Uplift Education Board Meeting Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. Location: CMO – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room 1825 Market Center Blvd., Dallas, TX 75207

## Called to Order: 4:35 p.m.

## <u>Uplift Board Members Present \*:</u>

## Adjourned: 6:45 p.m.

1. Melissa McNeil 8. Cathleen Crews 2. Ryan Moss 9. Christine Frary 3. Ardo Fuentes 10. George Conant 4. Randy Ray 11. Carol Proffer 5. Richard Frapart 12. Cristina Barbosa 6. Dawn Mann 13. Abby Williams 7. Josh Terry 14. Brice Tarzwell 15. Cullum Clark 16. Ed Tauriac

\*Voting members: **Bold** 

## **Uplift Staff Present:**

- 1. Yasmin Bhatia
- 2. Rich Harrison
- 3. Deborah Bigham
- 4. Alex Berk
- 5. Remy Washington
- 6. Anne Erickson
- 7. Mya Baker
- 8. Whitney Hurwitz
- 9. Samina Noorani
- 10. Amanda Dudley

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS	ACTIONS	ACTION FOLLOW-UP
I. Call to Order And Announcements	A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by the chair, M. McNeil. Y. Bhatia welcomed campus leaders and managing directors present. No other announcements were made.		
II. Consent Agenda	The minutes from the January 31, 2017, meeting were reviewed by the Board.	Upon motion made by J. Terry and seconded by R. Moss, the Board unanimously approved the minutes as written.	
III. Regular Report – Strategic Investment Plan Update – Invest Internally in Our People, Schools and Systems – Academic Report	Academic Report: R. Harrison gave a summary of the academic report included in the pre-read to the Board, including a report on his Executive Summary and a review of STAAR predictions, EOC reporting, college persistence, college applications, and MAP appendix.  *STAAR predictions. Identified were schools at risk of not achieving Index 1. It was noted that 3 months		

of instruction remain in the school year. The Board reviewed the schools at risk and discussed this data compared with prior school years. Y. Bhatia noted that more work with a strategic partner, as well as a full-time senior staff member, is part of the attention being given to the Meridian campus. The Board reviewed and discussed data comparing new scholars and scholars enrolled with Uplift for three or more years, generally, as well as  $6^{th}$  graders, specifically. A discussion was had regarding the North Hills Campus and whether it skews the data. Y. Bhatia noted that the impact is approximately 1-2 percentage points and not significant. She also noted that next year, 6<sup>th</sup> grade at North Hills will be completely "home grown." R. Harrison reviewed, and the Board discussed, schools forecasted to improve their Level 2 Recommended and Advanced levels.

\*EOC Reporting. Noting it is required by TEA, R. Harrison reviewed EOC retest results and made clear that most testers are re-testers and make up a small percent of Uplift's enrollment.

\*College Persistence. R. Harrison reviewed college persistence rates beginning with the year 2011. The Board discussed possible causes of "Not Persisting" rates, the effect of attendance at local institutions and 2-year community colleges on persistence, relationship between ACT scores and persistence. R. Harrison explained, and the Board discussed, matriculation rates, comparison with ISDs, and alumni support.

\*College Applications. R. Harrison reviewed college application rates for the class of 2017, average GPA and ACT scores, and "selective" and "competitive" colleges. The Board discussed "selective" colleges, HBCUs, and what a formal relationship with a college looks like and how it is developed.

III. Regular Report –
Strategic Investment
Plan Update – Invest
Internally in Our
People, Schools and
Systems – Finance
Update

<u>Finance Update.</u> Y. Bhatia provided the finance update, including a review of the Finance Dashboard, attendance, budget and PSF application and resolution.

Attendance. Y. Bhatia addressed the February 16, 2017, day of protest and effect on attendance and lost revenue. On February 15, 2017, attendance was 95.9%. On February 16, 2017, attendance was 83.3%. On February 17, 2017, attendance was 95.8%. The drop in attendance caused an approximate revenue loss of \$100,000.00. Y. Bhatia noted that campuses have been creative in addressing protests, such as having on-campus protests.

	Budget. Y. Bhatia reminded the Board that in September and October Uplift receives a bubble payment(s), but then the amount of revenue from the State decreases. Y. Bhatia made clear that even at the lowest revenue point, Uplift is not in danger. Y. Bhatia then reviewed the budget calendar for fiscal year 2018 and its relationship to hiring.		
V. Action Items: Approve Permanent School Fund (PSF) application for anticipated bond transaction	PSF. Y. Bhatia described the Permanent School Fund and related guarantee of bonds and its application to Uplift. The related PSF resolution was then presented to the Board.	Upon motion made by R. Ray and seconded by J. Terry, the Board unanimously approved the PSF resolution.	
IV. Information Items: College Signing Day – Tailgate event	D. Bigham discussed the 7 <sup>th</sup> annual college signing day event and related sponsorship opportunities. It was noted that the ideal deadline for sponsorship is three weeks before the event.		
IV. Information Items: Legislative Update	Y. Bhatia presented the legislative update. Legislation specifically reviewed and discussed by the Board was HB 1269, SB 457, HB 2337, HB 467, and HB 2051. Yasmin reviewed Board advocacy, including contacting House and Senate Committee members and the March 30 Board trip to Austin.		
IV. Information Items: Board Diversity Statement	A. Fuentes presented on a proposed Board diversity statement drafted by the Governance Committee and requested feedback over the next 2-3 weeks. The Board will vote on the statement at the next Board meeting.		
V. Action Items: Elect new trustees	Cameron Johnson. A. Fuentes introduced Cameron Johnson to the Board and formally recommended him, on behalf of the Governance Committee, as a member of the Board of Trustees. R. Ray spoke on behalf of Cameron Johnson as well.  Brice Tarzwell. A Fuentes notified the Board of Brice Tarzwell expressing interest in serving as the Chair of the White Rock Hills Advisory Council recommended him, on behalf of the Governance Committee, to serve in that role.	Upon motion made by R. Ray and seconded by A. Fuentes, the Board unanimously approved Cameron Johnson as a member of the Board of Trustees.  Upon motion made by A. Fuentes and seconded by J. Terry, the Board unanimously approved Brice Tarzwell to serve as the	

		Rock Hills Advisory Council.	
IV. Information Items: Network facilities update	R. Ray reviewed, and the Board discussed, the dashboard building schedule and campus feeder patterns through August 2021.		
V. Action Items: Approve Purchase Sale Agreement for Forest Hills Drive property	R. Ray reviewed the purchase-sale agreement for the Forest Hills Drive property. R. Ray stated the purchase price is 1.6 million with \$10K in earnest money and that the Agreement is Uplift's standard Agreement form. R. Ray explained that the goal is to have property located wholly within the City of Fort Worth and that to do otherwise could have a negative consequence on the neighboring Everman ISD, who we want to have positive relationship with.  The Board discussed the rationale for having the property located wholly within the City of Fort Worth, identified preference zip code(s), and the relationship with Everman ISD and whether Uplift expects to enroll Everman students.  R. Ray notified the Board that the Facilities Committee is seeking authority to proceed with negotiating and executing the purchase-sale agreement.	Upon motion made by R. Ray and seconded by A. Fuentes, the Board unanimously authorized the Facilities Committee to proceed with negotiating and executing the purchase-sale agreement.	
VI. Open Forum Community Comment	There were no community members present.		
VII. Adjournment	There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.		

Respectfully submitted, Alexander S. Berk, Senior Director of Legal Affairs and acting Secretary for this Board meeting.