



Board Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2020 12:04 p.m.

ATTENDING:

Dr. Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz, Dr. Michael Odell, Ms. Laura Owens, Mr. Jeffry Kennemer, Mr. Daniel Rodriguez, Ms. Angela Wright, Dr. Jo Ann Simmons, multiple directors, staff and parents (40+ participants).

OPENING:

The special board meeting of the UT Tyler University Academy was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Dr. Oliveras-Ortiz on Thursday, July 23, 2020 via Zoom teleconferencing.

1. Call to Order:

Dr. Oliveras-Ortiz confirmed a quorum of Board members were present.

2. Pledge:

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag

ACTION ITEMS:

3. Request approval to file 40% Hybrid Instruction for 9-12th Grade Students Waiver

- Dr. Simmons presented a new instructional option released by TEA, allowing 9-12th graders to participate through a combination of on-campus and remote instructions (hybrid), where at least 40% of the instruction must occur on campus. Although available for 9-12, our plan would be to implement only with 11-12th graders as the majority of those students have online dual credit courses for the bulk of their schedule. They would be assigned their dual credit coursework on remote days and attend campus for their UA courses. Since these students already adhere to MWF/TTh schedule, the hybrid model is ideal to help limit traffic on campus and free up facilities space for better social distancing.
1st motion: Dr. Odell made a motion to approve as written for the 11-12th grade with pre-approval to add 9-10th grade should circumstances necessitate it. 2nd motion: Ms. Wright seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. Superintendent Report:

- Dr. Simmons discussed that the charter is preparing for the start of school on August 18th, parent meetings are being hosted to discuss remote waiver options available to parents, pre-survey shows approximately 30% of students will be requesting remote waivers, the official waivers will be sent out on Friday, August 7. Parents will be informed if they file, students will not be allowed on campus and will not have option to transition back to on-campus learning until the first transition period. TEA rule states we cannot send the waivers out to parents more than 2-weeks before school begins. Devices are currently being prepared for distribution.

5. Motion for Adjournment:

1st motion: Dr. Odell, 2nd motion: Ms. Wright. Motion passed 6-0.

Adjournment occurred at 12:24 p.m.

Link to recorded meeting:

https://uttyler.zoom.us/rec/play/KnPmoCErqFi5Mf0HZtL4k_k25Rw697GILBpVgYnmv1LGwzh04m3BVaxlv6SCyrIP3SuU1yaib_uAibU.OVIICr7QKArzGXTO?startTime=1596473685000