

Minutes
United Community School
Board Meeting

Tuesday January 27, 2015 @ 6:30 PM at 5309 Idlewild Road N.

Board Members Present:

T. Hedgepeth, J. Haynes, A. Mead, A. Wilder, A. Tomalis

Board Members Absent:

V. White

Guests Present:

Erika Hedgepeth, Brian Hicks (Parent), Jewel Cannon (Parent), Shantel Scott (Parent)

I. Opening Items

Call the Meeting to Order

A. Tomalis called a meeting of the board of directors of United Community School to order on Tuesday January 27, 2014 @ 6:42 PM

Approve Minutes

A. Mead made a motion to approve the 10/28/14 meeting minutes.

J. Haynes seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Public Comments

None

II. Financials

- A. A. Wilder lead a discussion about the proposed budget changes outlined in attachment 61K 2014 1231 Budget L5.pdf. The proposed changes were drafted and suggested by T. Hedgepeth and AcadiaNorthstar. A. Wilder wanted reassurance that the proposed budget changes would not affect the educational program. E. Hedgepeth discussed how careful consideration went into the redrafting of the 2014-2015 budget and that the educational program will not be affected. T. Hedgepeth noted that the current budget was drafted on "hard to estimate" numbers. The proposed changes shows more accurate projections and these projections are much lower than the original projections. T. Hedgepeth also noted that the new budget includes a fundraising goal of \$10,000 in order to meet the budget for the school year and that he would like to get parental feedback on helping to raise funds.
- B. A. Wilder made a motion to approve the budget changes for the 2014-2015 school year.
A. Tomalis seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
- C. E. Hedgepeth shared the results from the 2015-2016 intent to return forms given to current students. She also gave an update on current applications received for the 2015-2016 school year. A. Wilder asked about the marketing plan to continue to build the waitlist. E. Hedgepeth talked about several partnerships with local companies, the mailing plan, and several other means of marketing.
- D. T. Hedgepeth made a motion to skip to all action items on the agenda since he may have to be excused from the meeting early.

- A. Wilder seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Items Up For Action

- A. E. Hedgepeth expressed a desire to amend our maximum class size from 24 to 22. She expressed that 24 in a classroom feels way too big and that our students would be more successful if we were to bring that number down. T. Hedgepeth expressed that he felt that 21 should be the max with 20 being the goal for each class. A. Tomalis and E. Hedgepeth both expressed that it is better to have an even number in the class.
- B. T. Hedgepeth made a motion to change max class size from 24 to 22 per class (a 1:11 ratio). J. Haynes seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
- C. E. Hedgepeth discussed Tykelia Bell and why she is a good candidate to hire as a Teacher Assistant.
- D. A. Wilder made a motion to hire T. Bell as a Teacher Assistant for the 2014-2015 school year. A. Tomalis seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Policy

- A. Erika passed out a list of people interested in serving on committees. B. Hicks talked about how he needed more guidance on the direction the school wants to take in the Building and Grounds and New Site Committees. He suggested that T. Hedgepeth chair those committees since he is a founding visionary of the school. T. Hedgepeth talked about how it is the school's policy for all board subcommittees are to be chaired by a board member.
- B. A. Tomalis made a motion to elect T. Hedgepeth as the chairperson of both the Building and Grounds Committee and New Site Committee.
A. Wilder seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
- C. E. Hedgepeth talked about the two other committees that needs a board member chairperson: the Capital Campaign and the Press/Marketing Committee. A. Mead volunteered to chair the Press/Marketing Committee. J. Haynes volunteered to chair the Capital Campaign Committee.
- D. A. Tomalis made a motion to elect A. Mead as the chairperson of the Press/Marketing Committee and to elect J. Haynes as the chairperson of the Capital Campaign Committee.
A. Wilder seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Academic Excellence

- A. Erika shared the results of the Basic School Audit conducted by Janet Harrison, educational consultant for UCS. She was very complementary as to how the school is effectively implementing the Basic School philosophy. Erika also shared Janet's suggestions for areas needing improvement.
- B. Erika also shared the results of the Fall and Winter AIMS Web K-2 assessment, which shows how our students have grown in Reading and Math.
- C. Erika shared the results of a Teacher feedback survey.

IV. Closing Items

Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, A. Tomalis