

Foundation for Louisiana Students

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
3113 Valley Creek Drive
Baton Rouge, LA
First Floor Conference Room
November 14, 2023

IN COMPLIANCE WITH LOUISIANA OPEN MEETINGS LAW

1. Opening Items

- A. Board President Holliday called the meeting to order at 5:00 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, Dr. Hala Esmail, Ms. Ann Burgin, Ms. Linda Holliday, and Ex-officio member – Dr. Quentina Timoll.

Guests present: Ms. Lekisha Chambers, Mr. Michael Adams, Ms. Darah Husser, Ms. Eugenia Cardozo, Ms. Traci Payne, Mr. Joe Keeney, Mr. Michael Tran, Ms. Krystle Dabney, Ms. Melissa Grand, Ms. Elizabeth Minvielle, Ms. Victoria Tecchie, Mr. Brian Menendez, Mr. Phillip Caire, and Mr. Barry Harris.

Conference Room & Online Guests: See attached list.

- C. On motion by Director Burgin, seconded by Director Esmail, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Agenda for November 14, 2023. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

2. Routine Business

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting for September 26, 2023. On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Burgin, to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

3. Oral Reports

- A. Dr. Quentina Timoll presented the Superintendent Report to include important upcoming dates and current enrollment. Dr. Timoll stated that the strategic planning process began in October with Attuned. The Strategic Plan will be presented at either the January or February Board Meeting. Advisory panel meetings with stakeholders were held with the main objective being to gather

feedback and input from stakeholders. Dr. Timoll recognized Jean Woodside as District Employee of the Month and Circe Bridges for being named Edge•U's October Learning Luminary. UVA was also awarded 2023 Family Favorites by Baton Rouge Parents Magazine in the following categories: Favorite Charter Middle School, Favorite Charter High School, Favorite Charter High School Principal – Sharon Sims, Favorite Charter Elementary School Principal – Christol Williams (runner up), Favorite Charter Middle School Principal – Janna Husser (runner up). Members of UVA's Beta Club recently attended the Beta Club Regional Leadership Summit in Lafayette, Louisiana. UVA's chapter placed as a Leadership Qualifier in the Collaboration Connection challenge and became eligible to compete at Beta's national convention to be held this summer in Savannah, Georgia. The Louisiana DECA Fall Conference was a wonderful experience for our students. We had 9 students who participated in student led workshops, the TeamTri leadership (TeamTri.com) course, dinner etiquette, and competitions. All students received a certificate of completion from TeamTri. During the closing session, competition winners were announced for judges best 1st place which were Brock Sykes and Aniyah Maiden. Also, UVA high schoolers Amelia Sindelar (tenth grade) and Sophie-Grace Segraves (ninth grade) have been accepted into the Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA) of Baton Rouge for the 2023-24 school year. Dr. Timoll informed the Board that UVA currently has 3658 active students and 136 applications are being processed for January enrollment. No vote was taken.

**5:16 p.m. – Dr. Hala Esmail stepped out of the meeting.

- B. Board President Holliday led the Discussion of the Financial Report for September 2023 with Mr. Joe Keeney. Mr. Keeney reviewed the Revenues, Actuals, and Expenses for the period ending September 30, 2023. The current period revenues totaled \$3.6 million and actuals totaled \$11.8 million. \$63,248 was earned from interest from investments for the month of September. The current period expenses totaled \$3.6 million and actuals totaled \$9.7 million. Net surplus for this period totaled \$1.1 million. Mr. Keeney reviewed the balance sheet for the month of September. Assets totaled \$39.1 million, liabilities totaled \$1.3 million, and a total equity of \$37.8 million. No vote was taken.
- C. Board President Holliday presented the Finance Committee report. The Finance Committee meeting was canceled. No vote was taken.
- D. Mr. Barry Harris provided a Status of Current Facility Projects. Mr. Harris stated that the Playground bid was accepted on November 1st and the protest period ends on November 15th. Work will begin shortly after. There are no maintenance issues or projects at the Henderson Building.

Lynx Den: The Flooring finish is complete and A/V equipment is being installed.

Academic Center: Gazebo construction is underway.

Administration Building: Exterior Building lights have been added.

Bennington Building: Demolition scheduled to begin December 1.

**5:34 p.m. – Dr. Hala Esmail returned to the meeting.

4. New Business

- A. Discussion and Approval of the Audit Report. Board President Holliday led the discussion with Ms. Victoria Tecchie and Mr. Brian Menendez from Wegmann Dazet. Ms. Tecchie and Mr. Menendez stated that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of University View Academic as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Overall, the audit report reflected the findings as clean.

On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Esmail to approve the Audit Report. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

*** At this time Board President Holliday requested to take items out of order on the agenda. On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Burgin to move item F – Employee Health/Benefits Insurance Renewal – before item B. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- F. Discussion and Approval of Employee Health/Benefits Insurance Renewal. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the Employee Health/Benefits Insurance Renewal with Ms. Elizabeth Minvielle from Brown and Brown Insurance. Ms. Minvielle reviewed the Market findings and stated that she proposes to continue coverage with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana (current carrier) and Dr. Quentina Timoll supports this proposal.

On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Esmail to approve the proposed Employee Health/Benefits Insurance Renewal for next year. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- B. Discussion and Approval of the 2024 Board Calendar. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the 2024 Board Calendar and amended the calendar so that the Board will meet on the 2nd to last Tuesday of the month. The dates for the 2024 Board meetings are as follows: January 23, February 20, March 19, April 23, May 21, June 25, July 23, August 20, September 24, October 22, November 19, and December 17.

On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Burgin to approve the 2024 Board Calendar as amended. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- C. Discussion and Approval of MFP Stipend Allocation. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the MFP Stipend Allocation with Dr. Quentina Timoll. Dr. Timoll explained that this money was approved by state legislation – \$2,000 for certificated employees and \$1,000 for support staff. This stipend is available for all employees currently employed by UVA. Dr. Timoll is proposing that this stipend be dispersed December 15th.

On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Burgin to approve the MFP Stipend Allocation. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- D. Discussion and Approval of the Pupil Progression Plan. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the Pupil Progression Plan with Ms. Lekisha Chambers. Ms. Chambers stated that the only change from last year's Pupil Progression Plan to this year, is that they will provide more interventions and remediations for Elementary students. The state guidelines require at least 30 hours of remediation to be provided to students.

On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Burgin to approve the Pupil Progression Plan. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- G. Discussion of UVA Performance Score. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the School Performance Score with Ms. Lekisha Chambers. Ms. Chambers stated that UVA currently has an overall school performance score of 68.3 C. She explained that this is an improvement from last year by 4.6 points. Other areas of improvement include the following: Strength of Diploma, ACT, High School Progression index, and Graduation Rate. No vote was taken.

- E. Discussion and Approval of Public Comment Policy Amendment. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the Public Comment Policy Amendment with Mr. Michael Adams. Mr. Adams reviewed the Public Comment Policy and the added proposed virtual meeting policy.

On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Burgin to approve and accept the amended Public Comment Policy. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- H. Discussion and Approval of Administrative Staff Pay Increase. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the Administrative Staff Pay Increase. Board President Holliday stated that it is her and Dr. Quentina Timoll's recommendation to give the Administrative Staff, that is connected to the instructional role, a maximum of 5% raise. Other Support staff will also be receiving a raise as well and this percentage will be determined by Dr. Timoll. Only staff employed before July 1, 2023 will be eligible for this pay raise.

On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Burgin to approve the Administrative Staff Pay Increase of 2-5% and leave it to Dr. Timoll to make that determination. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- I. Discussion and Assignment of Superintendent Evaluation. Board President Holliday led the discussion of the Superintendent Evaluation and explained that a google form will be sent to the Board of Directors to complete once Dr. Timoll has shared her goals. No vote was taken.
- J. Discussion of Board Member Candidate Interest Form. Board President Holiday led the discussion of the Board Member Candidate Interest Form. Director Price provided the following recommendations: Relationship to Student, Title/Job Description, and Interest in serving on a committee. An additional document detailing the Board of Directors expectation will be circulated in the upcoming weeks. No vote was taken.

5. Closing Items

- A. On motion by Director Burgin, seconded by Director Esmail, and carried to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Esmail, Burgin, and Holliday. A request by the Board for public comment was made. No public comment.

Conference Room & Online Guests:

First Name	Last Name	Location
Rhonda	Hall	Conference Room
Stacie	Reed	Conference Room
***13 individuals logged in to attend the meeting online.		