

Uplift Education Board Meeting
 Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.
 Location: CMO – 1st Floor Meeting Room
 1825 Market Center Blvd., Dallas, TX 75207

Called to Order: 4:35 p.m.

Uplift Board Members Present *:

Adjourned: 6:45 p.m.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Melissa McNeil 2. Ryan Moss 3. Richard Frapart 4. Cameron Johnson 5. Jack Wensinger 6. Ardo Fuentes 7. Dawn Mann 8. Josh Terry 9. Donell Wiggins | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Andre McEwing 11. Dexter Freeman II 12. Christine Frary 13. Clark Cullum 14. Tony Dona 15. Michael Giles 16. Carol Proffer 17. Ossa Fisher |
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*Voting members: **Bold**

Uplift Staff Present:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yasmin Bhatia 2. Rich Harrison 3. Deborah Bigham 4. Stacey Lawrence 5. Alex Berk 6. Mark Willey 7. Johnny Deas 8. Dr. Arlene Ford 9. Samina Noorani 10. Sophia Kwong 11. Amanda Martin 12. Susan Ness 13. Layne Fisher 14. Talia Thompson 15. Tony Walker | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Erin Francis 17. Remy Washington 18. Daniel Gray 19. Mya Baker 20. Nicholas Paschale 21. Benjamin Van Maanen 22. Karen Evans 23. Kristina Nanini 24. Sara Ortega |
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Guests Present:

1. Unnamed – Peak Preparatory parent

<i>TOPIC</i>	<i>DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS</i>	<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>ACTION FOLLOW-UP</i>
I. Call to Order And Announcements	A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by the chair, M. McNeil. M. McNeil welcomed all leaders present, as well as A. Ford, the DEI consultant on our campuses. M. McNeil offered to gather interest on a mini session on DEI led by Dr. Ford with a minimum of 10 people required to hold it. It was noted this would not count for required		

	TEA training. M. McNeil also welcomed a Peak parent, recognized James Stanton, the new CAC chair at Infinity, and all of the staff present.		
II. Consent Agenda	The minutes from the December 5, 2017 regular meeting and December 14, 2017 special meeting of the Board were reviewed.	Upon motion made by A. Fuentes and seconded by J. Terry for the regular meeting, and vice versa for the special meeting, the Board unanimously approved the minutes as written.	
III. Regular Report – Strategic Investment Plan Update – Invest Internally in Our People, Schools and Systems – Academic Update	<p><u>Academic Update:</u> R. Harrison presented an update on Academics that was included in the pre-read to the Board. Presentation included Winter MAP scores, Fall Pre ACT and ACT scores, Q1 grades analysis, and an RTC update on the 2018 class.</p> <p>R. Harris noted the altered Winter MAP dates to allow for increased instruction time at the beginning of the winter session. This timing likely led to the lower scores since it reflected less instruction time. The changes were made in response to teacher feedback on Fall MAP “summer slide” and move towards a spring to spring comparison instead, as well as removing a MAP test to allow for more instruction time. D. Stanley inquired about if we had an ability to anticipate these scores, which R. Harris addressed in the Pre ACT section.</p> <p>R. Harrison and Y. Bhatia noted the importance of moving our scholars from high percentage passing STAAR to earning advanced STAAR scores. That increased level of Q4 and Q5 scholars will drive increased college ready scores on the ACT. It was noted that the Pre ACT “college ready” scores means that the 9th graders are on track to be college ready, not already college ready. There was extended discussion on the ACT scores and what leading indicators there might have been for the lower scores this year compared to last year. R. Harris speculated that perhaps the IB focus took away from the ACT prep focus, as well as other things that might have led to these results and ways to address turning the trend around.</p> <p>Semester 1 grade analysis was then presented with limited discussion.</p> <p>For the RTC update, R. Harris asked D. Gray to stand up and speak to some of the data and dashboard work being done by the RTC team in order to arm the RTC counselors with information that will help guide scholars to the best college destination and thus hopefully address some of our undermatching problem. D. Stanley asked about how colleges manage</p>		

acceptance rates and decisions based on GPA, ACT, writing sample, and demographics of the applicant pool.

Finance Report: S. Lawrence gave a summary of the finance report included in the pre-read to the Board.

The agenda included the dashboard, enrollment and attendance, cash flow forecast, net revenues, and FY '19 budget priorities.

S. Lawrence noted negative variance in Enrollment and Attendance to forecast. There was focus in this meeting on the enrollment figures and its dollar impact. However, upside in federal funding and lower salary expenses due to position vacancies have offset the negative dollar impact of enrollment and increased discretionary non-payroll expenses.

Y. Bhatia noted some of the factors campuses face in challenged enrollment figures. This includes increased school choice competition as well as campus culture concerns of adding new scholars during the school year. S. Lawrence noted that our vacancy rates has not been intentional in response to the enrollment figures, though this may need to be addressed in grades and campuses that are experiencing acute enrollment challenges.

A. Fuentes noted the balance in keeping enrollment figures up and the pressures new scholars create for teachers and campuses. Y. Bhatia noted S. Lawrence's balanced approach to enrollment.

D. Wiggins asked about our SPED budgeting and the potential variances.

S. Lawrence announced the budget priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. This includes the addition of MS social counselors at every campus and the 1 to 1 ratio we will accomplish, over hiring for teachers, and the hiring search for a chief of schools to begin in 2019-2020.

Y. Bhatia noted that we are not spending all of the increased state facilities funding in light of enrollment challenges.

III. Regular Report –
Strategic Investment
Plan Update – Invest
Internally in Our
People, Schools and
Systems – Finance
Update

<p>III. Regular Report – Strategic Investment Plan Update – Invest Internally in Our People, Schools and Systems – Scholar Retention Update</p>	<p><u>Scholar Retention Update</u> S. Ness and A. Martin presented on our attrition rates on campuses and our action plan to address them. Some of the data presented focused on the attrition from MS to HS, and where the scholars are going after leaving Uplift. Some of the actions include highlighting our differentiators including RTC and IB, as well as improving the continuity from MS to HS. Board discussion focused specifically on the Infinity enrollment issues. Y. Bhatia asked to follow up with J. Stanton, the Infinity CAC, about how we can address their issues specifically. Students leaving for Arlington ISD schools was also discussed.</p> <p>M. McNeil postponed the construction overview that was to be delivered by C. Johnson until next meeting due to time constraints.</p> <p>M. McNeil noted the organization structure update to be delivered by Y. Bhatia on the agenda had already been addressed during the Finance Update and included mainly the announcement of an Chief of School to be added in 19-20 and the rationale behind that.</p> <p>M. McNeil postponed the Uplift Spotlight on ed tech to be delivered by Ben Van Maanen due to time constraints.</p>		
<p>IV. Information Items</p>	<p><u>CAC report for Peak</u> C. Frary covered the four main buckets of their work. This includes supporting k-12 integration, teacher culture and retention, bringing practical experiences in the classroom, and thought partnership.</p> <p><u>Investor Luncheon</u> M. McNeil gave a quick summary of the events, as well as recognized T. Dona for starting the event for board alumni to keep them engaged.</p> <p><u>College Signing Day Dinner</u> O. Fisher passed it on to D. Bigham to explain the status of our fundraiser dinner at George Bush presidential library the day after College Signing Day. We can seat 300 people at the dinner so efforts are underway to fill those seats. M. McNeil encouraged board members to utilize their rolodexes to gather people to the important marketing and fundraising effort. There was laughter at the anachronistic reference to the rolodex.</p>		

V. Action items	<p><u>Irrevocable letter of credit to City of Fort Worth related to construction projects</u> S. Lawrence presented this item in the amount of \$1.25 million to address the civic requirement and enable construction to begin on our new site. He does not anticipate drawing on it due to availability of funds.</p> <p><u>Resolution approving the addition of Pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade at Uplift Pinnacle Secondary</u> A. Berk presented the resolution and opened the floor to questions. None were asked.</p>	<p>Upon motion made by J. Wensinger and seconded by J. Terry, the Board unanimously approved the letter of credit</p> <p>Upon motion made by D. Stanley and seconded by J. Terry, the Board unanimously approved the resolution for Uplift Pinnacle Secondary</p>	
VII. Adjournment	There were no community members present.		
	There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.		

Respectfully submitted, Alexander S. Berk, Secretary.