

University Academy Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 4:00 p.m.

Mayerberg Hall, University Academy

Present: (4) Mr. LeRay Warrior, Board President
Mr. Randy Wisthoff
Dr. J. Camille Hall
Mrs. Laura Threatt

Absent: (3) Mrs. Shirley Bush Helzberg
Mrs. Katie Kwo Gerson, Board Chairman
Mr. Jeron Ravin

Call to Order and Roll Call

Board President, Mr. LeRay Warrior, called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Opening

Superintendent Rebecca Gudde began the meeting by introducing the three newest potential board members: Mr. Bill Simms, Dr. Chris Templeton, and Mr. Scott Malin. Board President LeRay Warrior requested a motion to appoint them.

Motion: Randy Wisthoff

Second: Laura Threatt

Vote: 4-0 Unanimous approval: motion carries

The meeting continues with the following members present:

Present: (7) Mr. LeRay Warrior, Board President
Mr. Randy Wisthoff
Dr. J. Camille Hall
Mrs. Laura Threath
Mr. Bill Simms
Dr. Chris Templeton
Mr. Scott Malin

Enrollment Report

Mrs. Kivett began her report stating that the total number of students currently enrolled as of this day, April 22, 2025, is 1,081. The number of student withdrawals is 12:

1-a different charter school, 18- have moved out of district, 3-unknown.

Consent Agenda

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

Motion: Randy Wisthoff

Second: Laura Threatt

Vote: 7-0 Unanimous approval: motion carries

Finance Report

Chief Financial Officer Mr. Tyler Kemp opened with statements for the months ending in March 2025 financial statements. The March report shows a \$1,600,000.00 gain, compared to March 2024, where there was a \$360,000.00 loss. Revenue and expenditures are both higher this year by \$125,377.00 due to the one-time health care allowance stipend that was paid to staff in August 2024. Capital expenditures are lower by \$363,154.00. Mr. Kemp presented his draft budget report for the 2026 school year; please refer to the board packet for the report.

Assistant Superintendent Report

Assistant Superintendent Mr. Stacy Graff began his report announcing the department's employee of the month is Mr. Don Jones. Mr. Graff then gave the transportation update: University Academy will no longer work with First Student for our bus services. Kauffmann School has entered an LLC to provide transportation. Buses have been purchased, and drivers are currently being interviewed. This new change is expected to save an estimated \$200,000.00. The building's automation system is now complete due to the funding received from the U.A. Supporting Foundation. We failed the City's inspection due to our backflow valves not working correctly. This will be addressed and repaired by U.S. Engineering. Mr. Graff and the building's administration team have been attending various career fairs to recruit and are looking to fill the current openings by the end of May, 2025.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Mrs. Rebecca Gudde opened her report, sharing the update on the Strategic Plan, aided by Dr. Robyn Jackson. All the involved teams' work and suggestions will be submitted and sent to Dr. Jackson this Friday, April 25, who will then present the final report at a later board meeting. The MCPSC (Missouri Charter Public School Commission) requires all charter schools to review and adopt new bylaws by June 15, 2025. Mrs. Gudde is asking for volunteers from the board members to help with their request.

K-2

Ms. Danielle Blackstock shared her K-2 report by saying that most K-2 students have mastered the requirements of knowing the 80 sight words that must be known by the end of May. Our classroom teachers are conducting satchel Pulse surveys. To minimize behavior issues, we have started the ABC Countdown to Summer; A Aerobics, B Blend, C Crazy hair day, etc. We would like to highlight Dr. Kristin Newbegin as our employee of the month for organizing the K-5 Spring Concerts. The third annual Pastries with Parents will be held on Friday, April 28, 2025.

3-5

Mrs. Aisha Smith opened her report by announcing that her employees of the month were Mr. Travis Turner for January, Ms. Rylie Shea for February, and Dr. Kristin Newbegin for March. The students in 3-5 grades are finishing their NWEA testing; results will be shared at the next board meeting. The 5th graders started the Science part of the MAP test. The 3-5 school and community held several family-centered activities: Spring Concert, Bingo for Books, and Family Fun Night. Every event had a great turnout.

Middle School

Assistant Principal Mr. Jeremy Dorrell gave the middle school report, sharing that 14 students made the Principal's Honor Roll and 79 students made the Honor Roll. Those students and any student who had perfect attendance were rewarded with an incentive field trip to the Municipal Auditorium to see the MIAA basketball game and a \$25.00 gift card. On March 10, 2025, the NJHS students traveled to Jefferson City. Our 7th graders attended a field trip to see Brown VS Board. Middle school's last round of the Satchel Pulse screenings is in its final round. The GryphonBots with Mr. Hadjian traveled to Chicago to participate in the 51st annual National Society of Black Engineers Conference. Mr. Stafford and the debate team finished with 19 awards and honors for the second year. They were crowned the best overall middle school debate team in the entire urban core of Kansas City and #4 in the world. As for community service, our 7th graders volunteered and bagged food at Harvesters. They also held the Spring Egg Hunt for the K-2 students. Ms. Tenaya Rhinehardt and 6th-grade students partnered with students at Hope School in N'Dola, Zambia via Zoom. Mr. Dorrell congratulated the middle school staff for being the employee of the month: February, Ms. Keisha Ricketts; March, Ms. Faith Casel; and April, Ms. Angela Mayfield-Foster.

Upper School

Mrs. Lashonette Kemp announced that her upper school students partnered with the APS (American Public Square) and selected their program topic of homelessness, which was featured on KSHB TV channel 41. For the class of 2025, 43 seniors have college acceptances as follows;

9= Top 150 Colleges and Universities

1= Top 150 Liberal Arts Colleges

49= Top 50 Regional Colleges

36= Top 50 HBCU's

Eighteen upper school students made the Principal's Honor Roll, and seventy-eight made the Honor Roll for 3Q. They were rewarded with a visit to the school's concession stand for a full lunch with multiple options. Upper school students are currently finishing their final round of NWEA testing.

Mrs. Kemp recognized Ms. Audrey Pribnow as her employee of the month for March. On April 4, 2025, U.A. hosted a staff vs. student basketball game, 'Dribble for a Cure' fundraiser, in honor of our former coworker, Mr. James Jennings. This event raised over \$353.00 for Kidney disease research; all proceeds will be donated to the PKD Foundation. Graduation is scheduled for Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

University Academy Foundation Report

Please refer to the board packet.

Old Business - None

New Business-

Adopt New Board Policy on Youth Suicide Prevention. Superintendent Mrs. Gudde, proposed updating the YSPP policy.

Board President, LeRay Warrior, requested a motion to approve the Youth Suicide Prevention Policy.

Motion: Dr. J. Camille Hall

Second: Randy Wisthoff

Vote: 7-0 Unanimous approval: motion carries

Adjournment

With no further business before the board, Board President, Mr. LeRay Warrior adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m. and requested a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

Motion: Dr. J. Camille Hall

Second: Randy Wisthoff

Vote: 7-0 Unanimous approval: motion carries

Dr. Camille Hall moves with no objection out of Executive Session at 5:14p.m.
Open Session was closed at 5:15p.m.

Roll Call was taken:

Present:

LeRay Warrior

Randy Wisthoff

J. Camille Hall

Laura Threatt

Bill Simms

Chris Templeton

Scott Malin

Dr. J. Camille Hall requested to move out of Executive Session at 5:14 p.m.

Roll Call was taken:

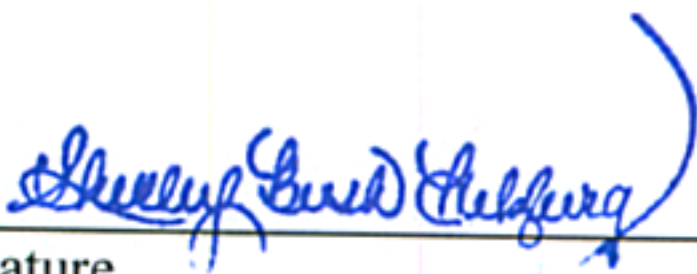
Present:

LeRay Warrior
Randy Wisthoff
J. Camille Hall
Laura Threatt
Bill Simms
Chris Templeton
Scott Malin

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, June 23, 2025, at 4:00 pm.

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.

Signature



Date

