

**University Academy Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.**  
Mayerberg Hall, University Academy

Present: (6)

Mrs. Katie Kwo Gerson, Board Chairman  
Mrs. Shirley Bush-Helzberg, Secretary  
Mr. Paul Greenwood (arrived at 4:08 p.m.)  
Mr. David Dickey, Treasurer  
Mr. LaRay Warrior (*via Zoom*)  
Mr. Jaron Ravin

Absent: (1)     Mr. Bush Helzberg

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

Board Chair, Mrs. Katie Kwo Gerson called the board meeting officially to order at 4:02 p.m.

**Enrollment Report**

Director of Enrollment, Mrs. Kellie Brady began her report with 1,083 students currently enrolled, 16 withdrawals, and 346 applications on the waiting list. The deadline for applications are March 1, 2023, and the enrollment lottery will be March 3, 2023. Show Me KC Schools hosting a city wide open house this Saturday January 28, 2023 10a.m.-noon here at UA.

Board Chair, Mrs. Katie Kwo Gerson requested a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items.

**Motion:** Mr. David Dickey

**Second:** Mrs. Shirley Bush-Helzberg

**Vote:** 6-0 Unanimous approval: motion carries.

**Finance Committee Meeting and Financial Report**

Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Tyler Kemp presented his report stating December 2022 shows a \$515,000.00 loss. Our revenue is higher this year by \$837,00.00. Funding inequity one time payment was received in January 2023. DESE has a one time increase in funding that should cover 75% of our transportation expenses for the year has been extended to next year. We have 1.6 million left over from the ESSER account to spend, with \$500,00.00 designated for remediation funding. This money is available until September 2024. Our total expenses are lower this year.

Mr. Kemp requested that the today's record reflect that the November 2022 audit was presented to the board, voted on and approved.

Board Chair, Mrs. Katie Kwo Gerson requested a motion that the audit was presented, and approve.

Motion: Mr. David Dickey

Second: Mr. Jaron Ravin

Vote: 6-0 Unanimous approval: motion carries.

### **Operations Report**

Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Graff announces counselors Ms. Katy Sanders, Ms. Chelsea Hagan, and Ms. Faith Casel as his EOM. We're working with the CrisisGo team to get the app. running more smoothly, and getting our staff trained and prepared in the event of an emergency. Mr. Jennings is in contact with the company to troubleshoot any issues. We have received bids for the new AC units for the two fieldhouse buildings. The interior signs are looking to be concluded by April 1st. As we continue to get bids for the exterior signs, final proof is near-early April for installation. Still leaning towards the possibility of installing solar panels to assist the costs with electricity. Will be conducting any roof repairs that are needed prior to placing solar panels. Looking in to the possibility of a Wee Links golf course for our students. 6 holes with 180 yards.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Mrs. Rebecca Gudde began her report announcing Instructional Coach, Ms. Ashton Fields who helps organize and attends to the newly updated staff lounge and refrigerator that was purchased by the UA board. A review over UA's commitment to action, Upper school: the plan to insure grades were taken care of for the African American Studies class. Staff performance plan is in place. Training in unlawful harassment training. Updating UA's Tips hotline with a QR code. Implemented a plan for immediate response. Review current mental health response. Mandatory culturally responsive leadership training with Lively Paradox all staff training. Meeting with Alumni and students twice a year. Also with parents and community leaders. Mr. Erik Safford new long-term sub for Upper school

### **K-2**

Interim Principal, Danielle Blackstock report her EOM is Ms. Rachell Shobe. Our 1st graders received books "*Matrin Luther King Jr. Day*" donated by Emprise Bank and BJ Kissel from the KC Sports Network.

### **3-5**

Mrs. Aisha Smith, Principal reports her EOM is Mr. "A" Troy Alldaffer. All grades in 3-5 have shown growth in their Benchmark scores. A select number of students and Mr. Upton were invited to preform at the Chancellor's MLK Jr's event on Jan. 13th. We received a grant from Project Lead the Way from the Kauffman Foundation for students to engage in a real world learning projects.

### **Middle school**

Mrs. Amerison reported her EOM are Ms. Rose (Dec) and Mr. Marlon Brown (Jan). The NJHS conducted a hygiene drive this past December. All items were donated to a local shelter. Our Benchmark scores show growth in all areas with the exception of Math. New programs IXL , YEP and Study Island programs have been added to give additional support in Math.

**Upper school**

Dr. Clem Ukaoma announced his EOM is Dr. Leah Edens. Results are back from the Dec. 2022 American Government EOC test for our 35 Juniors. 26-Proficient, 4-Advanced, 5-Basic. This years number of Freshmans failing are lower than last year. Tutoring is offered to help raise grades and receive additional support. Juniors are participating in the RWL program with a grant from Kauffman Foundation.

**University Academy Foundation Report**

Sonja Shaffer reports Ms. Tracy Hull as their new scholarship program director. Projecting to spend \$85,00.00 to send 15-17 MS students to summer camp this year. Twenty-four upper school students have applied for the Study abroad program. For the College campus experience we've budgeted for \$15,000.00. We received 25 applications for the Internship program, interviews will be start next week. The next Monday Mixer will be February. 13th at Minsky's Pizza. Gala will be April 15th, main invites going out in February. Coming this fall we'll have an Alumnui awards banquet. Brochures are now available in the Central office.

**Old Business** ~ None**New Business**

Board Goals Review

Mrs. Gudde provided an update on Board goals to date.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, Board Chair Mrs. Katie Kwo Gerson moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel matters, and legal matters at 4:57pm

Motion: Mr. Jeron Ravin

Second: Mr. David Dickey

Vote: 6-0 Unanimous approval; motion carries

Mrs. Katie Kwo Gerson requested that roll be taken again for the Executive Session.

**Present:**

Katie Kwo Gerson, Board Chairman

Shirley Bush-Helzberg, Secretary

Paul Greenwood

Jeron Ravin

David Dickey, Treasurer

LaRay Warrior (*via Zoom*)

Bush Helzberg- Absent



David Dickey moved and Jeron Ravin 2nd a motion to revise the start time of two upcoming board meetings as follows: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 from 4:00pm to 5:30pm and Tuesday, September 26, 2023 from 4:00pm to 5:30 pm.

**Votes:**

Shirley Helzberg-Yes  
Paul Greenwood- Yes  
Jeron Ravin- Yes  
David Dickey- Yes  
Katie Kwo Gerson- Yes  
LeRay Warrior- Yes

Motion passes.

Shirley Helzberg moved and David Dickey 2nd to come out of Executive Session at 5:45pm  
Roll call was taken.

**Present:**

Shirley Helzberg  
Paul Greenwood  
David Dickey  
LeRay Warrior  
Jeron Ravin  
Katie Kwo Gerson

David Dickey moved and Jeron Ravin 2nd to adjourn.  
With no objections the meeting was adjourned at 5:47pm

Roll call was taken.  
Present-Shirley Bush Helzberg  
LeRay Warrior  
Bush Helzberg  
David Dickey  
Paul Greenwood  
Katie Kwo Gerson

Next Board Meeting, Tuesday, February 28, 2023 4:00 p.m.

*I, Shirley Bush Helzberg, Secretary of the University Academy Board of Directors, certify that the above is a true and correct transcript of the minutes from a meeting of the Board of University Academy held at University Academy on January 24, 2023. The meeting was duly called, and held in all aspects in accordance with the laws of the State of Missouri and bylaws of the school, and that a quorum was present.*

Shirley Ann Helberg  
Signature

February 1, 2023  
Date