

**MINUTES**  
**URBAN CORPS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
Meeting ID: 838 7958 6769  
September 10, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.

**NOTE:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act if you need special assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact the Urban Corps of San Diego County 48 hours prior to the meeting at (619)235-6884.

Full agenda packets are available for the public to review at the Urban Corps of San Diego County Charter School in San Diego, CA.

**ON THE WEB:** Agendas may be viewed at [www.urbancorpssd.org](http://www.urbancorpssd.org)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/  
CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting is called to order at 9:02 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Atousa Monjazebe, Karen Ludwig, John Mendez, and Dr. Randolph Ward

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dr. Michele Marcus

**UCCS STAFF PRESENT:** Dan Thomas, Tiffany Rajski, Anne Bernstein, and Dr. Stacey Adler

**GUESTS/UCO STAFF PRESENT:**

*In accordance with the law, the public and Board are hereby given notice that a tape recording of today's meeting is being made. This recording is to assist in the completion of the minutes. It is **NOT** a transcript of the meeting and may be disposed of in 30 days. The official transcript of this meeting will continue to be the adopted minutes.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** It is appropriate for the public to address the Urban Corps Charter School (UCCS) Board regarding items of public interest within the jurisdiction of the board before or during the Board's consideration of the items. Time allowed may be limited to three minutes per item. If a large number wish to speak on a specific item, the board may limit total input to 30 minutes on any item. Individuals or groups may address the board on items not listed on the agenda; however, no action can or will be taken on the unlisted items. Unless otherwise determined by the board, each person is limited to five minutes. Further, Education Code §35145.5 also establishes the right of the public to place items on the agenda directly relating to business of the UCCS Board of Directors. Agenda requests must be made in writing ten days prior to board meetings.

**REPORTS:** **THE BOARD MAY, IF TIME PERMITS, TAKE BOARD REPORTS AND SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AT ANY TIME DURING THE MEETING AND NOT AT A SPECIFIC TIME.**

There will be no board discussion except to ask questions or refer matters to staff, and no action will be taken unless listed elsewhere on the agenda or on a subsequent agenda:

**CONSENT AGENDA:** All consent agenda items for the URBAN CORPS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion unless a board member requests separate action on a specific item. Approval recommended on all items listed:

**Approval of Minutes for May 21, 2021**

Ms. Monjazebe motions to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Mendez seconds. Motion is approved unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Action Item—Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Mono County Office of Education and Urban Corps Charter School  
Mr. Mendez asks if there are changes to the MOU. Dr. Adler responds that there are no substantive changes except for the binding clause in Appendix A. The biggest change is that the district will no longer retain a 7% fee from the total revenue, but will take it from the LCFE funds and the Lottery Funds. Dr. Adler states that the MOU will be in place for five years.  
Ms. Monjazez ask for a motion to approve the MOU, Mr. Mendez makes the motions and Ms. Monjazez seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
2. Action Item—Independent Study Master Agreement  
Ms. Rajski reports that on July 15<sup>th</sup> the California Department of Education (CDE) revised the regulations for Independent Study (IS). Although an IS Agreement is not required for charter schools staff wanted to move forward with an approved strategic plan for students who would potentially participate in an Independent study plan and bring the school up-to-date with the terms outlined in AB130. Dr. Sadler added that the terms would only take affect if a student misses 15 days or more. Ms. Monjazez asks if the agreement can be amended to be more specific to the needs of Urban Corps students in order to help keep them at school and in the program. Dr. Adler states charter schools are not mandated but more can be added if necessary to address the unique population the school serves. Dr. Ward also states some charter schools are only independent study and the board would trust staff to put this method into service if necessary.  
Ms. Monjazez asks for a motion to approve the Independent Study Agreement. Dr. Ward makes the motion. Ms. Monjazez seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
3. Action Item—Re-election of Dr. Michele Marcus  
Ms. Monjazez ask for a motion to elect Dr. Marcus for an additional three-year term. Mr. Mendez makes the motions. Ms. Monjazez seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:**

Mr. Thomas reports enrollment is substantially lower than anticipated and all staff are working to close the gap and increase enrollment. Progress is being made and the school has added approximately five to six students every week since the beginning of the semester. Enrollment currently stands at 130 students compared to 112 at the start of the semester. Mr. Thomas describes the on-going recruitment plan which includes a wide variety of efforts and across-the-board strategies ranging from various social media platforms including Tik Tok videos, traditional advertising, roof-top signage, fliers, swap meets, food drives, direct mailers, recycling bin advertising, and more. Mr. Thomas gives special thanks to Mr. Mendez for arranging a recruitment notice in the newsletter of Senator Brian Jones, to Senator Ben Hueso for including recruitment information in his newsletter, and to Ms. Ludwig for enlisting her daughter's expertise to help with social media. Mr. Thomas also gives thanks to John Loggins of USD for introducing him to Professor Campbell of USD who specializes in social media and who will potentially be sending one or two interns to help maximize recruitment efforts. Mr. Thomas

concludes his report by stating at the request of Mr. Loggins the school hosted approximately 20 incoming USD students to familiarize them with Urban Corps' work with youth and community and which resulted in some students expressing interest in volunteering.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:**

Dr. Adler states she has little to add to Mr. Thomas' report except that since the federal aid packages are ending she hopes to see an uptick in enrollment. Dr. Adler also informs the board that Jennifer Weston, Chief Business Officer for Mono County, has been out of the office and will not return until mid-October.

**BOARD MEMBERS'  
REPORTS:**

Mr. Mendez asks if there is a target date for in-person graduation. Mr. Thomas responds staff are planning for an in-person graduation ceremony in December and are currently researching outdoor venues such as the Organ Pavilion or the Starlight Theater in Balboa Park. Mr. Mendez suggests considering Dr. Francisco Escobedo, recently retired Superintendent of Chula Vista Elementary School District and a former law enforcement officer, as keynote speaker.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Ms. Monjazeab asks for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Ward motions.  
Meeting is adjourned at 9:35