Uwharrie Charter Academy Board of Directors Meeting Summary

Date: August 13, 2026
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Central Board Room

Board Members Present:

Becca Mead, Paige Fish, Regina Rush, Elisha Savchak-Trogdon, Tony Cugino, Jennifer Mabe, Jonathan Thill, Maria Hayes, Meredith Arbaiza
Absent: Ryan Terry, Valerie Dambreville

Administration Present:

Chris Wheat, Ryan Nelson, Beth Kearns, James Green

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1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM by Becca Mead, Chairperson.

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2. **Public Comment**

There **were not** public comments made during the meeting.

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3. **Consent Agenda**

The board reviewed the Superintendent's Report, Assistant Superintendent's Report, Treasurer's Report, CFO Report, and the June 11, 2026 meeting minutes.

Motion made by Regina Rush, seconded by Meredith Arbaiza to approve the consent agenda as presented.
Voice taken by Voice. All in Favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

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4. **Finance and Facilities**

• Finance Report:

Presented and reviewed BVA

Ryan Nelson provided an overview of the financial performance, including year-end budget reviews and adjustments.

Discussion on the importance of maintaining a strong financial position and the potential for future growth and investment opportunities.

- Fiscal Controls Policies Handbook Update

The team is currently working on that handbook and it will be presented to the finance committee.

- RFP for Banking Relationships

Send the prepared request-for-proposals to shop the district's banking relationships to the targeted banks.

After closing the banking RFP process in approximately 30 days, collect and consolidate the proposed banking agreements from responding institutions.

- Approval of New Position

The instructional technology facilitator position role will be in data analysis, teacher coaching, technology integration, and teacher support.

Motion made by Elisha Savchak-Trogdon, and seconded by Tony Cugino

to Approve the instructional technology facilitator position.

Voice taken by Voice. All in Favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Elisha Savchak-Trogdon, seconded by Paige Fish to approve the position as presented.
Voice taken by Voice. All in Favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

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5. **Academic Excellence**

Discussed the implementation of the Eureka Math curriculum and the appointment of a new math specialist, Dr. Aguilera.

Updates on the growth of the virtual academy, including enrollment numbers and plans for field trips to enhance student engagement.

Discussion on the challenges of hiring trade instructors and potential solutions, such as offering flexible teaching schedules.

Shared feedback from the parent-staff survey, emphasizing the importance of consistent communication and discipline.

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6. **Governance**

Amendment to Student Handbook –
High School wanted to clarify the exam exemption policy to state

UCA HS has implemented an **exam exemption policy**. Students will be exempt from teacher made exams under the following criteria:

- The student has a grade of an A and no more than 3 absences and no more than 5 tardies.
- The student has a grade of a B and no more than 2 absences and no more than 5 tardies
- The student has a grade of a C and no more than 1 absence and no more than 5 tardies.

Motion made by Regina Rush, seconded by Maria Hayes to amend student handbook as presented.
Voice taken by Voice. All in Favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

Released Time for Religious Reasons

Dr. Wheat presents a policy for religious instruction that allows students to be excused for up to four hours per week for religious activities. Students are still responsible for making up any missed work and that the policy is intended to be flexible.

Motion made by Meredith Arbaiza, seconded by Paige Fish to approve presented Released Time for Religious Reasons Voice taken by Voice. All in Favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

Review of NC Senate Bill 227 which prohibits certain diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) practices in schools.

Reviewed and no discussion

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7. **Other Business**
   Board Retreat 8/21/2026 1 PM – 4 PM

Dr. Wheat reports issues with the HVAC system in the third-grade hall and presents a quote for total replacement. The quote is $29,865

A vote is needed

Motion made by Elisha Savchak-Trogdon, seconded by Jonathan Thill to approve the replacement of the HVAC as presented.
Voice taken by Voice. All in Favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

8. **Closed Session**

Motion made by Regina Rush , seconded by Jonathan Thill to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing Personnel per GS143-318.11.
Voice taken by Voice. All in Favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried.

Time 8:31 PM

Closed Session began at 8:45 pm to discuss personnel.

9. Adjourn

Jonathan Thill made motion to come out of closed session and Regina Rush seconded at 10:05 PM

Meredith Arbaiza made motion to adjourn and was seconded by Paige Fish at 10:05 PM