**Board Meeting Minutes** 

May 5, 2022, at 12:02 PM



#### **ATTENDING:**

Dr. Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz, Mr. Eric Semlear, Mr. Daniel Rodriguez, Mr. Jeffry Kennemer, Dr. Michael Odell, Dr. Jo Ann Simmons, Ms. Christian Chesnut, and Ms. Kimberly Harden. Multiple parents/guests were present/watching via online streaming through Zoom.

#### **OPENING:**

The board meeting of the UT Tyler University Academy was called to order at 12:02 p.m. by Dr. Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz on Thursday, May 5th, 2022.

#### 1. Call to Order

• Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz confirmed quorum of board members were present, Dr. Joanna Neel, and Dr. Dominick Fazarro absent.

#### 2. Pledge:

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

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

#### 3. Open for Public Comment

• Dr. Oliveras-Ortiz confirmed that there were no requests for public comment.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

#### 4. Consent Agenda

a) Previous Minutes, March 3, 2022.
 1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Mr. Rodriguez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Mr. Kennemer, Passed 5-0

#### 5. Request Approval of 2021-2022 Budget Amendments:

- Ms. Chesnut introduced our new Admin Assistant out of the District Office, Ms. Kimberly Harden.
- The University Academy received IDEA B ARP funds that needed to be budgeted. Funds were also moved from the Instruction Function to cover expenses under Health Services and Security Functions.



• The University Academy moved funds from the Instruction Function to the General Administration function to cover expenses.

1<sup>st</sup>Motion: Mr. Kennemer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Mr. Semlear, Passed 5-0

# 6. Request Approval of Superintendent to the Region 7 Advisory Committee for 2022-2023:

• Dr. Simmons discussed that Region 7 would like someone from the district level to be appointed to the Advisory Committee each year.

1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Mr. Rodriguez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Mr. Kennemer, Passed 5-0

#### 7. Request Approval of TEKS Certification for 2022-2023

- Ms. Chesnut discussed the TEKs Certification form for Texas Education Agency.
  Each year the University Academy needs to certify to Texas Education Agency
  what subjects are taught and what grade levels we serve. This document looks
  different this year as we also must disclose the Curriculum materials, we are using
  in the requested grade levels.
- Dr. Simmons also discussed the University Academy certifying the TEKS we teach to TEA.

1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Dr. Odell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Mr. Rodriguez, Passed 5-0

#### 8. Request Approval of Region 7 E-Agreement for 2022-2023

• Dr. Simmons discussed the services we use provided by Region 7 each year. This information has to be presented to the Board each year for approval. We will spend a little over \$45,000 in the coming year on these services. Dr. Simmons discussed an example of the services as the Professional School Counselor Coop, Ms. Parker will attend specific training and have access to updates that may come down from the state.

1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Dr. Odell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Mr. Kennemer, Passed 5-0

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

#### 9. Superintendent Report

#### a. Financial Update FY22

Ms. Chesnut discussed the budget updates for the General Fund and the Non Gov Funds. The University Academy has received 4.6 million in revenue and spent 5.4 million in expenses under the General Fund. The University Academy has received



\$268,000 in revenue and spent \$418,000 in expenses under Non-Gov Funds. Ms. Chesnut also reiterated that for our Grants we must spend money to receive money. By the end of the year the funds should not be upside down.

#### b. District/ Campus Enrollment and Attendance

Dr. Simmons presented and explained to the board the attendance rate for University Academy across the district. Overall attendance rate is 94.74%, a decrease from the past but a lot of students have been out due to sickness. Dr. Simmons discussed where the University Academy was in the lottery process. We did not have this information to share with the board. Overall, our enrollment will be strong for next year. The University Academy is still accepting applications.

#### c. Campus Updates

This is currently STAAR testing week and that is why most of our staff are not attending the board meeting. The next 2 weeks the University Academy will be testing.

#### d. Administrative Updates

i. Senior Banquets

Each campus will have a Senior Banquet and then come together for the Graduation Ceremony. Dr. Odell will be our Commencement guest speaker and Dr. Calhoun will be present to distribute diplomas. Tyler and Palestine will also have a Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony. The University Academy will also host overnight trips for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students, and the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. If any Board Member would like to attend any of the overnight trips, they can contact Dr. Simmons. Dr. Simmons will send out the Senior Banquet information to the Board Members.

ii. Recruitment 2022-2023
The University Academy is recruiting for the 2022-2023 school year.

#### iii. Facilities

The University Academy in Tyler will be getting 4 new classrooms which will be 2 portables. High School students will be in the new portable buildings. There will also be an additional section of 4<sup>th</sup> grade and will make room for the new kindergarten class coming in.

A new High School Building in Tyler is still being discussed and explored as well as an additional building in Longview. Our new President supports the University Academy.

A Development Center for the University is being explored. Dr. Simmons has visited other Day Care Facilities.

End of year maintenance is being scheduled.

#### e. Lab School Activities

Dr. Simmons detailed to the board the Lab School Activity updates. There are two candidates recommended for hire from the University's education programs.

## f. Board Election Appointments

- i. Palestine Election: Departing Member, Mr. Danny Rodriquez
  - 1. Dr. Simmons discussed a little bit about Mr. Rodriquez, expressed appreciation for him and presented him with an appreciation Plaque for his service on the Board.
  - 2. Mr. Alan Buckland is the lone candidate for the upcoming Palestine election. There will be a Meet and Greet for Mr. Buckland hosted by Dr. Odell on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.
- ii. College of Education Appointment; Term Ending, Dr. Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz
  - 1. Dr. Simmons announced that Dr. Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz's term is ending and will have to make a call for nominations within the School of Education. Dr. Simmons expressed appreciation for the service and support of our Board Members.

## 10. Adjournment

1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Dr. Odell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Mr. Rodriguez, adjournment occurred at 12:36 p.m.

Adopted at a meeting of the Board on July 14, 2022.

Mr. Jeffry Kennemer
President, UTTUA School Board
7/14/2022

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