

## University Academy Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 24, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

Mayerberg Hall, University Academy

Present: (6) Mrs. Shirley Bush Helzberg, Secretary  
Mr. LeRay Warrior, Board President  
Dr. J. Camille Hall (Via Zoom)  
Mr. Randy Wisthoff  
Mrs. Laura Threatt  
Mr. Jeron Ravin @ 5:45 p.m.

Absent: (2) Mrs. Katie Kwo Gerson, Board Chairman  
Mr. Paul Greenwood,

### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Board President, Mr. LeRay Warrior, called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Superintendent Rebecca Gudde introduced Dr. Robyn Jackson Via Zoom and her Strategic Plan presentation for the Board.

### **Enrollment Report**

Mrs. Kivett began her report with the total number of students enrolled per grade level: Pre-K- 30, K- 109, 1st- 95, 2nd, 97, 3rd- 89, 4th- 93, 5th- 98, 6th- 97, 7th- 85, 8th- 83, 9th- 101, 10th- 57, 11th- 43, 12th 38. Total enrollment is 1,115. The number of withdrawals for June 25, 2024- September 18, 2024, is 169: 22% enrolled in different Charter schools, 9% KCPS, 15% moved out of state, 1% private school, and 53% we are unsure of their enrollment location. The application window for the next school year will open from November 9, 2024- March 1, 2025.

### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Anthony McDaniel started his presentation by announcing that University Academy is fully staffed.

Mr. LeRay Warrior requested a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items

**Motion:** Mrs. Shirley Bush Helzberg

**Second:** Jeron Ravin

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

### **Finance Report**

Chief Financial Officer Mr. Tyler Kemp opened with statements for the months ending in June, July, and August 2024. For the year ended in June 2024, we ended with \$110,000.00 in surplus. With funding and equity legislation that was passed, we were paid for 1,190 students. As of June 30, 2024, we have \$4,500,000.00 in reserve for the year ended. We received close to \$900 per weighted average student for state revenue. Mr.Kemp said the finance department originally budgeted the Esser funding spent last year will be reimbursed. However, state funding exceeded expectations this year and the previous school year. Salaries have increased by \$600,000.00 due to the returning teacher stipend. July shows a more significant gain due to Esser funding reimbursement. August reports display a \$450,000.00 gain, driven

mainly by the Esser funds. We expect levels to drop, but this was expected to be higher than planned. Expenses are lower this year than the previous year by \$285,000.00. Mr. Kemp proceeded with his report on the Board Finance training.

### **Operations Report**

Chief Operating Officer Mr. Stacy Graff began his report by announcing Mr. Anthony McDaniel as his employee of the month nominee. Bus services are going well, and the building automation system is 95% complete. We hope to see the school's energy bill cost savings with the new automation system. The exit drive project is scheduled to start on Monday, September 30, 2024, and we are looking to have it finished within two weeks. Our new Librarians have brought renewed energy to University Academy and are doing great. The student services department and Swope Health and Synergy have been busy providing services to our students due to the increased school threats we have encountered. Our food service contract has slightly changed with the meal options offered at breakfast and lunch this year. With this change, we have noticed an increased number of students opting for a school meal. The upcoming projects we are working on are replacing the theater's sound system, glass tinting in F house, cleaning the building's stonework, which will continue for the next two weeks, and looking to add additional graphics to the walls, K.C. natives; Leon Jordan, Calvin Wainwright, and Henry Perry.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Mrs. Rebecca Gudde opened her report by sharing that this summer, the Executive Leadership team adopted a new U.A. K-12 logo: "One Team, One Dream," which will align with the strategic plan. MAP data results are for the 3rd-8th grade students who are required to take tests in Math, ELA, and Science. This year's math shows a gain from the previous year. University Academy has received the following grants: \$270,000.00 from The Kauffman Foundation to continue with the Real World Learning for our upper school students and now middle school students. \$50,000.00 SchoolSmart KC, for upper school students who want to pursue a career in health or science. \$5,000.00 from theAcruxkc for the anti-bullying program. We are still waiting to see if we will be the recipient of the \$60,000.00 from the Hall Foundation for the HOOT/lead to Read K-8 program. Mrs. Gudde went on with her report to share some recent online threats directed towards University Academy and other local schools with the board members and shared the plans to keep our students and staff safe.

### **School Reports**

#### **K-2**

Ms. Danielle Blackstock started her report by confirming that her students had finished their first round of NWEA testing. Ms. Anna Franke, a 2nd grade teacher, is the employee of the month for September. The K-2 level held its 3rd annual Family Fun Night on September 12th, with nearly 400 guests attending.

#### **3-5**

Please refer to your packet.

#### **Middle School**

Mrs. Levette Amerison shared that the middle school students recently completed Benchmark testing. Ms. J. McClenton was named the employee of the month for August, and Mr. Kyle Reisenauer was named the employee of the month for September. The following events were recently held in the middle school- the first annual 6th-grade orientation and an awards assembly. This year, we have added a few new classes; we now offer Choir and Theater classes taught by Mr. Dennis Upton. There are also ELA and Math

support classes for those needing additional support. Sixth-grade students are teaming up with our facilities department to contribute community service by helping clean the cafeteria. The transition to a phone-free campus using the Yondr pouches is going well, and students are complying.

### **Upper School**

Mrs. Lashonette Kemp reported that the Homecoming parade was canceled due to a threat of heavy rain that day. However, tailgating and the football game were still a success. This year, upper school administrators' goal was to take in as many freshman students as possible to increase the number of students who graduate per class. Earlier this semester, the upper and lower school staff collaborated to create a Teaching assistant program as an elective class for Seniors who want to enter the education field. These students take an hour of their day to assist K-5 classroom teachers. Our employee of the month for August and September is Ms. Susie Jackson. Last week, we were informed that Mr. Carl Stafford, our Debate/Forensics teacher, and his team earned membership in the National Speech & Debate Association-National Forensic Leagues 100 Club. Midterm exams will take place the week of October 2-9, 2024.

### **University Academy Foundation Report**

Please refer to your packet.

### **Old Business - None**

#### **New Business - Board Goals 2023-24 Score Card**

Adopt Board Goals 2024-25

Resolution, Katie Kwo Gerson Board Membership

Superintendent Rebecca Gudde began speaking on the 2023-24 Board Score Card. However, due to time constraints, this topic, and the other items listed on the agenda under **New Business** and **Executive Session**, Mr. Anthony McDaniel requested a motion to table the remaining items.

**Motion:** Mr. Jeron Ravin

**Second:** Mr. Randy Wisthoff

**Vote: 4:0** Unanimous approval: motion carries

### **Adjournment**

With no further business before the board, Board President Mr. LeRay Warrior adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 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 September 24, 2024. The meeting was duly called and held in all aspects in accordance with the laws of the State of Missouri and the school's bylaws, and a quorum was present.*

*Shirley Bush Helzberg*  
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Signature

*10/20/2024*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date