

FINAL APPROVED BY UCCS BOARD 07 JULY 2022

Minutes
May 19, 2022 ANNUAL Meeting
UChicago Charter School Board of Directors

May 19, 2022 at 5:01 p.m.

Via Zoom

Attendees

Board of Directors Members in attending by Zoom: D. Abebe (presiding), D. Gorman-Smith, T. Island-Childress, P. Ziegler, K. Callow-Wright

Board of Directors Members absent: Susana Vasquez, Ivan Samstein (resigning)

Also in attendance via Zoom: UCCS Staff: D. Gordon, A. Sergeant, T. Barnett, T. Pajakowski, C. Scott; L. Hill; UEI staff C. Epstein, U. Mardyla, J. Nowaczewski, A. Hull.

President's Opening Remarks

President Abebe welcomed everyone to the meeting. The President made a finding that due to rising rates of COVID-19 in the Chicago area, it had been determined that the May 19, 2022 Annual Board Meeting should be held entirely via Zoom. He noted that a quorum of five members was present on Zoom. Board President Abebe noted that, as contained in the Board Book, Member Ivan Samstein was resigning from the Board, due to taking another position with the University, and that the President of the University had appointed MaryFrances McCourt, CFO of the University of Chicago, to the UCCS Board of Directors, effective May 17, 2022. President Abebe thanked Member Samstein for his services.

Summary of Advisory Council Meeting of May, 2022

President Abebe asked Board Member Ziegler, who is also a member of the UCCS Advisory Council, to summarize the May 5, 2022 Advisory Council Meeting. Member Ziegler shared with the Board that the College Graduation Office had made a presentation to the Advisory Council on May 5 concerning the efforts made to assist UCW seniors in their college matriculation goals. Member Ziegler shared that over \$11 million had been secured in scholarships for UCW seniors, and Director Gordon shared that since May 5, the amount of scholarship funds had increased to \$16 million.

Approval of March 16, 2022 and May 13, 2022 Minutes of Board of Directors Meetings

President Abebe asked for a Motion to approve the Minutes of the March 16, 2022 Regular Board Meeting and the May 13, 2022 Special Board Meeting. Vice President Gorman-Smith made a Motion to approve both the March 16 and May 13 Minutes as presented in the Board Book, and Member Ziegler seconded the Motion. All five members present voted in favor of approving both Minutes.

Public Participation (5:06 p.m.)

The Agenda for the May 19, 2022 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors was published on the UChicago Charter's website and at its campuses. However, no member of the public came forward to speak during the Public Participation section of the Annual Meeting.

Action Items: Annual Officers Slate; Appointment of Advisory Council Officers; Annual Schedule

The President asked if the Board would agree to take items out of order from the written Agenda, and consider first all Annual Meeting business. The Board agreed, and then reviewed and discussed of the proposed FY23 Slate of Officers, the proposed FY23 Officers for the Advisory Council and the

proposed Annual Meetings Schedule for 2022-2023, as included in the Board Book. Member Callow-Wright made a motion to approve the proposed Slate of Officers, Member Ziegler seconded the motion, and all 5 members voted in favor of the motion. Member Callow Wright made a motion to approve the proposed appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Advisory Council, Member Gorman-Smith seconded the motion, and all 5 members voted in favor of the motion. Member Callow-Wright made a motion to approve the Annual Meeting schedule for 2022-2023 as proposed, Member Ziegler seconded the motion, and all five members present voted in favor of the proposed Meeting Schedule.

Executive Session (5:12 p.m.)

Due to the schedule of certain Board Members, the Board discussed holding the Executive Session mid-meeting rather than at the end of the Meeting. At 5:12 p.m., Vice President Gorman-Smith made a motion to enter into Executive Session on the grounds of Sections 2c1 and 2c8 of the exceptions clause of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Member Ziegler seconded the motion, and all five Board members left the public Zoom platform and went into a separate non-public Zoom platform. The public Zoom platform remained open for the public while the Board was in Executive Session.

Return to Open Session (6:00 p.m.)

At 6:00 p.m., the five Board Members left the Executive Session and returned to the Open Session on the Public Zoom Platform.

President Abebe asked Chief Operating Officer Epstein and Chief Financial Officer Mardyla to present the most recent Quarterly Financial Report for FY22.

Quarterly Budget Report Update on FY22 (6:01 p.m.)

UEI CFO Mardyla introduced UCCS Accounting Manager Aaron Hull, who shared that the Quarterly Budget Report update for FY22. Mr. Hull announced that the FY22 budget for UCCS would end the year balanced. Mr. Hull noted that significant funds had been provided for ESSER funding, which benefitted UCW. Mr. Hull also noted that the high school public per pupil rates were \$4,500 higher than elementary rates. He noted budgets had been tighter for UCCS' elementary campuses, NKO and Donoghue. Mr. Hull acknowledged higher cleaning costs in FY22, due to COVID-19, as well as higher costs for resource support personnel.

Action Item: FY23 Budget Presentation (6:07 p.m.)

Board President asked the CFO to present, out of order, Action Item IV.a., which was consideration of the proposed FY23 UCCS Budget for the Board's review and approval. CFO Mardyla presented the FY23 UCCS Budget, emphasizing that the Chicago Public Schools had only released a partial FY23 budget with charter school allocations. CPS has proposed a 5% revenue increase in Student-Based Budgeting ("SBB"), with non-SBB allocations to be announced in July 2022. The CFO noted that the 5% increase, coupled with lowering enrollments at UCCS would likely yield a per pupil funding revenue from CPS in FY23 to be similar to the funding amounts in FY22. The CFO noted UCCS' FY23 budget anticipates \$1.75 million in philanthropic funds. The CFO noted that UCCS' FY23 budget was conservative in that ESSER fund estimates for FY23 have been kept at similar levels as FY22.

The CFO reviewed certain key expenses projected for FY23. She acknowledged the 4.5% provided in additional raises to all UCCS staff, based on additional contributions by the University. She also noted that certain expenses were increasing in cost: facility costs were projected up by 5%, health and liability insurance up by 15% and security costs were also increasing due to additional staff, (2 at UCW and 1 at

NKO), and an increase in hourly rates. The Board members discussed aspects of the FY23 proposed budget, and Member Callow-Wright thanked the CFO and the UCCS leadership team for their hard work in a challenging budget year.

Member Callow-Wright made a motion to approve the Action Item IV.a., the FY23 UCCS Budget as presented in the Board Book and Member Ziegler seconded the motion. All four members present, (Vice President Gorman-Smith had left the meeting), voted in favor of the FY23 UCCS Budget as proposed.

CEO's Report: Enrollment Updates (6:16 p.m.)

President Abebe asked the CEO to provide the Board with an enrollment update. The CEO asked Admissions Officer Scott to review enrollment projections with the Board. Admissions Officer Scott shared that enrollment was running slightly under projections at the entry level grades at NKO (29 out of 33 seats awarded), and Donoghue (45 out of 66 seats awarded). The Board discussed the impact that the forced reduction, due to a change in funding sources, of Pre-K classrooms at Donoghue had had on enrollment over the past year. Admissions Officer Scott shared that UCCS intended to place more radio ads and attend more student recruitment fairs in the Summer of 2022. She also added that UCCS would work with neighborhood partnerships that work with families with young children to inform these families of the UCCS option. The Board also discussed enrollment at other grade levels, noting that UCCS families were often slower in returning their intent to return forms, but that phone calls and emails were being made to these families to encourage their return.

CEO's Report: Academic Presentation Deferred (6:30 p.m.)

President Abebe asked the CEO, and Directors Gordon and Sergeant, given the time, if the Academic Presentation would be better deferred to a special summer meeting when the Board, the CEO and the Directors could engage in a more robust discussion of UCCS' Academic Performance in the 2021-2022 school year. All agreed that another meeting would be held in the summer, if at all possible, for the Academic Presentations.

The Board also discussed that it was likely a Special Meeting would need to be set for the Board to consider CEO recommendations for new leadership positions at the Woodlawn Campus.

Updates (6:34 p.m.)

The CEO shared dates for End of Year Events with the Board, including graduation of the UCW High School class at Rockefeller Chapel on Sunday, June 5, 2022, and the upcoming production of the Wiz, by Middle School students on June 7, 2022 at the Logan Center for the Arts.

New Business & Adjournment.

President Abebe asked for any new business, but hearing none, asked for a motion for adjournment. On a voice vote of acclimation, the Board adjourned the May 19, 2022 UCCS Annual Meeting at 6:36 p.m.

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