

URBAN CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – MINUTES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2014

Present: Nelson Blish, Megan Bosco, Ed Cavalier, Natosha McDonald, Augie Melendez, Jason Mellen, Sidney Moore, Joan Moorehead, John Page, Gladys Pedraza-Burgos, Frank Rossi, Spiro Ziogas

Absent: Antwan Williams

Media Notification: Erica Bryant of the Democrat and Chronicle was notified of the December 4, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting on November 24, 2014. Public notice was also posted in the school and on the website.

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Sidney Moore and the mission statement was shared.

Motion 141204.1 Upon a motion by Frank Rossi and duly seconded by Nelson Blish, the following was submitted for adoption: RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees approve the November 6, 2014 minutes.

Voting in the affirmative: Nelson Blish, Megan Bosco, Augie Melendez, Sidney Moore, Joan Moorehead, John Page, Frank Rossi

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 141204.1 passed 7 to 0

Governance Report – Megan Bosco

- Distributed the Whistle-blower Policy in draft form for review. This will be submitted as an amendment to the Bylaws upon board approval at the January meeting.

Motion 141204.2 Upon a motion by Megan Bosco and duly seconded by Joan Moorehead, the following was submitted for adoption: RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees appoint Natosha

McDonald to serve on the BOT at UCCS for a term to expire on June 30, 2017 and that this motion is considered final with no need for further BOT approval.

Voting in the affirmative: Nelson Blish, Megan Bosco, Augie Melendez, Sidney Moore, Joan Moorehead, John Page, Frank Rossi

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 141204.2 passed 7 to 0

Motion 141204.3 Upon a motion by Megan Bosco and duly seconded by Augie Melendez, the following was submitted for adoption: RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees appoint Gladys Pedraza-Burgos to serve on the BOT at UCCS for a term to expire on June 30, 2017 and that this motion is considered final with no need for further BOT approval.

Voting in the affirmative: Nelson Blish, Megan Bosco, Augie Melendez, Sidney Moore, Joan Moorehead, John Page, Frank Rossi

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 141204.3 passed 7 to 0

Motion 141204.4 Upon a motion by Megan Bosco and duly seconded by Frank Rossi, the following was submitted for adoption: RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees appoint Jason Mellen to serve on the BOT at UCCS for a term to expire on June 30, 2017 and that this motion is considered final with no need for further BOT approval.

Voting in the affirmative: Nelson Blish, Megan Bosco, Augie Melendez, Sidney Moore, Joan Moorehead, John Page, Frank Rossi

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 141204.4 passed 7 to 0

- Virgil Joseph and Sam Soong, prospective board member candidates introduced themselves.

Leadership Team Report

- An article should be in the Democrat and Chronicle on Sunday morning
 - Reporter Justin Murphy spent time in the elementary building
 - UCCS has the most experienced teachers of all other charter schools in the area
 - Attended the K-2 PLC meeting
 - Our youngest first grade teacher was presenting work from one of her students
 - Indicated that he had never seen anything like this – an opportunity for teachers to work together and define their work
 - Interviewed our youngest teacher; she was an instructional support teacher for four years

Lisa King

- Dashboard Review
 - Demographics for free/reduced lunch changed slightly
 - Special Ed changed slightly
 - Two part-time jobs were combined to make one full-time job
 - ATS visits down
 - ✓ Eric shared that this is due to the routine of PBIS and Class Dojo – improved student behavior
 - Enrollment steady at 403
 - Currently one opening for kindergarten student
 - Attendance at 96%
 - Discussed attrition and reasons for each student (moving to other districts, need for self-contained classroom, home schooling, unwillingness to work with staff)
 - Waiting list is at 175
- Lawsuit concerning an injured student has been settled out of court through the insurance company for \$100,000. This will involve a structured payment paid out in monthly increments when the former student reaches the age of 18 years.
- Case of Strep Throat identified by nurse in our kindergarten class. The rest of the class and the cleaning crew were notified.

Nicole Berg

- Scholastic Math Inventory (SMI)/Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) results will be available next month
- Practice state test results were shared
 - Teachers learned from scoring and could return to the classroom to make adjustments and corrections

- Tried to refine Common Core curriculum and Common Core testing over the past two to three years
- Two practice tests used to increase student stamina and to increase teacher awareness
- Our teachers are genuinely positive about acquiring data

Eric Robinson

- STEM program is up and running well
 - Over enrolled by six students but we are making it work
 - All students remain committed
 - Activities are enjoyed
- Basketball program is up and running
 - 18 girls signed up and then many dropped for various reasons
 - Some sixth grade girls have joined
 - Will be taking both programs out to Monroe Community College for a workshop on Monday night (arranged by Joan Moorhead)
 - Scheduling games with various schools
 - Making connections with other schools
 - Currently using the Norman Howard School gym three times per week.
 - Our school bus and drivers transport and parents/guardians pick up at 6:30 p.m.
- Cheesecake Factory offered to host breakfast for kindergarten students again this year. Each student gets \$20 worth of gifts given by Cheesecake Factory staff in addition to making a craft.
- Winter store – K-8 earn gifts to select via PBIS and wrap for their family members.
- After school program is going strong at full capacity

Miriam Steinberg

- Preparing the guest list for the Ten Year Gala celebration
 - To be held on February 12 at Century Club
 - Looking for input from all board members for guest list – email contact list to Lynn
 - Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres
 - Student performances
 - Save the Date postcards to be mailed on December 12
- ROC the Day -- total amount raised: \$612.40
- 7th and 8th graders held a Jar Wars competition -- raised \$577.85 to go to the Red Cross – competition between homerooms. Four students will accompany to deliver the check

Ed Cavalier

- A request if we would like to increase our enrollment will be due to the State on December 15.
 - Add 159 students in one year to grades K-6
 - Reviewed academic advantages for expansion
 - Reviewed the estimated cost of expansion
 - Makes economic sense
 - There is a need and a want for students to attend UCCS

Motion 141204.5

Upon a motion by Frank Rossi and duly seconded by Spiro Ziogas, the following was submitted for adoption: RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees authorize the Chair to submit an application to the State Education Department on or before December 15, 2014 requesting a change in our charter to increase the enrollment of Urban Choice Charter School from the currently authorized 400 students to 559 students, specifically by adding one class to each grade level for grades K-6 for the 2015-16 school year and that this motion is considered final with no need for further Board of Trustee approval.

Voting in the affirmative: Nelson Blish, Megan Bosco, Natosha McDonald, Augie Melendez, Jason Mellen, Sidney Moore, Joan Moorehead, John Page, Gladys Pedraza-Burgos, Frank Rossi, Spiro Ziogas

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 141204.5 passed 11 to 0

The Board discussed devoting time at the Board Retreat for strategic planning and requested that the leadership team create a three to five year strategic plan by June 2015.

Finance Report – Spiro Ziogas (*Refer to Attachment A*)

Public Comments

Motion 141204.6

Upon a motion by Augie Melendez and duly seconded by Megan Bosco, the following was submitted for adoption: RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Voting in the affirmative: Nelson Blish, Megan Bosco, Natosha McDonald, Augie Melendez, Jason Mellen, Sidney Moore, Joan Moorehead, John Page, Gladys Pedraza-Burgos, Frank Rossi, Spiro Ziogas

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 1412104.6 passed 11 to 0

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, January 8, 2014 at 6 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Finance Meeting on Thursday, November 20, 2014

As of Oct. 31, 2014	MTD Actual	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance
Revenue	\$531,153	\$576,975	(\$45,822)
Expenses	\$472,713	\$497,901	(\$25,188)
Net Income	\$58,440	\$79,074	(\$20,634)
Depreciation Expense	\$15,791	\$12,500	\$3,291
Net Income w/out Depreciation	\$74,231	\$91,574	(\$17,343)
Cash on Hand	\$678,482 (Savings account has \$92,164)		

The topics of conversation were as follows:

1. Review of Monthly Bank Statements was not performed by Finance Committee Member Patrick Sager who was unable to attend the meeting. The office was going to reach out to Patrick to come in another day.
2. We discussed why our YTD Per Pupil Funding was at a deficit to budget since we've been at full capacity all year. The answer is that the first 2 checks we receive are based on estimates of our enrollment. The 3rd check will be based on real numbers and we should see the line item more accurately represented.
3. Other areas discussed were as follows: Health Benefit Costs are right in line with budget at about 12.5% increase over last year; Unemployment Expense is expected to be about \$15,000 over budget but this will be offset by savings on the salary side; and all insurance coverage has been reviewed and replaced. We have increased coverage while keeping costs within budget.
4. YTD Net Income is \$331,987 vs YTD Budget of \$369,052 a YTD Variance of \$37,066 which is in line with our Per Pupil deficit of \$32,092 (\$391,026 vs \$419,052 with depreciation added back).