

Uplift Education Board Meeting  
 February 24, 2015 – 4:30 p.m.  
 Location: CMO – First Floor Meeting Room  
 1825 Market Center Blvd., Dallas, TX 75207

Called to Order: 4:30 p.m.

Uplift Board Members Present \*:

Adjourned: 6:30 p.m.

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|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. <b>Tony Dona</b>       | 7. Ardo Fuentes   |
| 2. <b>Melissa McNeil</b>  | 8. Kay Allen      |
| 3. <b>Josh Terry</b>      | 9. Jack Wensinger |
| 4. <b>W. Carey Carter</b> | 10. Ossa Fisher   |
| 5. <b>Randy Ray</b>       |                   |
| 6. <b>Ryan Moss</b>       |                   |

\*Voting members: **Bold**

Others

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. Deborah Bigham  | 6. Karen Evans |
| 2. Bill Mays       | 7. Korey Mack  |
| 3. Ann Stevenson   |                |
| 4. Stacey Lawrence |                |
| 5. Karen Aikman    |                |

<i>TOPIC</i>	<i>DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS</i>	<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>ACTION FOLLOW-UP</i>
Call to Order & Approval of Minutes	A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by the chair, T. Dona. Kay Allen, chair of Uplift Grand Advisory Council and Jack Wensinger, chair of Uplift Heights Advisory Council, were introduced. Korey Mack, Director of Government Affairs and Advocacy for Uplift, was also introduced to the board. The minutes from the board meeting on January 27, 2015 were presented and reviewed.	Upon motion by R. Ray and seconded by C. Carter, the minutes were approved as written.	
Academic Update	Karen Aikman and Karen Evans, managing directors for Uplift schools, gave the academic update. They noted that more attention is being focused on intervention with students in the bottom quintile to reach the growth needed for them to be college ready. They also described the efforts the schools are making to address this challenge. ACT scores this year in high school are expected to be similar to last year. The board expressed appreciation to K. Aikman and Evans for their report and for the efforts they are making with Uplift students.		
Discussion – Renaissance Heights Resolution	Ann Stevenson presented a resolution to support creation of a preference boundary for admission to Uplift Mighty for families who reside in the mixed income housing planned for the area around Uplift Mighty which is part of a community revitalization project. The resolution is requested to support the developer’s application for tax credits for construction		

	of low income housing to be built in this development. The preference would be much narrower than our current zip code boundaries. After discussion, the board decided to table the resolution at this time as board wanted to have more information before acting on this request.		
Nomination and approval of new board members	C. Carter presented the governance committee's recommendation to approve Vishy Padmanabhan as chair of the Advisory Council for Uplift Luna. Mr. Carter gave an overview of Mr. Padmanabhan's background and interest in Uplift.	Upon motion by M. McNeil and seconded by R. Ray, the board approved the person named as recommended.	
Charter Consolidation Update	Ann Stevenson gave report on the charter consolidation process for Uplift. A team from the CMO met with large group of TEA representatives in Austin on February 4th to discuss issues related to consolidation. The meeting was helpful and several concerns were addressed satisfactorily. The consolidation is moving forward. After meeting with CMO department representatives, the Bain group is developing a work plan to guide the Uplift consolidation process.		
Consolidation Resolutions	Ann Stevenson presented several resolutions for consideration by the board in connection with the consolidation. The resolutions included amendments to close campuses under the charters that are not surviving and to return those charters to the TEA upon the effective date of consolidation into the surviving charter (North Hills), as well as a name change for the surviving charter to "Uplift Education."	Upon motion by R. Ray, and seconded by M. McNeil, the resolutions were approved as presented. All directors voting in favor of the resolutions signed the resolutions.	File amendments with TEA.
Wellness Policy	Ann Stevenson presented the updated Wellness Policy proposed by the Uplift Child Nutrition Department to meet new compliance requirements and to reflect our focus on nutrition and wellness.	Upon motion by J. Terry and seconded by C. Carter, the policy was approved.	
Finance Update	B. Mays and S. Lawrence presented the finance report. Current focus is on increasing the student attendance rate to meet budget projections. Dashboards on cash, liquidity and expenses reviewed with board.		
GPISD Partnership – Update	D. Bigham gave an update on the GPISD – Uplift partnership. Dani Erbert, a current Uplift employee who has served in several academic positions with Uplift and most recently as MYP Dean at Summit, has been selected to be the school director of Uplift Lee. The contract is in process of being finalized and is scheduled to be presented to the board for review before the March 19 <sup>th</sup> board meeting. Enrollment is going slowly, but Uplift has a strong recruitment plan in place, which includes more door to door recruiting.		
Advocacy Report	Ann Stevenson gave update on legislative actions and advocacy efforts. The Uplift payment distribution bill is near ready to be filed. We are finalizing language with Rep. Anchia's staff. The board was reminded of the advocacy day scheduled for April 8 <sup>th</sup> .		Board would like to see proposed script for trip at next meeting.

Amendment Resolution – Desoto Campus	D. Bigham presented a resolution to approve the recommended name for the new primary campus in Desoto to be “Uplift Ascent.” R. Ray reported on the trademark investigation results for this name.	Upon motion by R. Ray and seconded by C. Carter, the resolution was approved by the board.	
IB Authorization Letter	Ann Stevenson presented the request for a letter from the board to the IB Organization confirming the board’s support for IB authorization for PYP and MYP programs at Uplift Mighty, PYP programs at Uplift Meridian, and Uplift Heights.	There was no opposition to the letter and it was signed by the chair.	
Instructional Materials Sale Approval	Ann Stevenson also presented a form approving the sale of certain instructional materials that are no longer needed by Uplift. These materials, provided by TEA, but now out of date, will be sold for a nominal amount.	There being no opposition, the authorization was signed by the board chair.	
Parent/Community Comments	There were no parents or community members present.		
Adjournment	There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.		

Respectfully submitted by: Ann Stevenson