



UCCS Board Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2023

14613 Steele Creek Road, Charlotte, NC 28273

CALL TO ORDER – M. McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:09pm. The next UCCS Board Meeting is Monday, November 13, 2023

1. **ESTABLISH QUORUM** – There were sufficient members for a quorum
 - a. Members Present: **M. McCarthy, D. Goldfarb, J. Young, T. Wiggins**
 - b. Administration Present: **S. Reddick, A. Abraham, A. Hamp**
 - c. Minutes taken by: **C. Brown**
2. **MISSION STATEMENT** - Through classical education's rigor, Unity Classical Charter School will develop intellectually, morally and physically excellent citizens who embrace learning and the desire to serve.
3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – J. Young motioned to approve the revised agenda. D. Goldfarb seconded. October 23, 2023 Agenda Approved.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – J. Young motioned to approved the minutes from September 2023. D. Goldfarb seconded. September 2023 Board Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT There was one speaker.

REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

PTC PRESIDENT REPORT - D. Williams

Chipotle Spirit Night is on October 25th. A percentage of the funds go back to Unity.

Book Character Dress Up Day is October 26th. This is a fundraiser for the Fine Arts Department.

Fall Festival is November 9th.

Snow Scholar Fundraiser is in November and December.

The PTC holds two major fundraisers each year. One in the Fall, and one in the Spring. The PTC asks families to give big twice per year. Funds raised are allocated for student events and activities.

The PTC is always looking for more parent volunteers. There has been increased parent involvement and communication since D. Williams took over as PTC President 3 years ago.

TREASURER REPORT - D.Goldfarb

D. Goldfarb gave updates regarding revenue and expenses, as well as how they reconcile with Acadia's report to date. UCCS has \$1.72 million in the bank, which was forecasted.

Fundraising is already \$4,500 to date this year.

Benefits and salaries are on track, and membership dues and fees are significantly higher than expected at \$10,000.

UCCS has a credit of about \$11,000 for academic services.

Some things to note: telephone charge of \$7,500 is not in line with budget. It is higher than expected. S. Reddick commented that this may be the elevator line, but administration will look into it.

BOND UPDATE – D. Goldfarb

UCCS is in process to secure bond financing and purchase the building from the landlord. Interest rates are very high right now, which may prove challenging. However, there are some offsets such as a property tax exemption which will help.

PARENT HANDBOOK UPDATE – D. Goldfarb

A Parents Bill of Rights is going to be passed by the Board and incorporated into the current Parent Handbook. The purpose is to give parents access to student records, report cards, and PowerSchool. Administration will be held accountable for the new standards put in place.

Some specifics of the Parents Bill of Right include; the right to be involved in child's education, the right to be involved with the school, school provided information about assignments, clubs, activities, policies and procedures, etc.

Some changes have also been made to the arrival and dismissal policy, as well as grievance policies.

D. Goldfarb motioned to adopt the addition of the Parents Bill of Rights to the Parent Handbook. J. Young seconded.

Motion approved to add the Parents Bill of Rights to the Parent Handbook.

POWERSCHOOL UPDATE – S. Reddick and Team

UCCS has faced continued issues with PowerSchool. It is the Administration's belief that the state pushed too hard for PowerSchool to launch even when PowerSchool was reporting bugs.

S. Reddick would like to make PowerSchool the parent portal at UCCS. The process has begun, and the hope is in 3 weeks this will be possible. G. Morrison and A. Hamp will take the lead on this.

D. Goldfarb asked if PowerSchool will give parents access to grades and attendance records? The answer is yes.

ENROLLMENT SHORTFALL REPORT – S. Reddick and Team

Admin has collected data to investigate why families unenrolled from UCCS so far this year. Informally, this is the consensus:

- Transportation issues
- Siblings attending another school
- Family moved to a different area and switched schools
- The school has grown too quickly

S. Reddick noted that most parents won't share their reason for leaving.

HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT – S. Reddick

Parent Teacher conferences took place October 10-11 and were very well attended.

Fire Marshall inspection happened in October and UCCS passed with flying colors.

On-site audit on October 20th. It went well, but no final report yet.

A few grants were secured this month, including Go Grant for NC outdoor beautification. A butterfly garden will be constructed near the playground.

Recently able to cut internet bill in half through a partnership with E-Rate.

Received a federal grant for students with disabilities = \$120,000 grant.

Vision to Learn was on campus October 16-17. This is a partnership that provides free eye exams, and a free pair of glasses for all students who need them.

Athletics: our girl's volleyball and boy's soccer teams have made the playoffs!

Choir is being offered as a middle school elective again, as of October 23rd. After the loss of a choir teacher at the beginning of the year, we were able to recruit and hire more teachers and bring the choir elective back.

D. Goldfarb asked for an explanation of report card issues.

S. Reddick responded that PowerSchool issues are largely to blame. Once PowerSchool is up and running, issues like this won't occur because parents can log in and view student reports.

CARPOOL UPDATE – S. Reddick and Team

Carpool is improving. School is still managing middle school students (without younger siblings) who are being dropped off too early. There continues to be a few families who are not picking up on time in the afternoons. Overall, the flow of morning carpool traffic is improving.

D. Goldfarb commented that issues like this do have an impact on enrollment and attendance. He requests a report of what UCCS has done to improve carline. The report should take into consideration parent and student feedback about how to improve carline. Share this report with parents that explains why UCCS has put the procedures currently used in place.

CLOSED SESSION – M. McCarthy introduced a motion that the Board go into closed session under NC General Statute 143-318,11.(6) D. Goldfarb seconded and Board moved into closed session at 5:52pm.

ADJOURN Meeting returned to open session, there was no further business. Motion to adjourn made by M. McCarthy, seconded by J. Young. Meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm.