



**Minutes of the Board of Directors
February 16, 2022**

The meeting was convened by Kelly Braverman at 5:00 P.M via Zoom. Roll call was taken, the following were present:

Board:

Kelly Braverman	Madeline Priest
Alex Choi	Alex Simonton
Bill Harris	Matt Tait
Mike Mason	Aaron Williamson
Mike North	

Votes were taken by verbal role call for each topic requiring a vote. All Motions were carried unanimously by all board members in attendance.

Staff/Others:

Kelly Herron, USI Executive Director	Jessica Parson, VAR-EL Principal
Jessica Kohlmeyer, Director of Academics	Bilen Mulugeta, VAR-MS Principal
Janie Seivers, Director of Business Affairs	Chrystal Westerhaus, AMMS Principal
Sean Dunlavy, Director of Development	Kandis Pearson, AMA Principal
Aaron Teater, Office of Education Innovation	Laura Burton, USI Business Manager

Public Comments:

Connect To Purpose:

Mrs. Westerhaus shared the details of Coin Wars, a fundraising event hosted at AMMS in December. The purpose of the fundraiser is to help support local families during the holiday season. This year was the biggest year ever, raising \$1500, nearly 4x more than years past. Twelve families benefited from the event including one current AMMS family and the family of a former AMMS student. In future years AMMS will invite the board to participate, should they so choose.

Approval of Minutes

The November 29, 2021 Public Meeting minutes were presented.

MOTION: Approve the minutes, as presented.

Bill Harris made the motion, Madeline Priest seconded. Motion carried.



Finance Committee Brief:

UNITED SCHOOLS OF INDIANAPOLIS
Financial Statement Summary
For Period Ending December 31, 2021

Cash on Hand:	3,737,404			
Investments:	<u>184,149</u>			
Total Funds Available:	3,921,552			
Restricted:	563,089			
Unrestricted	3,358,463			
		Days Cash on Hand		
		All Funds	Unrestricted	
		(OEI)	(Bond)	
		AMA: 142	101	
		VAR: 144	110	
		AMMS: 125	85	
		USI: 64	15	
		Consolidated: 133	95	
Outstanding Receivables:	636,523	Projected 6/30/22 DCOH:	95	
Outstanding Payables:	277,241	Debt Service Coverage projection:		
		Projected for 6/30/22:	1.58	
Net Operating Income:				
Avondale Meadows	333,130	Budgeted:	223,349	
Vision Academy	428,207	Budgeted:	249,103	
Avondale Meadows MS	62,673	Budgeted:	(24,133)	
USI	<u>(48,534)</u>	Budgeted:	<u>(41,692)</u>	
Consolidated	775,476	Budgeted:	406,627	

REVENUE:
- State Basic Support is reconciled to Sept ADM count x actual per pupil
- Private Funding is behind budget

EXPENSES:
- Staff Training is over budget due to timing
- All other categories are within 10% of budget

CASH TRANSFERS:
AMA transferred 100K from Education fund to Debt Service fund
AMA transferred 100K from Education fund to Operations fund
AMMS transferred 150K from Education fund to Debt Service fund
AMMS transferred 100K from Education fund to Operations fund
VAR transferred 300K from Education fund to Debt Service fund
VAR transferred 175K from Education fund to Operations fund

**MOTION: Motion to accept the December 31, 2021 financials, as presented.
Michael North made the motion, Aaron Williamson seconded. Motion carried.**

Finance Committee – HVAC Recommendation

At 16 years old, AMA is in need of a new HVAC system. This is the ideal time to purchase a new system as we can use the federal ESSER funds to support this upgrade. At the recommendation of Bill McCarthy, we hired a mechanical engineer from Freije Engineered Solutions (FES) to help us determine the right type of HVAC system needed. We currently contract with FES for our Preventative Maintenance agreements at all three schools and are extremely satisfied with the services received.

Carvis provided the mechanical drawings of the building and did a walkthrough of the building with their engineers and techs and was able to identify for them the areas that work well and those that are troublesome in our current system. They concluded that we need new units and controls but the duct work we have in place is 95% effective. They also discussed pros and cons of the different types of systems available and the long-term costs associated with each.



In the end, the system we installed when building AMMS is ultimately what we want to put in AMA. The cost of the units are not the cheapest but rather are "best value". The maintenance required is basic which would not require specialized technicians for maintenance in years to come.

The FES mechanical engineer drafted an RFP for us to post on our website and distribute to three specific contractors, allowing for an apples-to-apples bid. Of the three, only two responded with a bid. Both bids were comparable and seemed extremely knowledgeable and competent. FES provided the lowest cost.

It is our recommendation that we contract with Freije Engineered Services to replace the HVAC system at AMA. The total cost of the project is currently quoted at \$544K. Once we sign the contract, FES can begin ordering the equipment and give us a timeline of what to expect. Currently, the lead time on equipment is ~ 16 weeks. We included \$200k for the capital expense in the FY22 budget and will include the remaining \$325K in FY23. We have confirmed with Greenwalt that we are allowed to split the expense over two fiscal years, based on how the project unfolds.

MOTION: Motion to approve the contract to replace the HVAC system at AMA, as presented.

Bill Harris made the motion, Aaron Williamson seconded. Motion carried.

Governance Committee Brief:

- The governance committee is working on the slate of officers for upcoming year and will present them at the Annual Meeting in May.
- Bill Harris and Kelly Herron will be attending a board member recruitment event on 3/16. We are seeking potential board members focusing on HR, Public Relations, and Marketing.

Development Committee:

Year End Giving

USI received several year-end contributions totaling \$114,500. The largest contribution was from the Perkins Malo Hunter Foundation for \$100,000.

Giving Tuesday Results

November 22, 2021 marked the beginning of USI's Philanthropy Week. One week each year, The United Schools of Indianapolis community unites to support our schools and highlight the importance of philanthropy and its role in educating our future leaders. Philanthropy week concluded with a big celebration on GivingTuesday - November 30th. The following are financial results from Philanthropy Week:

Total Raised:	\$8,700
Number of Gifts:	17
Average Gift:	\$511

16 Tech Grant

Vision Academy received a \$15,000 grant from 16 Tech to provide STEM programming during the summer and after-school. 16 Tech is an "innovation district" located in the Riverside Community and strives to bring together entrepreneurs, academics, startups, corporations, and community members in a single place dedicated to collaboration and creative problem-solving. 16 Tech established a Community Investment Fund to ensure access, opportunity and revitalization of neighborhoods near 16 Tech Innovation District.

With this grant Vision Academy plans to expand its out-of-school programming during the school year to include unique STEM classes like "Code Black Coding and Creators Camp: Experimental STEAM Learning" for 3rd through 8th grade students. The goal of this project is to introduce new science, technology, engineering and math concepts to our students and empower them with the skills to succeed and adapt to this increasingly complex, changing, technological world.



Building Minds...Changing Lives Event

The *Building Minds...Changing Lives Gala* will be held at Vision Academy on Thursday, May 12. This exciting evening celebrates our incredible teachers and amazing students, and honors Rose Mays with the USI “Making a Difference” Community Service Award. Proceeds will enhance USI’s academic programming, and attendees have an opportunity to help our students by supporting specific projects at our schools.

Academic Committee:

Avondale Campus Restructure:

For the 2022-23 school year we propose that a restructure of the grade configuration at the Avondale Meadows campus.

- AMA – Kindergarten – 4th
 - AMMS – 5th – 8th
1. The complexity of the state standards continues to increase each year. The intermediate model allows:
 - 5th grade students an academic model that provides explicit instruction in Science and Social Studies
 - Teachers to develop content expertise in one content area
 2. Provides students with gradual release of transitions to better prepare them for the middle school model
 3. Network model is consistent across campuses:
 - Elementary: K-4
 - Middle School: 5-8
 4. AMMS increased enrollment will allow the school to hire additional intervention and elective staff
 5. AMA will have additional space and can begin exploring a Pre-K option to increase enrollment campus wide.

MOTION: Motion to approve the restructuring of the Avondale Meadows campus, as presented.

Mike Mason made the motion, Madeline Priest seconded. Motion carried.

2022-23 School Calendar

The most significant changes to the proposed 22-23 school calendar are:

- 2 Parent/Teacher Conference Days become asynchronous learning days
 - Students will take home laptops/work packets
- 2 less days in teacher contract – total: 191 – average = 190

MOTION: Motion to approve 2022-23 school calendar, as presented.

Bill Harris made the motion, Mike Mason seconded. Motion carried.



School Dashboards

AMA

High: School culture is good; great participation and feedback from the book study; students are already implementing new strategies being taught as a result of the book study.

Low: Attendance is down as a direct result of COVID

AMMS

High: School culture and student engagement are soaring, even walk-thru evaluators noticed!

Low: Suspension rate is too high and hurts!

VAR-MS

High: New changes to tutoring program is producing immediate results for previous overlooked scholars.

Low: Suspension rates aren't too high but every one of them hurts regardless!

VAR-EL

High: The book study has realigned the staff toward a common goal for student expectations.

Low: Student engagement is lower as a direct result of higher expectations.

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

ATTEST: 
Matt Tait, Board Secretary

05/05/2022

Date

Appendix A

United Schools of Indianapolis 2022-2023 School Calendar

July 2022				
M	T	W	T	F
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
NT	NT	NT	NT	22
PD	PD	PD	PD	29

July 2022

18-21- New Teacher Orientation
25-28-Full Staff PD
28- Back to School BBQ

August 2022				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

August 2022

2- First Day of School for ALL students

September 2022				
M	T	W	T	F
				1 PD
X	8	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

September 2022

2-PD Day; No Students
5-Labor Day; No School
6 -Midterm Progress Reports
30 - End of 1st Quarter

October 2022				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
X	X	X	X	X
PD	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

October 2022

7 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
1st Qtr Report Cards
Asynchronous Learning Day
10-14 - Fall Break; No School
17 PD Day; No Students

November 2022				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	X	X	X
28	29	30		

November 2022

11- Midterm Progress Reports
23-25 - Thanksgiving Break;
No School

December 2022				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X

December 2022

20- End of 2nd Quarter
21-31 Winter Break; No School



182 Student Days
191 Teacher Days

January 2023

4 - School Resumes
6- 2nd Quarter Report Cards
16 - MLK Day; No School

January 2023				
M	T	W	T	F
X	X	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
X	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

February 2023

13- Midterm Progress Reports
17 - PD Day; No Students
20 - Presidents' Day; No School

February 2023				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	PD
X	21	22	23	24
27	28			

March 2023

10 - End of 3rd Quarter
24- Parent/Teacher Conference Day
3rd Quarter Report Cards
Asynchronous Learning Day
27-31 - Spring Break; No School

March 2023				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
X	X	X	X	X

April 2023

3 - PD Day; No Students
4 - School Reconvenes
21 - Midterm Progress Reports

April 2023				
M	T	W	T	F
PD	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

May 2023

24- Last Day for Students
Half Day; Noon Dismissal
End of 4th Quarter
25 - Teacher Work Day
29- Memorial Day

May 2023				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
X	30	31		

June 2023

1- 4th Quarter Report Cards Mailed
19- Juneteenth; Schools Closed

June 2023				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
X	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30