

**URBAN CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES – MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016**

Present: Tracy Armstrong, Nelson Blish, Ed Cavalier, Augie Melendez, Jason Mellen, Gladys Pedraza-Burgos, John Page

Absent: Megan Bosco, Natosha McDonald, Joan Moorehead

Media Notification: Erica Bryant of the Democrat and Chronicle was notified of the April 7, 2016 Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 2016. Public notice was also posted in the school and published in the school newsletter.

BOARD MEETING

The board meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Nelson Blish and the Mission Statement was shared.

Motion 160407.1 Upon a motion by Augie Melendez and duly seconded by Tracy Armstrong, the following was submitted for adoption:
RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees approve the March 3, 2016 minutes.

Voting in the affirmative: Tracy Armstrong, Nelson Blish, Augie Melendez, Jason Mellen, Gladys Pedraza-Burgos, John Page

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 160407.1 passed 6 to 0

Leadership Team Report

ELA Testing Complete – Reflection

- Third day of testing completed.
- Students handled the testing well and seemed much more confident this year.
- Removal of the time limit was very helpful for our students.
- Staff was flexible with the schedules for testing days due to the longer amount of time required by some students.

- Our rate for opting out decreased this year (18.1% last year with only 6% this year). Some districts in our area are reporting opt out rates as high as 84%.
- UCCS staff discovered that the planning page (which is instrumental for writing preparation) was inadvertently omitted. We contacted BOCES immediately and were able to correct the error by providing each student with a blank sheet.
- We have utilized an outside vendor for grading in the past and went through BOCES last year.
 - We will be scoring our own ELA tests this year on Saturday, 4/16. Math will be scored on Friday, 4/22. This will provide us with a stronger understanding of our results.

Lottery/Recruitment

- Exploration Elementary Charter School at Nazareth announced on Tuesday that they are not going to open as planned even though their lottery was scheduled to be held today. This has resulted in some of families reaching out to us related to our admission process.
- Our lottery is set for Saturday (4/9).
- We have received fewer applications this year in spite of our advertising (314 to date compared to 404 last year).

Dashboard

- Dashboard has remained consistent.
- Enrollment: The two current openings in 4th grade will be filled on 4/18.
- SRI and SMI updated – will be reflected in graph form in the future.
- ATS spike reviewed and confirmed that it is common for this time of year.

Rechartering Process – Document

- Shared that a new document was provided to us by the State Education Department on Friday with a Webinar beginning shortly after receipt with step-by-step procedures for the process.
- We have budgeted for and are planning to engage SchoolWorks for completion of our application.
- Due date for the application has been moved up to August 1 although we will not necessarily receive notification related to approval until April or May, 2017.

In process – 2016-17 Calendar; 2016-17 Budget

- Confirming our calendar will correspond with the Rochester City School District's calendar to avoid additional transportation costs that would be significant.

Miriam Steinberg

- Shared that the sixth graders will be traveling to the Auditorium Theater for the stage production of Matilda on Friday, 4/15. This is a program through the Rochester Broadway Theater League.
- Eighth graders will be traveling to Washington, DC for their class trip on June 8-10. Each student contributes \$100.

Finance Committee Report – Jason Mellen (*Refer to Attachment A*)

- In a good place financially.

Chair Report – Nelson Blish

- Board had a positive meeting/retreat with Jill Shahan.
- Plans are in place and work planned to secure rechartering.

Public Comments – None

Motion 160407.2 Upon a motion by Jason Mellen and duly seconded by Augie Melendez, the following was submitted for adoption:
RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees enter Executive Session at 6:40 p.m.

Voting in the affirmative: Tracy Armstrong, Nelson Blish, Augie Melendez, Jason Mellen, Gladys Pedraza-Burgos

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 160407.2 passed 5 to 0

Motion 160407.3 Upon a motion by Gladys Pedraza-Burgos and duly seconded by Tracy Armstrong, the following was submitted for adoption:
RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees end Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.

Voting in the affirmative: Tracy Armstrong, Nelson Blish, Augie Melendez, Jason Mellen, Gladys Pedraza-Burgos

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 160407.3 passed 5 to 0

Motion 160407.4 Upon a motion by Augie Melendez and duly seconded by Tracy Armstrong, the following was submitted for adoption:
RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees approve:

Whereas, a parent has submitted a written appeal of the suspension of an Urban Choice Charter School student to the Board of Trustees; and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees has considered the appeal and the record of the disciplinary hearing, recommendation of the hearing officer, and determination by the CEO;

Now therefore, the Board finds that the hearing record supports the recommendation of the hearing officer and determination by the CEO; upholds the suspension issued; and denies the appeal.

Voting in the affirmative: Tracy Armstrong, Nelson Blish, Augie Melendez, Jason Mellen, Gladys Pedraza-Burgos

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 160407.4 passed 5 to 0

Motion 160407.5 Upon a motion by Gladys Pedraza-Burgos and duly seconded by Jason Mellen, the following was submitted for adoption: RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Voting in the affirmative: Tracy Armstrong, Nelson Blish, Augie Melendez, Jason Mellen, Gladys Pedraza-Burgos

Voting in the negative: None

Motion 160407.5 passed 5 to 0

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 6 p.m.

Urban Choice Charter School

Attachment A

Treasurer's Report

April 2016

Finance Committee Meeting – March 17th 5:15pm

Financial Statements

As of February 28th 2016:

	MTD Actual	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance
Revenue	434,430	485,358	30,928
Expense	508,316	485,360	22,956
Net Income	(53,886)	(2)	(53,884)
Cash on Hand	1,045,336		

Future Finance Committee Meetings 2016 @5:15

April 21

May 12

June 16

All are Welcome!