



Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 26, 2016 @ 6:00 PM at 5309 Idlewild Road N.

Board Members Present:

G. Lane, K. Hall, J. Dunn, D. White, V. White, A. Wilder, A. Mead

Board Members Absent:

Guests Present:

Laura Farley (Parent), T. Hedgepeth, E. Hedgepeth

I. Opening Items

Call the Meeting to Order

V. White called a meeting of the board of directors of United Community School to order on Tuesday January 27, 2014 @ 6:07 PM

New Board Member Recommendation

K. Hall introduced himself to the board and described his interest with working for the school as a board member. He has a financial/accounting background in for-profit and nonprofit companies. He was recommended by A. Mead and T. Hedgepeth.

A. Mead made a motion accept K. Hall as a new board member for UCS.

J. Dunn seconded the motion.

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

Approve Minutes

A. Mead made a motion to table the meeting minutes for the 12/1/2015 meeting.

D. White seconded the motion.

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

Public Comments

L. Farley expressed her desire to know where the school would be located for the 2016-17 school year.

II. Policy Items

A. In regards to employees who become student teachers, T. Hedgepeth made a recommendation that employees hired prior to becoming a student teacher shall have the choice to keep their benefits (Health, dental, etc.) or to take a monthly stipend of \$300 during their student-teacher assignment.

A. Mead made a motion to amend the policy to say that such employees may keep their benefits but they are not eligible for any stipend.

J. Dunn seconded the motion.

The K. Hall, J. Dunn, D. White, V. White, and A. Mead **VOTED** to approve the motion.

G. Lane and A. Wilder abstained from voting.

B. E. Hedgepeth shared a calendar proposed by the UCS administrative team. The new calendar will not be based on number of days (185 minimum). The admin team is proposing that the

2016-17 calendar be based on school hours (1025 minimum). The new calendar includes 1037 hours of instruction.

A. Mead made a motion to accept the calendar as presented.

A. Wilder seconded the motion.

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

III. Finances

- A. T. Hedgepeth presented an updated on the 2015-16 budget. He estimated that the school is projecting a positive balance of \$76,467 by the year's end.
- B. The board talked about a DPI cautionary status letter sent to V. White for closing the 2014-15 school year with only a small positive balance. T. Hedgepeth shared that he talked to DPI and the state auditor and was assured that this is very common for many schools, especially schools after their first year of operation due to start up costs. This cautionary letter is a notification for DPI to check our financial status again this July. The representative shared that if we have a positive cash balance again, this cautionary status would go away.
- C. The state of NC provided all state employees with a \$750 bonus. They did not provide charter school employees with the bonus, instead they gave \$80 per student to each charter school and charged the board with using the money as they see fit. T. Hedgepeth proposed that UCS provide a \$500 bonus to each of the 22 eligible employees. That number is over since UCS has a higher number of staff relative to the number of students.
 - A. Wilder suggested that we consider paying staff in higher positions a higher bonus. G. Lane suggested that all staff should get the same bonus because they work equally as hard. E. Hedgepeth stated that paying different bonus amounts would go against the basic school philosophy.
 - A. Mead made a motion to approve the \$500 bonus for each eligible employee.
 - D. White seconded the motion.The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
- D. T. Hedgepeth stated that he is looking into options with the employee health insurance plan. He will have an update on whether the school should pursue the state health plan or stay in the private market.
- E. Facility Update and Discussion - [Closed session]

IV. Academic Excellence

- A. E. Hedgepeth gave an update on Academic Progress at UCS. She shared the preliminary results from AimsWeb and Reading 3D.
- B. E. Hedgepeth gave a report on school enrollment and applications for next year.
- C. E. Hedgepeth recommended the hiring of C. Dawkins (Art Teacher) and T. Hollis (Part Time EC Teacher).
 - A. Mead made a motion to hire the individuals recommended.
 - D. White seconded the motion.The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

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 7:29 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, V. White