



Public Meeting of the Combined Board of Trustees
for
Universal Alcorn Charter School
Universal Vare Charter School
Universal Audenried Charter High School
Meeting held Virtually via Zoom
January 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Christopher Hill
2. Dr. Patricia Williams-Diaw
3. Keith Pretlow
4. Michael Rice (Joined at 6:45PM)
5. Wendel Holmes

Meeting called to Order at 6:05pm

I. Meeting Minutes

- a. The meeting minutes from December 19, 2023 were reviewed by board members prior to board meeting. Board members discussed and made corrections to the meeting minutes.
 - a. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to accept and approve the December 19, 2023 meeting minutes with additions and corrections.
 - b. Mr. Pretlow made a motion to approve the December 19, 2023 meeting minutes with additions and Corrections and Mr. Holmes second that motion.
 - c. By a unanimous vote the December 19, 2023 meeting minutes were approved.
 - **Board Vote:**
 - **Yes: 5**
 - **No: 0**
 - **Abstain: 0**

II. Committee Reports

i. Financial Report

a. Alcorn Charter School

1. **Profit/Loss and Budget Statement:** Charter Choice financial management consultant. Kevin Corcoran presented the finance report for Alcorn Charter School.
2. Board members were given copies the Alcorn finance report which was reviewed by board members prior to the board meeting.
3. There was discussion amongst board members regarding the Alcorn financial report.
4. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve the Alcorn financial report.
5. Mr. Pretlow made a motion to accept and approve Alcorn finance report and Dr. Diaw second that motion.
6. By a unanimous vote the Alcorn financial report was accepted and approved.
 - **Board Vote:**
 - **Yes: 4**
 - **No: 0**
 - **Abstain: 1- Dr. Diaw Abstain**



b. **Vare Charter School**

1. **Profit/Loss and Budget Statement:** Charter Choice financial management consultant. Kevin Corcoran presented the finance report for Vare Charter School.
2. Board members were given copies the Vare finance report which was reviewed by board members prior to the board meeting.
3. There was discussion amongst board members regarding the Vare financial report.
4. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve the Vare financial report.
5. Dr. Diaw made a motion to accept and approve Vare finance report and Mr. Pretlow second that motion.
6. By a unanimous vote the Vare Financial Report was accepted and approved.

➤ **Board Vote:**

- **Yes: 5**
- **No: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

c. **Audenried Charter High School**

1. **Profit/Loss and Budget Statement:** Charter Choice financial management consultant. Kevin Corcoran presented the finance report for Audenried Charter School.
2. Board members were given copies the Audenried finance report which was reviewed by board members prior to the board meeting.
3. There was discussion amongst board members regarding the Audenried financial report.
4. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve the Audenried financial report.
5. Mr. Pretlow made a motion to accept and approve Audenried finance report and Dr. Diaw second that motion.
6. By a unanimous vote the Audenried Financial report was accepted and approved.

➤ **Board Vote:**

- **Yes: 5**
- **No: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

ii. **Academic Committee Report**

- a. Dr. Diaw gave an oral update on the academic committee.
 - a. Dr. Diaw is retiring as the Academic Committee Chair
 - b. Mr. Pretlow was nominated as the new Chair of the academic committee.

iii. **HR Committee Reports**

b. **Alcorn Charter School**

1. Dr. Nixon presented the HR report for Alcorn Charter School, on behalf of the Chief Operating Officer.
2. Board members were given copies the Alcorn HR report which was reviewed by board members prior to the board meeting.
3. The HR report included:
 - Current vacancies for the 2023-2024 School year
 - 2023-2024 Terminations and Resignations
 - New Hires and Salaries for 2023-2024 school years



4. There was discussion amongst board members regarding the Alcorn HR report.
5. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve the Alcorn HR report.
6. Dr. Diaw made a motion to accept and approve Alcorn HR report and Mr. Pretlow second that motion.
7. By a unanimous vote the Alcorn HR report were accepted and approved.

➤ **Board Vote:**

- **Yes: 4**
- **No: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

b. Vare Charter School

1. Dr. Nixon presented the HR report for Vare Charter School on behalf of the Chief Operating Officer.
2. Board members were given copies the Vare HR report which was reviewed by board members prior to the board meeting.
3. The HR report included:
 - Current vacancies for the 2023-2024 School year
 - 2023-2024 Terminations and Resignations
 - New Hires and Salaries for 2023-2024 school years
4. There was discussion amongst board members regarding the Vare HR report.
5. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve the Vare HR report.
6. Mr. Pretlow made a motion to accept and approve Vare HR report and Dr. Diaw second that motion.
7. By a unanimous vote the Vare HR report were accepted and approved

➤ **Board Vote:**

- **Yes: 4**
- **No: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

c. Audenried Charter High School

1. Dr. Nixon presented the HR report for Audenried Charter School on behalf of the Chief Operating Officer.
2. Board members were given copies the Audenried HR report which was reviewed by board members prior to the board meeting.
3. The HR report included:
 - Current vacancies for the 2023-2024 School year
 - 2023-2024 Terminations and Resignations
 - New Hires and Salaries for 2023-2024 school years
4. There was discussion amongst board members regarding the Audenried HR report.
5. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve the Audenried HR report.
6. Mr. Pretlow made a motion to accept and approve Audenried HR report and Dr. Diaw second that motion.
7. By a unanimous vote the Audenried HR report were accepted and approved.

➤ **Board Vote:**

- **Yes: 4**
- **No: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**



iv. **Facilities Committee Reports**

a. Alcorn Charter School

1. Lawrence Threadgill Presented the facilities report for Alcorn Charter School.
2. Board members were given copies the Alcorn facilities report which was reviewed by board members prior to the board meeting.
3. There was discussion amongst board members regarding the Alcorn facilities report.
4. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve the Alcorn facilities report.
5. Dr. Diaw made a motion to accept and approve Alcorn facilities report and Mr. Pretlow second that motion.
6. By a unanimous vote the Alcorn facilities report were accepted and approved.
 - **Board Vote:**
 - **Yes: 5**
 - **No: 0**
 - **Abstain: 0**

b. Vare Charter School

1. Lawrence Threadgill Presented the facilities report for Vare Charter School.
2. Board members were given copies the Vare facilities report which was reviewed by board members prior to the board meeting.
3. There was discussion amongst board members regarding the Vare facilities report.
4. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve the Vare facilities report.
5. Mr. Holmes made a motion to accept and approve Vare facilities report and Dr. Diaw second that motion.
6. By a unanimous vote the Vare facilities report were accepted and approved.
 - **Board Vote:**
 - **Yes: 5**
 - **No: 0**
 - **Abstain: 0**

c. Audenried Charter High School

1. Lawrence Threadgill Presented the facilities report for Audenried Charter School.
2. Board members were given copies the Audenried facilities report which was reviewed by board members prior to the board meeting.
3. There was discussion amongst board members regarding the Audenried facilities report.
4. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve the Audenried facilities report.
5. Dr. Diaw made a motion to accept and approve Audenried facilities report and Mr. Pretlow second that motion.
6. By a unanimous vote the Audenried facilities report were accepted and approved.
 - **Board Vote:**
 - **Yes: 5**
 - **No: 0**
 - **Abstain: 0**



III. Presentations

i. Central Office Report

1. Dr. Nixon presented the 2024-2025 school budget process for Alcorn, Vare and Audenried.
2. The annual budget exercise at its core is a statement of Universal's values and core beliefs.
3. School budgets are a first step in a comprehensive assessment of strategies that must be considered for the long-term success for Universal schools.
4. Each school's Academic Plan and current academic and non-academic data will be used to inform staffing and programmatic decisions to ensure that schools are investing in effective staff and programs that will yield improved academic results.
5. The 2024-2025 school budgets must build on a plan that will position the Universal Family of Schools to be stronger and to serve as a leader in urban public education.
6. There was some discussion regarding the Central Office report
7. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to approve the Central Office Report.
8. Dr. Diaw made a motion to approve the Central Office Report and Mr. Pretlow second that motion.
9. By a unanimous vote the Central Office Report was approved.

➤ **Board Vote:**

- **Yes: 5**
- **No: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

IV. Board Action Items

i. Universal Aunderied Charter School

a. Resolution AU23-24-014: Technology Purchase Request: SHI

1. Mr. Hill asked for a motion to accept and approve Resolution AU23-24-014
2. Mr. Holmes made a motion to accept and approve Resolution AU23-24-014 and Mr. Pretlow second that motion.
3. By a majority vote Resolution AU23-24-014 was approved.

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the execution, delivery, and performance by Universal Community Holmes, through the Chief Operating Officer or her designee, of a purchase of 85 Chromebooks from **SHI** in an amount not to exceed **\$21,250** for Audenried

➤ **Board Vote:**

- **Yes: 5**
- **No: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

V. Public Comments

- a. There were no public comments.

VI. New Business

a. Board Vacancy Nomination

- i. The Board discussed the vacancy for new board members.
- ii. Dr. Diaw made a motion to nominate Trumell Lamb to be a board member of the Combined Board of Trustees for Universal Alcorn, Vare and Audenried Charter Schools. Mr. Pretlow second that motion.



- iii. By a majority vote the motion to nominate Trumell Lamb as a board member of the Combined Board of Trustees for Universal Alcorn, Vare and Audenried Charter Schools was accepted and approved.

➤ **Board Vote:**

- **Yes: 5**
- **No: 0**
- **Abstain: 0**

VII. Adjournment

- a. Mr. Pretlow made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Holmes second that motion.
- b. By unanimous vote the motion to adjourn passed.
- c. The meeting concluded at 7:30 p.m.

