



Board Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present:

K. Hall, A. Wilder, A. Mead, M. Piernick, C. Holzshu

Guests Present:

E. Hedgepeth, P. Adkins

I. Opening Items

Call the Meeting to Order

K. Hall called a meeting of the board of directors of United Community School to order on January 10, 2023 @ 5:31 PM.

Approve Minutes

M. Piernick made a motion to approve the November board meeting minutes. *Seconded by A. Wilder. **Approved Unanimously.***

Approve Agenda

*Motion to approve by A. Wilder. Seconded by M. Piernick. **Approved Unanimously.***

Public Comments

None.

• **Proposed Policy for Adding Board Members**

- P. Adkins provided a draft policy for adding school board members. The board decided to table this for now and will revisit in the near future.

• **Transgender Policy**

- P. Adkins presented the board with the following policy to be approved by the board:

Should a student request that they be called by a name, not on their birth certificate or a legal name change judgment, or that they be addressed using pronouns opposite their biological gender, the school will notify the student's parents or legal guardians. The student's request will be denied even if the parents also request the change in name or pronouns.

*Motion to approve by K. Hall. Seconded by M. Piernick. **Approved Unanimously.***

• **Beginner Teachers Support Policy**

- In 2021, UCS was re-approved through DPI to implement our alternation teacher evaluation tool instead of NCEES, the evaluation tool adopted by NC. Therefore, we had to update our plan to replace NCEES with our AEI. The updated plan was attached to the board meeting documents. The revised changes included the following:

- UCS mentors will have been rated at least “Accomplished or Proficient” based on UCS’ state approved Teacher Evaluation Rubric (which is based off of NC NCEES) or Ratings of proficient or higher on three of five standards on the most recent summative evaluation.
- Teachers will use UCS’ Alternative Evaluation Instrument as a tool for self-assessment and evidence of growth.
- The rubric for evaluating teachers according to the UCS’ Alternative Evaluation.

*Motion to approve by A. Mead. Seconded by A. Wilder. **Approved Unanimously.***

- **Assessment Update**

- E. Hedgepeth provided the board with the following Academic Assessments Update:

The i-Ready testing window from grades K-8 began on Jan. 4 and will close on Jan. 29. At this time, 19% of students have completed the math benchmark and 10% of students have completed the reading benchmark. The Amplify Reading Assessment testing window for grades K-3 will begin on Thursday, Jan. 12. The NC Math, Reading, and Science Check-Ins for grades 3-8 will begin on Jan. 23 and will end on Jan. 27.

- **School Improvement Meeting**

- E. Hedgepeth provided the following SIP update:
 - The SIT will meet tomorrow and vote on the 2023-24 School Improvement Plan. The meeting will be held after the staff meeting from 3:45 - 4:30 in the school gym.

- **New Hires**

- E. Hedgepeth provided presented the following for new hires:
 - K. Meredith - Administrative Assistant
 - G. Talbert - Behavior Interventionist/Social Emotional Support Personnel
 - L. Stefanski - Teaching Partner
 - B. Cohen - Third Grade Teacher

*A. Mead made a motion to accept the recommended hires as is. Seconded by C. Holzshu. **Approved Unanimously.***

- **Upcoming Events**

- E. Hedgepeth provided a board with a list of upcoming events on the calendar for the remainder of the year.

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 06:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, K. Hall