

Uwharrie Charter Academy
Board Meeting
February 9, 2017

Board Members Present:

Aaryn Slafky
Ashley Duggins
Angela Kern
David McCrae
Julia Del Grande

Mac Whatley
Mark Hensley
Michael Strickland
Peter Rajtar
Stacy Griffin

Others Present:

Casey Harris
Heather Soja
Van Hurley

Mac Whatley called the meeting to order. Mark reported that he opened a new money market account. The renewal to the line of credit is now complete. Mac asked if there were any questions about the minutes or the CFO report. Aaryn moved to adopt the consent agenda. Stacy seconded. All in favor.

Casey started with his report. The middle school Beta Club attended the Beta Convention at the beginning of the month in Greensboro, with great results. Mark inquired about the activity in the high school Beta Club. Heather commented that they have done some service projects and reported that they will have discussions on the desire for them to be more active in the future.

There was a packed house for the Information Session sessions for potential families interested in UCA. Julia mentioned that it may be confusing for existing families when they fill out a Letter of Intent (LOI) online. Heather said they would look into an indicator on the LOI form for siblings, children of board members and staff, to ensure that all siblings are enrolled correctly. Leadership Randolph will be visiting the high school on March 2nd, which will involve student-led tours, Q&A sessions, and student concerts.

It is the desire of UCA to have a mission and vision for the curriculum to be entered into a system. "Instructional Framework" Part 1 will take place on February 27th to get this vision started. It will be very helpful for new teachers and it will

serve as a check point to ensure that we are doing is correct. Once the mission and vision is in place, it will be presented to the board.

Heather reviewed her Director's report with the board. Administration created an anonymous survey for all teachers to complete about the Directors of each school and Director of Academics. Casey Harris' survey had tremendous results. All areas that are need of improvement have been identified for the Director of each school and Administration has consulted and communicated the areas that need to be improved. There has been periodic team building efforts with each school separately and together. Tomorrow, there will be a "Battle of the Sexes" that will be held at the high school after school lets out.

Chad Douglas and Heather Soja will be visiting Union Academy to observe their in-house finance system. This will help them make an informed decision to see if UCA wants to bring keep all finances in-house. Union Academy uses a LINK system to draw down funds. There are positives and negatives of completing in house, but Heather and Chad hope to gain better knowledge from the visit to make a more informed decision.

UCA is preparing for an IDEA fiscal audit in March, which is required when you receive Federal EC money. There are policies needed in the BT and EC program for compliance. EC policies will be voted on in March. UCA needs support from the board as UCA looks to create a RESPONSE team. They would rather train a group of teachers rather than all teachers. This RESPONSE team is needed, mainly for out of control behaviors and sometimes health/emergency issues. Training will happen in March after vote from the board. All EC teachers will need to be trained.

The Finance Committee will be meeting on Saturday with Steve Hubrich to discuss finance options for Phase II. The Finance Committee plans to report back at the March board meeting. The sewer project is moving in a positive direction for our community but will likely not occur in a time frame that would benefit UCA's next building project, Phase II. We will most likely use a modified sewer system on-site for our next phase of construction.

Interviews for open positions at the middle school will start in March and hope to have teachers and staff hired by April. There has been a lot of interest and the number applications that have been submitted have doubled since the last board meeting.

As a result of our successful board retreat at Starworks in January, UCA donated \$1K to Starworks. Starworks has also donated some equipment to UCA, such as a vinyl printing machine and a machine that makes banners. These will be unique teaching tools for students at UCA.

Heather reported that as part of seeking the Golden Leaf Grant in the final round, they answered very detailed questions in a recent meeting. The Golden Leaf Grant is a \$175K NC grant awarded to institutions in rural, economically-stressed areas which will be used to provide equipment, technology and professional development for both schools. They hope to know the results in April.

Heather requested that there be the following committees formed within the board: Governance, Facilities/Finance, Nominating/Recruitment/Training, Public Relations/Marketing, and Curriculum. (Curriculum should not be board controlled, rather use their expertise to add to the teacher-led committee.) Non-members are encouraged to be part of these committees. Heather will send a survey monkey to ask for the interests of each board member.

Stacy reminded the board about their annual giving commitments as board members, which is due by May. She encouraged each board member to give what is meaningful to them.

The board agreed to change the date of the April board meeting as to not conflict with spring break. The meeting for April will take place on April 20th.

The board reviewed the calendar for the 2017-18 academic year. Mark moved to accept the proposed calendar. David seconded. All in favor.

Stacy moved to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters. Ashley seconded. All in favor.

Mark made a motion to end the closed session and adjourn the meeting. Peter seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Del Grande
Secretary