



MINUTES
URBAN CORPS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
3127 Jefferson Street, San Diego, CA 92110
Meeting ID: 838 7958 6769
Friday December 6, 2024 – 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 <https://www.urbancorpscharter.com/>

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/
CALL TO ORDER:**

The Meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Atousa Monjazebe, Jill Klemaske & John Mendez

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dr. Stacey Adler

UCCS STAFF PRESENT:

Tammy Bennett Nguyen, Jennifer Weston, Dan Thomas & Anne Bernstein

GUESTS:

None

*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 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:

1. Approval of agenda and deviation from posted agenda as necessary
2. Approval of September 6, 2024, Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of August, September, October & November Warrant Reports

Ms. Monjazez asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Klemaske motioned. Mr. Mendez seconded. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Action Item—Approval of 2025 Meeting Dates:

- Friday January 17, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.
- Friday March 7, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.
- Friday June 20, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m. (Public Meeting)
- Friday June 27, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.
- Friday September 5, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.
- Friday December 5, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.

Ms. Monjazez motioned to approve the 2025 meeting dates. Mr. Mendez seconded. Motion passed.

2. Action Item—Approval of Salary Schedule/Pay Increase

Mr. Thomas and Ms. Bennett Nguyen discussed the benefits of another salary increase to help UCCS better retain staff and be more competitive with local schools. Mr. Thomas consulted with Ms. Weston on the numbers and sustainability. UCCS was in good financial status to incorporate an increase. It was decided to apply another 4% increase to the overall salary scale, as well as apply increases to hourly employee rates. These increases will be retroactive to July 1, 2024.

Ms. Monjazez motioned to approve Salary Schedule/Pay Increase. Mr. Mendez seconded. Motion passed

3. Action Item—Approval of 1st Interim Budget

Ms. Weston presented the 1st Interim report for the 2024-2025 school fiscal year. The report is a snapshot in time of the revenue and expenditure forecasts for the current year as well as a projection of the two subsequent fiscal years.

The budget was adjusted based on the State budget and subsequent trailer bills, the closing of the prior fiscal year, and other factors that impact revenues and expenditures, and covers the period from July 1 through October 31.

Revision to the budget for the 1st Interim and are reflected in Form 62 which presents as follows:

Revenues: LCFF Revenue were updated to reflect current projections of the Charter’s Enrollment and ADA calculations for the 24-25 school year. LCFF Funding is now calculated at an ADA of 170. The original budget was built on an ADA of 160.

State and Federal revenues are reduced at 1st Interim due to prior year fund balance carryover for restricted programs being added to the budget.

Expenditures: Certificated salary budget updates were made in the CSI grant to reflect current projections of extra hours paid to certificated staff. Health and Welfare costs reflect updates in plan changes and costs since the budget was developed.

Books and Supplies and Services and Operating Expenditures were increased to align with current spending projections. These categories also represent placeholders in restricted grant funds until spending plans have been formalized.

Ms. Weston also reported that Governor Newsom signed several budget and trailer bills before the end of June to adopt and implement the 2024-25 State Budget. The final budget agreement between the Governor and the Legislature addressed the state's budget challenges through reserve drawdowns, spending reductions, new revenue proposals, internal borrowing, funding delays, fund shifts, and deferrals. Major provisions in the 2024-25 State Budget include the funded COLA at 1.07% for LCFF and many categorical programs that were used to develop UCCS's 24-25 approved budget.

Ms. Weston stated the following assumptions had been made for the 2024-25 1st Interim Multi-Year Projection, and the Charter School had a healthy reserve projected for 1st Interim.

- CFF Revenue was budgeted at current ADA projections of 170 and State projected COLA's.
- Federal and State funds were reduced in the out years for one-time grants that will not continue.
- Certificated and Classified salaries include step and column calculations for staff that will be advancing on the salary schedule.
- Benefit calculations include the STRS Rate of 19.10% for all years and PERS Rates of 27.4% for 25-26 and 27.5% for 26-27. Health and Welfare costs were budgeted flat as the increase is unknown.
- Books and Supplies were reduced to align with one-time revenue being removed from the budget
- Services and Operating expenses were reduced to align with one time revenue being removed from the budget

Ms. Weston concluded that multi-year projections were strong, and the school is in a very stable position moving forward.

Ms. Monjabez asked for a motion to approve the 1st Interim Budget. Mr. Mendez motioned. Ms. Klemaske seconded. Motion passed.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Commencement Ceremony December 20, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at the Diane Annala Event Center.

Mr. Thomas reported that there will be 29 students graduating. Councilmember Vivian Moreno will be the keynote speaker, and that a large number of students reside in her district.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Executive Director, Dan Thomas, will report on activities and other matters. There will be no discussion except to ask questions and no action will be taken.

Mr. Thomas reported that he had invited board members to tour the campus to see the improved lunch area, the renovated Community Room, and the new art studio. During

the tour they would see students doing STAR testing for reading and math. The LCAP goal is to have a .5% grade level increase in both subjects. Currently, reading scores are up .8% percent and math is at .3%, so the school is up on reading, math is edging closer, and staff are strategizing on how to hit the goal. Another goal of LCAP is to improve the attendance rate, and we are currently at 91% through November. ADA has seen a further increase, and the school is currently at ADA 174. Staff are working on improving the graduation rate and have opened other grades to students aged 18, whereas historically they were always enrolled in 12th grade. Although this enabled students to take the exit exam three times it also put the school in the position of appearing to fail because their graduation date(s) was set, and yet were not ready to graduate. We are working on making this a fair process for the students.

Mr. Thomas stated that one of his goals moving forward was to see the Escondido site fully operational with a full-time administrator, higher student recruitment, and higher staff recruitment from the Escondido area. He is planning on working with Urban Corps CEO, Kyle Kennedy, to ensure the center thrives.

Mr. Thomas concluded by saying that the mobile health clinic is currently working with 15 students, with approximately five more going through intake.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:**

Tammy Bennett Nguyen will report on behalf of Mono County Office of Education. There will be no discussion except to ask questions and no action will be taken.

Ms. Bennett Nguyen began by stating the Dashboard had been released and some of the good news is related to what Mr. Thomas had already reported. The different data points showing up on the dashboard are mainly due to students designated to 12th grade. This will start to change now that they will be placed more by credits and their academic path to realistically earn their diploma. The data should start coming online after a couple of years although there are some indicators already on the dashboard, one of which is the growth that our English Learners are making each year towards their progress to being redesignated or being considered English proficient. This current group of 43 students were tested last year and 20.9% were making progress, which although not meeting State requirements is a 10% increase from the prior year making it quite a large increase. These statistics only reference the 18–21-year-old students. The adult learners are also showing good statistics and although all the charter school students are adults the State only recognizes the 18–21-year-old group.

We are also looking into career and college indicators. The State measures can be very narrow, and the Charter School does not always fit into the indicators required. We are continually looking into the data to find better ways to meet the requirements.

The school is also eligible for DA (Differential Assistance) from the State. The Dashboard results indicate support is needed and it will be provided through the Differentiated Assistance Process. Usually, the service provider would be the county office, however since Mono County is also the school's authorizer it would be a conflict of interest. Therefore, the San Diego County Office of Education would be the best entity to provide the support.

Ms. Bennett Nguyen concluded her presentation by saying the State's fiscal outlook was better than expected: the Legislative Analyst's Office recently attended the weekly State Superintendents' Meeting to present the fiscal outlook for 2025, and it was more optimistic than predicted.

**BOARD MEMBERS'
REPORTS:**

Board members may report about various matters; however, there will be no discussion except to ask questions. No action will be taken unless listed on a subsequent agenda item.

There was no board member report.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday January 17, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.