school year to support the Lottery and number projection.

If approved, the space would become available immediately but the payment for the additional leased space would not start until July 2021. A motion was made by Mr. Van Derveer, seconded by Ms. Wright, to approve the expansion of the lease with Klaussner for additional space for \$1800 more a month. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Ward, seconded by Ms. Allen, to invest up to \$150,000 to create new classrooms and related construction for the additional space at the Klaussner building. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

Governance (20 Minutes)

1. Governance Committee Report – Dr. Moorhead gave a brief summary of the report stored in the Board drive.
2. UCA BOD Position Description & Agreement Revisions – Dr. Moorhead distributed copies to each board member to complete and sign. The documents were then collected at the end of the meeting. Those not present will complete the forms by the next board meeting.
3. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) Updated – Dr. Castelli reported that the Remote Learning Plan and Overtime/Sick Leave SOPs were updated.
4. District Strategic Plan (Vote needed) – Dr. Castelli outlined the District Strategic Plan, which she said is based off NC star plan. A motion was made by Dr. Moorhead, seconded by Ms. Allen, to approve the District Strategic Plan as presented. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.
5. Title Change for Deans/Assistant Deans to Principals/Assistant Principals (Vote Needed) – Dr. Castelli recommended that the titles be changed from Deans/Assistant Deans to Principals/Assistant Principals because these titles are more recognized in the school community. A motion was made Dr. Moorhead, seconded by Ms. Allen, to approve the title change from Deans/Assistant Deans to Principals/Assistant Principals. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.

Academic Excellence (30 Minutes)

1. Academic Excellence Report – Dr. Kern gave a brief summary of the report stored in the Board drive. She pointed out that books are needed. Donations of gently used books are appreciated.
2. COVID-19 Update – Dr. Castelli reported that Randolph County is reporting 19% positive cases.
3. Parent Survey Results for K-4 Students – A summary of the results were in Dr. Castelli's presentation.
4. Klaussner -Instructional Plan (Format of instruction -live instruction, independent practice, intervention, STEAM activities) – Dr. Castelli covered this item in her presentation.

Other Business/New Business

1. Mr. Nelson asked that the Board approve an extension for the audit. He said that our auditor, Jay Sharpe of Sharpe Patel, PLLC, had requested this extension and that this is normal practice. A motion was made by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Van Derveer, to approve the extension to February 28, 2021, on the audit completion date. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried
2. Mr. Nelson reported that the Trustee of UCA's bonds is now UMB. UMB replaces US Bank.

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

A motion was made by Dr. Moorhead, 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 8:40 pm.

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

Mr. Bills called the Closed Session to order at 8:53 pm, with Wanda Pegg present via phone bridge. A motion was made by Mr. Ward, seconded by Ms. Allen to come out of closed session at 9:39 pm. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Dr. Kern, seconded by Mr. Van Derveer, to adjourn. Vote taken by roll call. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:39 pm.

UCA Board Vision Statement

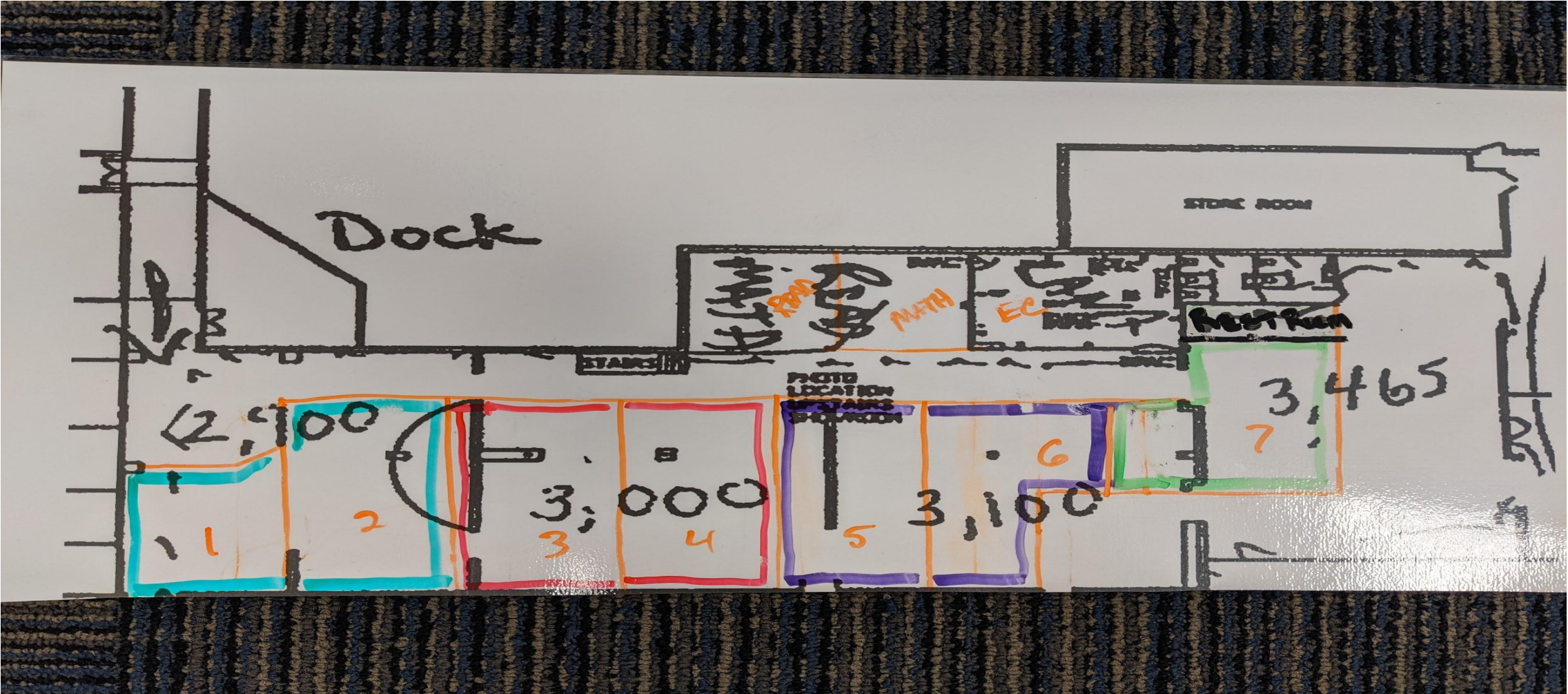
Uwharrie Charter Academy is the model of innovative learning environments where curiosity, adaptability, and critical thinking are inspired through transformative methods and passionate educators preparing graduates for the rapidly evolving world.



Elementary School Facilities

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Proposed Space Additional Square Footage



Proposed Changes of Current Square Footage



Cost estimates & funding

		Funding Source
Lease	\$53,000 lifetime (\$1800/mo)	UCA
Electric	Monthly flat fee TBD	UCA
Furniture	\$4500	CARES
Instructional Resources	3K for STEAM, 27K for DiscoveryEd, webcams, 9K for iReady, 2K for each school in books	CARES
Construction	\$53,000 - \$150,000 (range based on materials, such as OSB vs. sheetrock)	UCA
Devices	TBD	CARES/Title I
WiFi/Internet	27K	CARES/UCA
Staffing	\$20,000 for spring semester TBD for permanent teacher salaries starting in the 21-22 school year	UCA

Short-Term Goal

Spring Semester 2021

Additional space can provide:

- Reading and Math instruction through live instruction on students additional two days
- Reading and Math interventions (1:1 and small group work)
- Independent work with access to instructor (long term sub) for guidance
- STEAM activities
- Environmental literacy activities

Long-Term Goal

Two-Year Plan (August 2021-June 2023)

Additional classrooms for K-5 or continue with K-4

- Estimated addition of 150 students, providing funding of \$750,000 in new revenue K-8*

*Moving 5th grade to Elementary would open up space for 6-8 at the Middle School while still creating larger classrooms for K-4

■ Or

- Additional space would allow for:

Growth for K-4 students

Space for STEAM activities

Allow an opportunity to make classrooms larger in our current space

Benefits of expansion of space at Klaussner

Short-term

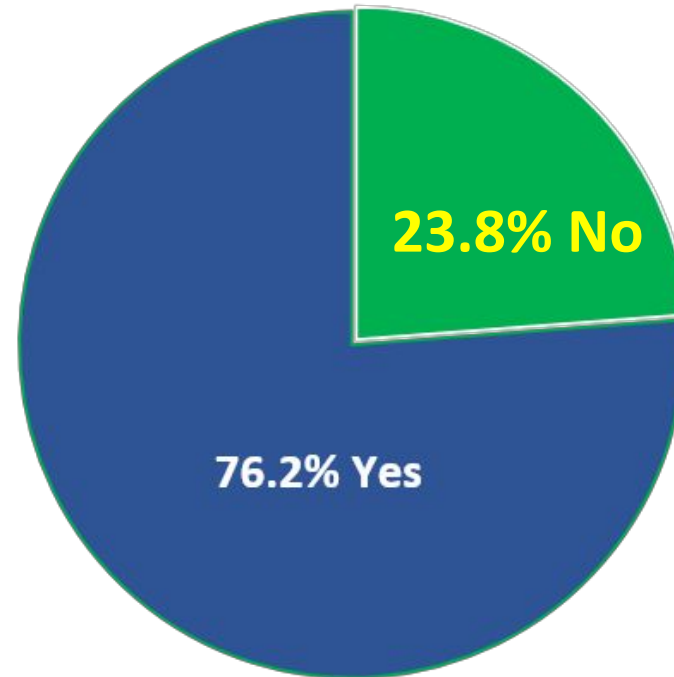
- Social well-being
- Guided instruction
- 1:1 interventions
- Guided group activities (safely!)
- Structure

Long-term


- Increase classroom sizes - more space to social distance
- Provides an opportunity to grow our student population and classrooms, which would create an opportunity to make class sizes smaller
- Provide the additional student growth needed to grow/build our High School - currently, we do not have room to grow our elementary numbers in the current allocated space

Initial Parent Survey Results

333 parents responded that they would opt in to a 4-day in-person schedule



Current Enrollment

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>A Day</u>	<u>B Day</u>	<u>Remote</u> 
Kindergarten	36	34	15
First	44	45	10
Second	43	44	14
Third	44	39	18
Fourth	44	46	13

Common Questions

- Would this impact our elementary/high school construction plans? **NO**
- What does the instructional day look like? **We are currently working on those details...intervention, live instruction, independent practice, yogo(recess), STEAM activities, and environmental literacy support**
- Timeline for spring semester? **Depends on construction...**
- Who will develop content for Blended Learning Model? **Administration and Dr. Castelli will support**
- Is there the expectation going to remain as 20 minute mini-lessons for live teaching? **YES**
- Will these classroom/pods be supplied with school supplies? **Yes and materials to include STEAM have already been ordered**
- If a child gets sick that is in the additional classroom, who is going to be responsible for contacting parents? **Office staff will support, not the classroom teacher**
- Will computers/cameras be provided to teachers/students to support technology? **Yes; will be looking at the needs (case by case)**
- Will students have the options to keep AA/BB scheduled (2 days) or remain virtual? **Yes**
- What about the internet? **We will be adding additional cables/technology to support the connectivity**
- How will temperature checks and traffic be supported? **May have to stagger entry times to allow for the possible increase**

Extenuating Factors

- Construction timeline
- Fire code approval
- Parking spaces
- Additional bathroom will not be available until Summer

Recommendations

1. Vote to take on more square footage in the Klaussner lease (with an up to amount & description on fair sq footage price & months free)
2. Vote to invest (up to amount - \$150K) to:
 - Create new classrooms with a strategic plan in the Spring - allowing to bring students back
 - Create room expansions in current space during the summer - allowing for larger class sizes to support social distancing in the upcoming school year
3. Vote to adjust the return to school plan to allow K-4 to go 4 days a week in the model presented within* (once the renovations of the space are completed; and pending all codes, e.g. fire code, are approved)
4. Vote to move 5th grade to Elementary School in 2021-2022 school year, allowing for growth of Middle School