

MINUTES
URBAN CORPS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Meeting ID: 838 7958 6769

June 17, 2022 – 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://urbancorpsd.org/education/>

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/
CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting is called to order at 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Michele Marcus, Karen Ludwig, and John Mendez

MEMBERS ABSENT: Atousa Monjazez and Dr. Randy Ward

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

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:

1. Approval of March 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Dr, Marcus asks for a motion to approve the March meeting minutes. Ms. Ludwig motions. Mr. Mendez seconds. Motion passes

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: 1. Action Item—Approval of DASS

Prior to presenting her report, Ms. Rajski informs the members she is resigning from UCCS effective June 30 and UCCS teacher, Helen McLaughlin, will step into the role of Director of Academics. Board members and Executive Director, Dan Thomas, express their appreciation for Ms. Rajski's eight years of service.

Ms. Rajski states there are very few changes to the Dashboard since the last review. Currently it indicates 30% English learners, however with changes in enrollment over the last few months this figure now stands at closer to 70% ; when presenting the RFEP, Ms. Rajski will provide more information about the key indicators for English Learners.

Dr. Marcus asks for a motion to approve DASS. Mr. Mendez motions. Ms. Ludwig seconds. Motion passes.

2. Action Item—Approval of Reclassification Fluent English Proficient Status (RFEP Policy)

Ms. Rajski explains there is a change to the RFEP policy: all students now need an overall criterion score of four whereas previously the criterion score was three and if they scored highly in other areas they would be considered for RFEP; however, this is no longer the case. Since the dashboard only takes into account eligible students aged 18-21, and because the school has a lot of students over 21, without a local measure there is no way of formally measuring the growth in the same way. Therefore, over the last two years staff have worked with the County Office of Education, the CDE, as well as EL consultants to work on meeting the needs of students over the age 21 who are ineligible to take the LPAC. Consequently, the school has adopted AAPL measures to help test students who speak Spanish, Arabic, and other languages, and to administer this as a substitute for the LPAC. This method comes from the American Council on Teaching Foreign Language, and is highly recommended. Consequently, it will be utilized as a local measure, and allow the school to compliment the dashboard with more information on adult ELL students.

Dr, Marcus asks what the percentage of the student body is ages 18-21. Mr. Thomas responds approximately 40:60 (younger-older).

Dr. Marcus asks for a motion to approve the RFEP Policy. Ms. Ludwig motions. Mr. Mendez seconds. Motion passes.

3. Action Item—Approval of Independent Audit Proposal June 2022, 2023, and 2024

Ms. Westin explains this is a three-year agreement from the firm the school has engaged for a long time. The information is straightforward and standard: on Page six, there is a break down in price, and a note that shows a fee for preparing the Federal and State returns. There is a slight fee increase of \$400 for each of the years.

Dr. Marcus asks for a motion to approve the audit proposal, Mr. Mendez makes the motion. Ms. Ludwig seconds. Motion passes.

4. Action Item —Approval of Budget for School Year 2022-23

Ms. Westin presents the 2022-2023 budget proposal and assumptions as shown in the summary memo to the board:

The main source of revenue is the LCFF revenue which is built on an estimated ADA of 135. P2 ADA for this year was 137.61 so we are staying with the ADA at our current level to be conservative. Proposals to give Charter Schools' relief for declining enrollment did not materialize in the Governor's May Revise. The budgeted years estimate the LCFF supplemental and concentration grant funding is \$316,869. LCFF funding is calculated using the Governors May Revise budget proposal COLA figure at 6.56%. However there are some additional proposals for an increase to the LCFF base by 15% or 16%. These dollars have not be included yet since it is not known if they will be included, although it is looking very likely. If there is confirmation that this is an addition to the LCFF revenue those dollars added to the first interim budget. A quick calculation of what this would mean if we were to get 15% on our base it would be \$211,00 t]which could potentially be added to the LCFF revenue this year.

Federal revenue consists of funding for the Child Nutrition Program; the estimated revenue is based on the estimated meal reimbursement rates.

State revenues consist of Lottery funds, the SB740 facility grant program and one-time funding for the Educator Effectiveness Grant. Lottery-unrestricted was budgeted at \$163 per ADA and Lottery-restricted was budgeted at \$65 per ADA. SB740, the facility grant program, saw a large reduction due to the decrease in ADA. One-time funding for A-G Course offering access of \$150,000 has been added to the budget. Expenditures have been budgeted for this in the contracted services category as a place-holder until spending plans are formalized. Local revenue represents the E-rate funding received for the internet and phone lines. Certificated salaries for teachers and the principal include a 6% COLA for the 2022- 23 year. Benefits include retirement, unemployment insurance, health insurance, Medicare and Workman's Compensation. For retirement costs for 22/23, the PERS retirement rate of 25.37% was used in addition to the STRS rate of 19.10%. Employer health insurance contributions were budgeted based on the new rate renewal for the 2022-23 school year. The current supply budget includes funding from the general fund, Lottery and Child Nutrition programs. Services and other operating expenses include funding from the general fund, lottery, Federal Expanded Learning Opportunity funds and the A-G Access programs. Federal revenue is reduced for CSI funding, which is not guaranteed to continue. State Revenue is reduced for one-time funding that will not continue, including A-G access and Educator Effectiveness. Salaries for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 years are projected with anticipated costs for step and column movement. STRS and PERS are projected with the most recent information known. At this time STRS is projected at 19.10% for 2023-24 and 19.10% for 2024-25. PERS rates are projected at 25.20% for 2023-24 and 24.60% for 2024-25. All other benefits are projected flat for the out years, including health and welfare. Services and Operating expenditures are reduced due to reductions in one-time funding. It is anticipated the Charter School will have a positive cash flow throughout the year due to the projected reserve level of 23.66% for the 2022-23 Budget Year. State mandated reserve is 5%.

Ms. Westin concluded her report stating the school is looking fiscally sound with this projection and the subsequent two years, thanks to Dan Thomas making the necessary adjustments when the revenue decreased by almost half with the loss of ADA.

Dr. Marcus asks for a motion to approve the 2022-2023 Budget. Mr. Mendez motions. Ms. Ludwig seconds. Motion passes.

**INFORMATIONAL
ITEMS:**

Board Scholarship for June graduation

Dr. Marcus states she is expecting the board members will want to make a donation for the upcoming graduation on June 24th. Mr. Mendez asks what the standard dollar value of the scholarship is. Mr. Thomas states each one of the scholarships is for \$1,000. Dr. Marcus asks staff to send the web site donation link to the members and that all donations be earmarked “scholarship”.

Mr. Mendez asks what the criteria is for board scholarship awards. Mr. Thomas responds all students who are interested in receiving a scholarship complete an application as part of their senior year portfolio; Tiffany and the teachers review the applications and make the recommendations. The AimLoan.Com and the Board Scholarships are open to all campuses. The other scholarships are specific to Urban Corps students. Mr. Mendez asks how students are chosen. Ms. Rajski responds that all student biographies’ are reviewed, in addition to senior year portfolios, school and work achievements, and college plans. Mr. Mendez asks for the topic of scholarship criteria be added to the next board meeting agenda for discussion on defining the type of student the board scholarship is awarded to.

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
REPORT:**

The 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 reports he attended the California Conservation Corps’ statewide graduation ceremony in Sacramento on Wednesday June 15--the first in-person graduation in two years. UCCS graduates from the CCC in the Vista and San Diego locations were included in the ceremony.

Bruce Saito, the CCC Director, confirmed he is attending the graduation ceremony on June 24th,; the event is being held outdoors at the San Diego Center. Mr. Thomas thanks Mr. Mendez for helping facilitate San Diego City Council President, Sean Elo-Rivera, as keynote speaker. There are 33 graduates, 25 from the Urban Corps campus and 8 from the CCC sites.

On the Saturday after graduation, Mr. Thomas is attending a recruitment event in San Bernardino.

Staffing is almost at 100%; contracts and job descriptions are being issued in the coming week. There is a new teacher at the Los Piños Center in Lake Elsinore, which now has seven students and growing.

Mr. Thomas is working with local universities participating in the new College Corps, which is a component of the new Climate Action Initiative, on three focus areas: K-12, climate action, and food insecurities. UCSD is focusing on K-12 and looking at a minimum of five volunteer students per site: the hope is to bring them in as classroom assistants for one-on-one tutoring.

The school is currently advertising specifically with universities to target students who are in an education program to work as classroom assistants. Qualified students will be paid an hourly rate from the A-G grant, which is focused on helping students with

learning loss. Hours would be 20 or less and would not affect benefits: the students will be fully aware payment is grant funded. Extended after-school classes are also planned, changing the current 4-5:00 p.m. classes to 4-6:00 p.m.

Mr. Thomas concludes his report by stating the current student count stands at 181: 156 are Urban Corps students (combined San Diego & Escondido); the remainder are CCC students; Mr. Thomas is anticipating the Escondido site to increase the student count as the facility renovations are completed. The goal is to bring the total count above 200.

Mr. Mendez asks if there is any interaction with Cal State San Marcos, given its proximity to Escondido, if recruitment is occurring in Riverside or Orange Counties given Los Piños' proximity to both, and if students in the program can participate in job training only.

Mr. Thomas responds that students at Urban Corps and the CCC have to be active participants in both programs.

As of right now there are no specific connections in San Bernardino or Riverside Counties. Mr. Thomas anticipates the San Bernardino recruitment event will bring in potential contacts for the area.

UCCS teacher, Helen McLaughlin, has contacts at Cal State San Marcos, and there is an add running for classroom assistants.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:**

Dr. Stacey Adler will report on behalf of Mono County School District. There will be no discussion except to ask questions and no action will be taken.

There is no superintendent's report.

**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 are no board member reports

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting is adjourned at 9:58 a.m.