

Uplift Education Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Location: Uplift Education Central Management Office – 1st Floor Conference Room
1825 Market Center Blvd., Dallas, TX, 75207

Called to Order: 4:36 p.m.

Adjourned: 6:27 p.m.

Governors Present:

1. Ryan Moss
2. Josh Terry
3. Richard Frapart
4. Ardo Fuentes
5. Dawn Mann

Board of Trustees Present:

1. James Stanton
2. Stu Ravnik
3. Lael Melville
4. Andre McEwing
5. Adam Cox
6. Michael Giles
7. Andy Scripps
8. Ossa Fisher
9. Tony Dona
10. Michelle Benson

Guests Present:

1. Ricky Garcia
2. John McPherson
3. Melissa McNeil
4. Maria Martineau
5. Shaquala Ford

Staff Members Present:

1. Yasmin Bhatia
2. Alex Berk
3. Anne Erickson
4. Johnny Deas
5. John Gasko
6. Aurora Lora
7. Remy Washington
8. Jim Jahnke
9. Deborah Bigham
10. Cassie Hubbert
11. Daniel Gray
12. Esther Kolni
13. Kerry Mora
14. Eric Francis
15. Angela Tristan
16. Nicholas Paschale
17. Eric Dominguez
18. Deekay Fox

<i>TOPIC</i>	<i>DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS</i>	<i>ACTIONS</i>
I. Call to Order and Announcements	A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 4:36 p.m. by the chair, R. Moss. R. Moss welcomed staff and the Board to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.	
V. Community Open Forum	<p>R. Moss explained that because there was a community speaker present, Ms. Shaquala Ford, the Board was reorganizing the order agenda items would be taken in and would hear from Ms. Ford first. This would prevent her from having to sit through the full meeting before speaking.</p> <p>Ms. Ford explained to the Board that she was a former employee of Uplift and her niece attends Uplift Heights PS. Ms. Ford explained that her niece is not successful with the new Eureka Math Curriculum and that she currently has a 54 grade. She also stated that her niece was not provide RtI even though it had been requested in November. Her ask is that the Board hold to core values and that the Board actively engage in 2nd grade Eureka Math lesson.</p> <p>Y. Bhatia explained that Eureka Math was a new initiative this school year and while some schools have seen double digit gains, there are spots where the change management has been difficult. R. Washington discussed ongoing training from Eureka Math.</p>	
II. Consider and Take Action on Previous Board Minutes	R. Moss asked the Board to consider the 12.3.19 regular Board meeting minutes and the 12.16.19 special meeting minutes that were provided previously.	Upon motion by R. Frapart to approve the minutes as presented, and seconded by A. Fuentes, the Board unanimously vote to approve the 12.3.19 regular Board meeting minutes and the 12.16.19 special meeting minutes.
III. Regular Reports	<p><u>Academic Update.</u> R. Washington provided an update on the 19-20 instructional priorities implementation and discussed the following items with the Board: (1) close reading, (2) implementation of Eureka Math K-5, and (3) ACT Prep. R. Washington also covered takeaways from the Common Assessment #2 (CA-2), as well as accountability grade predictions for Uplift Fort Worth Schools. Regarding the latter, we are expecting B schools to include Ascend MS, Mighty MS, and Mighty HS, and C schools to include Ascend PS, Meridian PS, Mighty PS, and Elevate MS.</p> <p><u>Finance Update.</u> J. Jahnke provided an update on the Finance dashboard: (1) current enrollment is 19,548, including 170 scholars added after the break, (2) expected attendance for the year is 96.3% and we are forecasting attendance for the year to be 95.9% (4)</p>	

cash and liquidity – our numbers are not expected to deviate from the predicted numbers; (5) expense management is slightly higher right now.

Development Update. D. Bigham provided an update on external affairs, including the following: (1) the holiday mailer raised \$57K, (2) capital campaign to date is almost to \$6mm, (3) her Department is currently recruiting for a chair for the 2020 Dinner and Dialogue event and will be selecting a book and speaker, (4) and there are handouts regarding year round giving opportunities and college signing day sponsorship forms.

Revised Summit Enrollment Preference Recommendation. A. Tristan provided a review of administration’s recommendation to remove the zip code for Summit Preparatory. There are two reasons for this: (1) Arlington ISD has moved to an open-enrollment format, and (2) the sense of needing to build a community is not a priority it once was given Summit has been an established campus for so long.

Board Governance Study and Related Recommendations. R. Moss informed the Board that there has been significant work being conducted around the question of whether the current Board structure is appropriate. R. Moss thanked M. Martineau and the Board for their work on the study and related recommendations.

R. Frapart provided an overview of the study method, the current Board structure, and the recommendations being provided to the Board for consideration and action. The recommendation being made by administration is that the Board of Trustees now be divided into two groups: (1) voting Trustees, to be known as the Executive Committee, and (2) non-voting Trustees. The Executive Committee would consist of 13 members and the most recent prior Board Chair, who would serve in an ex-officio capacity. Non-voting members would make up multiple committees. Y. Bhatia notified the Board that the recommendations would not be implemented until July 1.

The Board discussed the committees, make-up of the committees, and how the two School Engagement Board Committees would function.

Y. Bhatia explained to the Board that the new structure would go into effect for the next school year. She explained we would take until June to work out the committees and then implement the new structure around August. R. Frapart referenced A. Berk will be revising the Bylaws to address the changes.

Upon a motion to approve the resolution, as presented, removing the zip code for Uplift Summit by J. Terry, and seconded by R. Frapart, the Board unanimously voted to approve the motion.

Upon a motion to approve the Board governance study and related recommendations as presented by J. Terry, and seconded by D. Mann, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Board governance study and related recommendations.

IV. Information Items

	<p><u>Introduction of Ricky Garcia as a new non-voting member of the Board of Trustees.</u> A. Fuentes introduced Ricky Garcia and provided the recommendation from the Governance Committee that he be approved as a non-voting board member. Ricky Garcia is with the Charles Schwab Foundation and was formerly with United Way.</p> <p><u>Introduction of John McPherson as either a (1) new member of the Executive Committee and Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, or (2) new Governor – Ardo Fuentes, Chair, Governance Committee.</u> A. Fuentes introduced John McPherson and provided the recommendation he be approved as a voting Board member. John McPherson was most recently the CEO of Vulcan and was formerly with Goldman Sachs.</p> <p><u>Discuss transitioning current Trustees, Andre McEwing and Lael Melville to serve as At-Large Governors Roles/ New Members of the Executive Committee- Ardo Fuentes, Chair, Governance Committee.</u> A. Fuentes introduced Lael Melville and Andre McEwing and provided the recommendation they be approved as voting Board members. Lael Melville and Andre McEwing are currently on the Board as non-voting Trustees.</p>	<p>Upon a motion by J. Terry to approve Ricky Garcia as a non-voting Board member, John McPherson as a voting Board member, Lael Melville as a voting Board member, and Andre McEwing as a voting Board member, and seconded by D. Mann, the Board unanimously voted to approve the new Board members as presented.</p>
<p>VI. Closed Session</p>	<p>At 6:16 p.m., R. Moss retired the Board to closed session pursuant to 551.072 and 551.071 of the Texas Government Code</p> <p>At 6:26 p.m., R. Moss moved the Board to open session. No decision or action was taken by the Board during closed session.</p> <p>R. Moss asked if there was a motion to authorize Y. Bhatia to pursue a lease for CMO Dallas.</p>	<p>Upon a motion by J. Terry to authorize Y. Bhatia to pursue a lease for CMO Dallas, and seconded by A. Fuentes, the Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.</p>
<p>IV. Adjournment</p>	<p>At 6:27 pm, R. Moss adjourned the meeting there being no further business before the Board.</p>	

Respectfully submitted, Alexander S. Berk, Secretary.