
FOUNDATION FOR LOUISIANA STUDENTS

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
3113 Valley Creek Drive
Baton Rouge, LA
First Floor Conference Room
October 14, 2025

IN COMPLIANCE WITH LOUISIANA OPEN MEETINGS LAW

I. OPENING ITEMS

- A. Board President Holliday called the meeting to order at 5:13 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. William Biessat, Ms. Grace Anderson, Mr. Thomas Nealsson, Dr. Hala Esmail, Mr. John Cavell, and Ms. Linda Holliday.

Guests present: Mr. Michael Tran, Mr. Barry Harris, Ms. Eugenia Cardozo, Ms. Elizabeth Minvielle, Ms. Cherie Mialaret, Ms. Lekisha Chambers, Ms. Melissa Fox, Ms. Krystle Dabney, Mr. Michael Adams, Mr. John Price, Mr. John Cavell, and Ms. Darah Husser.

Conference Room & Online Guests: See attached list.

Board President Holliday welcomed Mr. John Cavell and Mr. William Biessat to the Board of Directors.

- C. On motion by Director Biessat, seconded by Director Anderson, to approve the Regular Board meeting agenda for October 14, 2025 as presented. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Biessat, Anderson, Esmail, Cavell, and Holliday voting in favor. Director Nealsson abstained. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

II. ROUTINE BUSINESS

- A. Approval of Minutes from the September 23, 2025 Regular Board meeting. On motion by Director Anderson and seconded by Director Price, to approve the Regular Board meeting minutes for September 23, 2025. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Anderson, Nealsson, Esmail, and Holliday voting in favor. Directors Biessat and Cavell abstained. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

III. ORAL REPORTS

- A. Ms. Lekisha Chambers presented the Superintendent Report on behalf of Dr.

Quentina Timoll. Ms. Chambers highlighted National Principals Month and recognized Kaleisha London (Elementary), Brandy Garrett (Middle), and Jasmyn Watson (High) for their leadership and dedication. She shared that regularly scheduled student events are now being held at the Lynx Den, where students in grades 3–12 recently enjoyed Esports Free Play, and grades 3–8 participated in Maker Space activities creating LED art while learning about simple circuits. More than 700 participants attended the annual National World War II Museum field trip in New Orleans, the school's largest event, where students and families explored exhibits and engaged with staff. The UVA Culture Club has hosted several staff engagement activities, including Jersey Week, Breast Cancer Awareness initiatives, and a pumpkin carving contest planned for later this month. Ms. Chambers also announced the 2025–2026 Teacher and Support Person of the Year honorees: Christina Holland (Elementary), Kyle Patterson (Middle), Latrisha Franklin (High), and Maci Washington (Support Staff), who will be recognized at the December board meeting. Additionally, Junior Beta Club officers McKenzie Johnson, Bailey Bourgeois, and Saige Johnson attended the Regional Beta Leadership Summit in Lafayette, where they competed in multiple leadership challenges and qualified to advance to the national level in all four categories. Ms. Chambers reported that UVA currently has 3,643 students enrolled. No vote was taken.

- B. Board President Holliday led the Discussion of the Financial Report for September 2025 with Ms. Melissa Fox. Ms. Fox reported on University View Academy's Budget vs. Actuals for the period ending on September 30, 2025. For this period, revenues came in at a total of \$4.6 million, expenditures came in at a total of \$3.6 million. Year to date net surplus came in at a total of \$2.7 million and AFR adjusted surplus is \$26 million. Ms. Fox reviewed the balance sheet for the period ending on September 30, 2025 to include total assets and liabilities. Assets came in at a total of \$46.7 million and liabilities came in at a total of \$987,829. No vote was taken.
- A. Board President Holliday presented the Finance Committee Report. The Finance Committee recommended the availability funds for the Certificated and Support Stipends, Health Insurance Renewal, and Assessment and Learning Center Renovation Change Order #001. No vote was taken.
- C. Governance Committee Chair Thomas Nealsson reported that the Governance Committee does not have anything to report. No vote was taken.
- D. Mr. Barry Harris provided a status update on current facility projects.
 - 1. Lynx Den: Mr. Barry Harris reported that the Solar Canopy Project Phases 2 and 3 are approximately 90% complete. The total contract price for this project is \$405,775.00.

2. Bennington II/ Henderson Fencing: Mr. Barry Harris reported that the pre-bid meeting for the Bennington II/Henderson Fencing Project has been completed. All bids are due on October 15.
3. Assessment and Learning Center: Mr. Barry Harris reported that construction and renovation work at the Assessment and Learning Center is 100% complete, and all occupants have successfully relocated. The total contract price for this project is \$152,108.00.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and Approval of Certificated and Support Stipends. Board President Holliday led the discussion with Ms. Melissa Fox. Board President Holliday led the discussion with Ms. Melissa Fox. Ms. Fox reported that the certificated and support stipend funds totaling \$740,378 were received in September. Last year, the payout was initially scheduled for December 15 but was moved to November 30 to align with the Thanksgiving break and holiday shopping period. This year, the initial recommendation was for a November 15 payout; however, Board President Holliday suggested maintaining the November 30 date for consistency and holiday timing.

On motion by Board President Holliday and seconded by Director Biossat to approve the Certificated and Support Stipends to be paid on November 30, 2025. The motion did not pass through a voice vote with Directors Biossat, Anderson, and Holliday voting in favor. Directors Price, Nealsson, and Esmail denied. Director Cavell abstained.

On motion by Director Nealsson and seconded by Director Esmail to approve the Certificated and Support Stipends to be paid on November 15, 2025. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Biossat, Anderson, Nealsson, Esmail, Cavell, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

- B. Discussion and Approval of Health Insurance Renewal. Board President Holliday led the discussion with Ms. Elizabeth Minvielle with Brown and Brown Insurance. Ms. Minvielle reported that Blue Cross Blue Shield medical renewals remain flat, with no increase in medical rates, while ancillary benefits such as dental, life, and disability will see moderate increases. The overall increase was \$39,000.

On motion by Director Anderson and seconded by Director Cavell to approve the Health Insurance Renewal. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Biossat, Anderson, Nealsson, Esmail, Cavell, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

C. Discussion and Approval of Assessment and Learning Center Renovation Change Order #001. Board President Holliday led the discussion with Mr. Barry Harris. Mr. Harris clarified that Change Order #001 has 3 items totaling \$6,066.91. The change order includes: Item 1 for \$1,105.19 to address chipped concrete, lower a two-inch drain, create a new door pathway, and cap off an unknown pipe; Item 2 for \$1,557.22 to install seven electrical lines for receptacles in two demising walls; and Item 3 for \$3,404.50 to construct a concrete walkway from the parking lot to the entryway to correct a tripping hazard. Mr. Harris explained that the additional concrete work and pipe adjustments were necessary based on site conditions, while the walkway improvement addressed a safety concern. Ms. Fox confirmed that funds are available from capital outlay, noting that the account had already been increased earlier in the year for other projects, such as solar panel procurement.

On motion by Director Price and seconded by Director Nealsson to approve the Assessment and Learning Center Renovation Change Order #001. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Biossat, Anderson, Nealsson, Esmail, Cavell, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

D. Discussion and Completion of Audit Compliance Questionnaire. Board President Holliday led the discussion with Ms. Melissa Fox. Ms. Fox reported that this questionnaire is completed annually and requires Board review and approval.

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

E. Discussion and Approval of Vice President Succession Policy. Board President Holliday led the discussion with Mr. Michael Adams. The board discussed the proposed amendment to the bylaws establishing a vice president succession policy. The amendment clarifies that any vacancy in an officer position due to death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or other reasons may be filled through a special election following the procedures outlined in Article II, Section 3. Specifically, if the office of the president becomes vacant, the vice president will automatically assume the presidency and serve the remainder of the unexpired term. A special election would then be held to fill the vice president's position. The policy formalizes standard succession procedures that align with Robert's Rules of Order, ensuring organizational continuity. During discussion, members confirmed that all officer positions are open for election during the annual meeting each June, and that UVA does not currently have term limits for officer roles.

On motion by Director Anderson and seconded by Director Nealsson to approve the Vice President Succession Policy. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Biossat, Anderson, Nealsson, Esmail, Cavell, and Holliday voting in favor. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

F. Discussion and Approval of Social Media Policy for Board Members. Board President Holliday led the discussion with Mr. Michael Adams. This policy establishes clear boundaries regarding online conduct and representation of the organization. The policy specifies that only the official UVA communications department should post or share information about the school or foundation on social media, ensuring consistency and protecting the entity's reputation. Board members may list their roles on professional networking sites such as LinkedIn but are asked not to reference their board affiliation on personal social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. The goal is to prevent any confusion between members' personal opinions and the official stance of the organization, avoiding potential risks to UVA's credibility and nonprofit status. While some members raised concerns about free speech implications and possible overreach, legal counsel advised that a uniform policy is necessary to minimize exposure and maintain organizational integrity. The board clarified that positive sharing—such as reposting school achievements—was not the intent of the restriction, but gray areas could arise and would be handled on a case-by-case basis.

On motion by Board President Holliday and seconded by Director Anderson to approve the Social Media Policy for Board Members. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Biossat, Anderson, Cavell, and Holliday voting in favor. Directors Esmail and Nealsson denied. A request by the committee for public comment was made. No public comment.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. November Board Meeting Date: November 18, 2025

VI. CLOSING ITEMS

A. On motion by Director Price, seconded by Director Nealsson, and carried to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m. The motion passed through a voice vote with Directors Price, Biossat, Anderson, Nealsson, Esmail, Cavell, and Holliday voting in favor.

CONFERENCE ROOM & ONLINE GUESTS:

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	LOCATION
		Conference Room
25 individuals logged in to attend the meeting online.		