



Board Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2024

Ornelas Activity Center, 3402 Old Omen Rd, Tyler, TX 75707

The meeting was also available via Zoom.

ATTENDING:

Voting Members:

Alan Buckland
Dr. Gina Doepker
Dr. Dominick Fazarro

Dr. Joanna Neel
Dr. Michael Odell
Dr. Yanira Oliveras
Eric Semlear, Board President

Non-Voting:

Heather Bailey
Sammi Broussard
Christian Chesnut
Dr. Aimee Dennis
Dr. Kelly Dyer
Rachel Hawkins
Nikki Hart

Amanda Kaiser
Shelly Parsons
Dr. Jaclyn Pedersen
Dr. Jo Ann Simmons
Dr. Julie Philley
Dr. Brandon Bretl
Participants via Zoom

BOARD MEETING

1. Call to Order
Board President Mr. Semlear called the UT Tyler University Academy Board Meeting to order at 12:12 p.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2024, confirming the presence of a quorum.
2. Pledge
The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was said, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. Dr. Philley, president of UT Tyler, addressed the Board, discussing her new role and support for University Academy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. Public Comment
No one registered for public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

5. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approve [Previous Minutes, Thursday, August 15, 2024](#)
 - b. Mr. Semlear noted that the Longview staff opening should have been for first grade rather than kindergarten.
 - c. Dr. Doepker moved to approve the minutes with the correction, and Dr. Odell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Request Approval of [PG-1.107 Gift Acceptance](#)
 - a. Dr. Dennis noted that the only updates were the policy number and copyright date as UA links their Gift Acceptance policy to UT Tyler's HOP.
 - b. Dr. Oliveras moved to approve PG-1.107 Gift Acceptance and Mr. Buckland seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
7. Request Approval of [PG-1.202 Public Information Request](#)
 - a. Dr. Dennis noted that the only updates were the policy number and copyright date, as UA links its Public Information Request policy to UT Tyler's HOP.
 - b. Dr. Fazarro moved to approve PG-1.202, and Dr. Oliveras seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
8. Request Approval of [PG-2.110 Gifted and Talented Program](#)
 - a. Ms. Hart presented the updates, noting that the nomination period will change from August to January to allow more time for scheduling purposes.
 - b. Dr. Doepker moved to approve PG-2.110, and Dr. Odell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
9. Request Approval of [PG-3.316 Child Abuse and Neglect](#)
 - a. Dr. Dennis presented that the policy number, date issued, and copyright date were all updated, along with clarifying and updating definitions.
 - b. Dr. Neel moved to approve PG-3.316, and Dr. Oliveras seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

10. Financial Updates:
 - a. [2023-2024 Budget Report](#)

- i. Ms. Chesnut presented that we received \$10.5 million in revenue and expensed \$11.2 million for the General Fund, and received \$175,000 in revenue and expensed \$296,000 in the Activity Fund.
11. 2023-2024 Charter FIRST (FY23 data) - Dr. Simmons presented that we received the highest ratings and recognized Christian Chesnut for her leadership and work on this report.
 - a. [Charter FIRST Indicators](#)
 - b. [Charter FIRST Management Report](#)- Ms. Chesnut presented the details outlined in the report and passed around the superintendent's offer letter for viewing.
12. [2024-2025 EDGAR Manual](#)
 - a. Ms. Bailey presented the updates, which consisted of updating the names and phone numbers of staff and ensuring all links were accurate.
13. [Title III Annual Report/ESL Waiver](#)
 - a. Ms. Hart reviewed the document with the board, noting that UA had five students exit the program.
 - b. Dr. Simmons thanked Ms. Hart and Dr. Rowley for their work and congratulated them on the success of the students who had exited.
14. Superintendent's Report
 - a. [District Enrollment and Attendance](#)—Dr. Simmons presented the district's current enrollment and improved attendance compared to the 23-24 school year.
 - b. Campus Updates
 - i. Longview—Ms. Hawkins reported that the Longview campus enrollment capacity was 95%, with a sprinkling of openings in the upper grades. The campus expansion is due to be completed in October, and Hawkins wanted to note how flexible her high school staff has been. Hawkins acknowledged the support from Dr. Ellis at the LUC. The Longview campus's Wildly Important Goal (WIG) is to maintain 98% attendance.
 - ii. Palestine—Ms. Parsons reported that enrollment capacity was 85%, an all-time high and that grades K-6 were full. She noted the success of a former UA-Palestine graduate who received a prestigious internship opportunity.
 - iii. Tyler- Dr. Dyer noted that the Tyler campus maintained a 97% enrollment capacity with a sprinkle of openings across grade levels. The campus WIG was student growth & progress. She was proud to report that through the leadership of Ms. Greene and Ms. Singer, the Tyler campus Lighthouse team of fifth through ninth grades grew to 23 students who serve in the capacity of campus ambassadors. Dr. Dyer also highlighted that Ms. Hilbig's Patriot Daily team is being asked to present at Region 7.
 - c. Administrative Updates

- i. Personnel- 2 positions are open: a Palestine teaching position and a Longview teaching position.
- ii. Facilities-
 - 1. Longview's modular is in place with a move-in goal of mid-October.
 - 2. Palestine—Dr. Simmons noted that there would be a follow-up meeting with the Palestine Development Board to celebrate the collaboration on UA Palestine campus improvements.
- d. Looking Forward- November 7th School Board Meeting, Complete Annual Trainings; Budget Amendments, Financial Updates, Policies Related to Human Resources; Governance Reporting

15. Adjournment

- a. Dr. Fazarro moved to adjourn the meeting, and Dr. Odell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

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
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Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	1/23/2025 7:59:43 PM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	1/23/2025 8:53:44 PM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	1/23/2025 8:55:53 PM
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