

## Uwharrie Charter Academy Board of Directors Meeting Summary

**Date:** May 14, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** High School

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### **Board Members Present:**

Becca Mead, Paige Fish, Regina Rush, Jennifer Mabe, Maria Hayes, Valerie Dambreville, Meredith Arbaiza, Elisha Savchak-Trogdon, Ryan Terry

**Absent:** Johnathan Thill, Chelsea Butler

### **Administration Present:**

Sharon Castelli, Chris Wheat, Ryan Nelson, Beth Kearns

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### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 PM by Becca Mead.

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### **Public Comments**

**NO public comments**

### **Consent Agenda**

The Board reviewed the Superintendent's Report, Deputy Superintendent's Report, Treasurer's Report, CFO Report, and the April 16, 2026 meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Jennifer Mabe and seconded by Tony Cugino to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Voice vote taken. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

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### **Finance and Facilities**

#### 1. Finance Committee Report

Overview of the fiscal year's financial status, noting a positive surplus of roughly 2.3 million, though this is expected to decrease as state and federal funds are exhausted. BVA is tracking well, and stable.

#### 2. Update on Real Property Acquisition

Mr. Terry updated on the Real Property Acquisition.

Real Property Acquisition was finalized at \$110,700, with the transaction completed and positive feedback from the seller.

### 3. High School Buildout

Expenditures requested due to budget surplus. High School Buildout on second floor would add two additional classrooms. Quote provided by Uwharrie Builders for \$47,105.

Module wall would be purchased separately for the space. Estimate of module wall would be less than \$5000.00

Vote needed for \$52,500 to approve expense of additional space at the high school.

A motion was made by Ryan Terry and seconded by Tony Cugino to approve \$52,500 for high school buildout as presented.

Voice vote taken. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

### 4. Elementary Intercom System

The safety survey indicated the need for an intercom system that the elementary school. Intercoms are needed in the modules, throughout the main building, and the playground.

Vote needed for intercoms and cables for intercom system in the amount of \$25,750.

A motion was made by Regina Rush and seconded by Meredith Arbaiza to approve elementary school intercom system as presented.

Voice vote taken. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

### 5. Investment of current money market funds

Investment strategies were discussed, with plans to move \$7 million from a money market to higher-yielding short-term investments, and to seek proposals for a new banking relationship.

### 6. Fiscal Controls Policies Handbook

Draft and publish an updated Fiscal Controls and Policies handbook (incorporating recent changes and disaggregated local-school responsibilities) and solicit input from treasurers and principals. The original handbook is from 202.

### 7. 2026-2027 Budget

Budget discussions have been ongoing in March and April.

Discussion of new positions being added, positions being changed, and continuation of SROs at all three schools.

A vote is needed to approve the 2026-2027 Budget as presented.

A motion was made by Val Dambreville and seconded by Ryan Terry to approve the 2026 -2027 budget as presented.

Voice vote taken. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

## **Academic Excellence**

### **Academic Excellence Committee Report**

1. Mrs. Hayes and Dr. Trogdon shared information from each school and current celebrations.

- Summarized various academic and student achievements, including STEAM events, state competitions, and National Junior Beta Club
- Discussion of Math Curriculum chosen for K-5 and Middle school. The elementary school has chosen Eureka Math and the middle school prefers Maneuvering the Middle.
- Thankful for all of our teachers during teacher appreciation week and the support of administrators and the PTO for providing teachers with food and gifts.

2. NCDPI has made a change to our Beginning Teacher Support Plan. It does require a board vote. Two changes were made.

BT's first year teaching following completion of an approved educational prep program will be conducted as part of the requirement to measure the performance of the educator prep program, stated in general statute, the surveys will be completed. And again, this is the change during the BT's, first year. Teaching following the completion of the approved educator prep program in the general statute, regardless of the licensure type of pathway.

A motion was made by Elisha Savchak-Trogdon and seconded by Jennifer Mabe to approve the change to our beginning teacher's plan.

Voice vote taken. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

## **Governance**

1. Superintendent Update

Announcement of the transition of Dr. Wheat as the next superintendent and the start of his involvement in executive meetings.

2. Conflict of Interest/Nepotism Policy (Eddie update)

The 2026-2027 Conflict of Interest/Nepotism Policy was shared with governance and is in the board folder. It will be uploaded for compliance once approved.

Motion made by Tony Cugino and seconded by Regina Rush to approve the Conflict of Interest/Nepotism Policy for 2026-2027.

Voice vote taken. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

## **Other Business / New Business**

1. Mr. Nelson introduces the audit engagement letter for the fiscal year 2026 audit, noting a slight increase in costs. Vote will take place in June.
2. Ms. Mead proposes changing the meeting schedule for the next school year to 6:30 PM.

Motion to Pause at 6:56 to attend High School Concert.

## **Closed Session**

Motion made by Ryan Terry and seconded by Elisha Savchak-Trogdon to enter closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel pursuant to GS 143-318.11.

Voice vote taken. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Time: 8:37 p.m.

Closed session began at 8:37 p.m. to discuss personnel (GS 143-318.11(a)(6)).

## **Return to Open Session & Adjournment**

Val Dambreville made a motion to return to open session, seconded by Elisha Savchak-Trogdon, at 9:35 PM

Voice vote taken. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Jennifer Mabe then made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ryan Terry, at 9:35 PM

Voice vote taken. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

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