
FOUNDATION FOR LOUISIANA STUDENTS

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

3113 Valley Creek Drive

Baton Rouge, LA

First Floor Conference Room

July 23, 2024

IN COMPLIANCE WITH LOUISIANA OPEN MEETINGS LAW

I. OPENING ITEMS

- A. Board President Holliday called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.
- B. Board President Holliday requested a roll call vote. The following Directors through a voice vote were recorded as present: Mr. John Price, Mr. Michael w. Howes, Ms. Grace Anderson, Dr. James Llorens, Ms. Linda Holliday, and Ex-officio member – Dr. Quentina Timoll.

Guests present: Ms. Darah Husser, Ms. Melissa Fox, Mr. Barry Harris, Mr. Michael Tran, Mr. Michael Adams, Ms. Melissa Grand, Ms. Eugenia Cardozo, and Ms. Lekisha Chambers.

Conference Room & Online Guests: See attached list.

- C. On motion by Director Anderson, seconded by Director Llorens, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Agenda for July 23, 2024. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Howes, Anderson, Llorens, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

II. ROUTINE BUSINESS

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the Board Retreat Meeting for June 15, 2024. On motion by Director Llorens and seconded by Director Price, to approve the Board Retreat Meeting Minutes for June 15, 2024. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Howes, Anderson, Llorens, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.
- B. Approval of the Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting for June 25, 2024. On motion by Director Llorens and seconded by Director Howes, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes for June 25, 2024. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Howes, Llorens, and Holliday voting in favor. Director Anderson abstained. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

III. ORAL REPORTS

*** Mr. Nealsson arrived at 5:08PM

- A. Dr. Quentina Timoll presented the Superintendent Report to include important updates, general housekeeping, and current enrollment. Dr. Timoll reported that back to school preparations are underway with new teacher orientation, as well as staggered returns to the classrooms by Elementary, Middle, and High School teachers. Teachers will participate in a two week professional development training before students return to school on August 8, 2024. Dr. Timoll also highlighted important dates that include: Convocation will take place on August 7, 2024, and Open House will be held on September 6th and 13th. Dr. Timoll acknowledged student achievements in the form of high school seniors who placed 2nd in the State Rodeo Finals that took place in June; as well as the University View Academy student that won a financial essay, and lastly, the Beta Club that traveled to compete. Dr. Timoll presented the 5 “Strategic Plan” priorities. Those include: providing strong academic instruction, focusing on recruitment, retention, and satisfaction at a student level, creating a climate of community, reviewing and revising structure, systems, and processes, and lastly emphasizing infrastructure and technology integration. The focus is to make sure that strategies are aligned with the budget. In addition, University View Academy is filling new hire positions. Ms. Eugenia Cardozo notes that the proportion of students signing up for field trips and events are not aligned with attendance to these trips and events. Staff is working on wording for field trip notices to decrease no shows. Dr. Timoll provided an update on enrollment with University View Academy anticipating 3,603 students; having 750 new students. Student enrollment trends are being surpassed. Dr. Timoll stated that one round of student withdrawals will occur and there are currently students on the waitlist. No vote was taken.
- B. Board President Holliday led the Discussion of the Financial Report for July 2024. Ms. Melissa Fox reviewed the YTD revenues, actuals, and expenses. The fund balance is projected at \$24 million, total assets \$4 million higher from last year, a cash increase of \$3.2 million meaning \$24.6 million in the bank, and \$647,000 in liabilities. A hard close is projected in August. Ms. Melissa Fox noted that by September 30, 2024, auditors will be ready for presentation at the November meeting. University View Academy adopted a new payroll system that went live July 1, 2024. Conversion problems have been solved since the launch. The system is noted to be convenient and user friendly. No vote was taken.
- C. Board President Holliday presented the Finance Committee report. The Finance Committee recommended that the full board approve the 2024-2025 budget. No vote was taken.

- D. Governance Committee Chair Thomas Nealsson reported that there was no Governance Committee report to be noted. No vote was taken.
- E. Mr. Barry Harris provided a status update on current facility projects.

Henderson Building: Mr. Harris reported that four additional offices are currently being built to be ready for new counselors.

Lynx Den: Mr. Barry Harris reported that electronic locks are being installed on doors and the AC in the server room is being replaced.

Academic Center: Mr. Harris reported that the gazebo is almost complete. Staining the benches is all that is to be completed.

Bennington II: Mr. Harris reported that the parking lot is undergoing demolition.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and approval of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the budget for fiscal year 2025 with Ms. Melissa Fox. Ms. Fox noted that the budget is posted on the website and will be sent to the Board of Education after approval. Revenues are reported to be \$2.5 million less than fiscal year 2024. Ms. Fox stated that this is due to federal funding with the majority being in ESSER funds. Federal funds dropped \$742,000, due to funds being utilized in the years allocated. Expenditures are projected at \$49.1 million; \$2.67 million higher, \$1.75 million net Operations. Mr. John Price reported professional and technical services - line item 50300 - considered anything contracted in fiscal services, new software, Fourth Sector Solutions contract, and full year contracts.

On motion by Director Howes and seconded by Director Anderson to approve the fiscal year 2025 budget. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Howes, Anderson, Nealsson, Llorens, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- B. Discussion and approval of University View Academy Learning Collaborative Policy Proposal. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the Learning Collaborative Policy Proposal with Dr. Quentina Timoll and Ms. Melissa Grand. Dr. Timoll reported that the fall initiative Studyville is listed as a vendor and there is no proposed number of students. The contract calls for purchasing time in hours with Studyville with the options of online only and hybrid. Online only would cost \$99,975 total and hybrid \$99,981 total. Dr. Timoll discussed working with Louisiana State University's learning extension collaborative, which would allow students to earn college credit. The Louisiana Department of Education requires the Learning Collaborative policy to list requirements such as tutoring,

tutor, and program, as well as family reporting listed in Act 771. The Learning Collaborative Ms. Melissa Grand reported that the policy must state that parents can withdraw their student from a learning pod. Dr. Timoll stated that efforts will be made to determine parent interest in University View Academy learning collaboratives.

On motion by Director Anderson and seconded by Director Nealsson to approve the Learning Collaborative Policy Draft. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Anderson, Nealsson, Llorens, and Holliday voting in favor. Directors Price and Howes abstained. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- C. Discussion and approval of the Student Handbook. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the Student Handbook with Ms. Melissa Grand. Ms. Grand reported that the AI policy includes new clarification language regarding the academic integrity policy. The consequences for students using AI are clear. New language was added to track Louisiana revised statute 17:416 language for discipline of students, suspension, and expulsion. Additionally, the student fee policy has been amended to satisfy the requirement that University View Academy is required to disclose any fees that will be charged to families. The policy states that students who damage University View Academy devices are subject to student discipline; students are reviewed on a case by case basis. Lastly, language in the student handbook tracks language in Act 680 - Given Name Act. Ms. Grand stated that University View Academy must adopt a policy that addresses the Given Name Act, which states that disciplinary measures can not be used if a student declines to address a student by a preferred name.

On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Anderson to adopt the Student Handbook as presented. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Howes, Anderson, Nealsson, Llorens, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- D. Discussion and approval of the Amended By-laws. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the Amended By-laws with Mr. John Price. Mr. Price stated that there are three classes and proposed that Board members draw to determine who will be in each class. Board President Holliday suggested that this item be deferred to the August meeting.

On motion by Board President Holliday and seconded by Director Price to defer the Amended By-laws to the next Board meeting. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Howes, Anderson, Nealsson, Llorens, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

E. Announcements: Mr. Adams stated that the purchase of the building located at 3112 Valley Creek Drive will close in the first or second week of August. The replacement of windows with doors to add a loading dock have been approved. Additionally, all University View Academy buildings will need to be appraised for insurance projection. Ms. Darah Husser announced that the Louisiana Annual Charter School Conference will be held on December 12th in New Orleans. Board President Holliday and Director Howes requested that the dedication plaque language be investigated.

V. CLOSING ITEMS

A. On motion by Director Price, seconded by Director Nealsson, and carried to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Howes, Anderson, Nealsson, Llorens, and Holliday voting in favor.

CONFERENCE ROOM & ONLINE GUESTS:

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	LOCATION
Katie	Cali	Conference Room
***14 individuals logged in to attend the meeting online.		