



Minutes of the Board of Directors
January 27, 2025

The meeting was convened by Bill Harris at 4:04 p.m. at Avondale Meadows Middle School. The following were present:

Board:

Jake Crouch	Ross Ridge
Bill Harris	Jetta Vaughn - Phone
Sarah Lofton	Aaron Williamson
Abby McDonough - Phone	** Carlston Elliott
	** Marielle Rujevcan

Votes were taken by verbal role call for each topic requiring a vote. All Motions were carried unanimously.

Staff/Others:

Kelly Herron, Executive Director	Aunye Hockett, Principal, AMA
Kandis Pearson, Director of Academics	Alycia Villecco, Principal, VAR-EL
Sean Dunlavy, Director of Development	Mark Simon, Principal, AMMS
Kristen Stratton, Director of Student Services	Tammy Chaney – Milestone Accounting (Phone)
Janie Seivers, Director of Business Affairs	

Public Comments:

Connect To Purpose:

January is Board Appreciation month allowing the USI team to take a moment to express their appreciation for the ongoing support the Board offers.

Approval of Minutes

The November 25, 2024 board meeting minutes were presented.

MOTION: Approve the September 2024 minutes as presented.
Jacob Crouch made the motion, Ross Ridge seconded. Motion carried.

Development Committee:

- 2025 Building Minds . . . Changing Lives – May 1, 2025

AMMS Room Table Capacity:	25 Tables
Table Sales Goal:	20 Tables
Cost to Sponsor a Table:	\$1,500
Table Purchase Benefits:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name/logo in event program and event signage • One (1) table of 10 guests which will include One (1) USI teacher and one (1) student
Other Sponsorship Opportunities:	Presenting Dinner Sponsor (\$10,000) Cocktail Party Sponsor (\$5,000) Classroom Sponsor (\$2,500)

- USI is struggling to receive our mail from the USPS. To date we have estimated this to impact ~ \$250K in year-end giving.



Finance Committee Brief:

Cash on Hand:	3,749,372		
Investments:	152,083		
Total Funds Available:	3,901,455		
Restricted net of OEI/Vital:	401,876		
Unrestricted	3,499,579		
		Days Cash on Hand	
		All Funds (OEI)	Unrestricted (Bond)
		AMA: 127	97
		VAR: 126	91
		AMMS: 119	87
		USI: 78	36
		Consolidated: 120	87
Outstanding Receivables:	743,155		
Outstanding Payables:	177,858		
		Debt Service Coverage projection:	
		Budgeted for 6/30/25:	1.33
		Projected for 6/30/25:	1.42
		Required:	1.10
Net Operating Income:			
Avondale Meadows	544,142	Budgeted:	466,106
Vision Academy	501,992	Budgeted:	596,234
Avondale Meadows MS	231,543	Budgeted:	110,042
USI	(18,517)	Budgeted:	35,201
Consolidated	1,259,160		1,207,582
REVENUE:			
- Overall Revenue: under budget by \$55k			
- Private Funding: under budget by \$78k			
- Federal Funding: over budget by \$92k			
- State Funding: under budget by \$158k			
- Overall Net Income (Loss) is \$759k and under budget by \$448k; however, \$500k of expenses were paid from VITAL Gift Trust. <i>Overall Net Income excluding VITAL Gift expenses is \$52k over budget</i>			
EXPENSES:			
- Overall expenses are \$394k over budget; however, \$500k of expenses were paid from VITAL Gift Trust.			
CASH TRANSFERS:			
09/30/2024 - Cash transfer of \$50k was made from AMMS to VAR to align DCOH by location			
12/31/2024 - Fund 0900 is no longer valid - cash was transferred to Fund 0101			
12/31/2024 - Cash transfer of \$100k was made from AMA, AMMS and VAR to USI			

MOTION: Motion to approve the December 31, 2024 Financials, as presented.
Aaron Williamson made the motion. Sarah Lofton seconded. Motion carried.

- **Early Literacy Grant**

The Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE's) Early Literacy Achievement Grant was established through House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1001-2023, to reward schools and teachers for improving students' foundational reading skills, as evidenced by IREAD-3 data.

Early Literacy Achievement Grant funds shall be allocated among and used only to pay cash stipends to teachers, instructional coaches, and other school staff who were responsible for implementation and delivery of literacy and reading instruction through grade three during the 2023-2024 school year and who maintain employment within the corporation/charter school on the date of distribution.

According to the guidance from the DOE - "Distribution of the Early Literacy Achievement Grant should be approved by the local governing body." United Schools of Indianapolis will distribute this award to all K-3 staff who were responsible for reading instruction through grade three including classroom teachers, resource teachers, intervention teachers and literacy coaches.

- Avondale Meadows Academy: \$11720.99 to be distributed to 14 staff members
- Vision Academy: \$6389.41 to be distributed to 11 staff members

MOTION: Motion to distribute Early Literacy Grant funds as presented.
Ross Ridge made the motion. Sarah Lofton seconded. Motion carried.



Governance Committee Brief:

- Two new board members were presented as official members of the board. Each has been serving on a committee as an introduction to USI.
 - Carlston Elliott – Development Committee

MOTION: Motion to approve Carlston Elliott as a board member.
 Aaron Williamson made the motion. Ross Ridge seconded. Motion carried.

- Marielle Rujevcan – Finance Committee

MOTION: Motion to approve Marielle Rujevcan as a board member.
 Ross Ridge made the motion. Aaron Williamson seconded. Motion carried.



- The OEI Board Recruitment event is coming soon. We plan to attend and seek to meet new potential board members.
- Strategic Planning is underway and going well. We are extremely pleased with Education Elements leading the process.

Academic Committee:




- 2025-26 School Calendar was presented for approval

MOTION: Motion to approve the 2025-26 school calendar, as presented.
 Aaron Williamson made the motion. Ross Ridge seconded. Motion carried.

- Mid-year testing results were presented and discussed. The Academic Committee will review the data and share a report at the January board meeting.

<p>Math Data</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Math Data Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiency is higher than last winter. (K-2- stayed the same) • 5th-8th on track to make personal growth goal • 3rd-8th on track to make high growth goal. • Exceptional Learners proficiency is higher than last winter and spring. </div>	<p>ILEARN Reading Data</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOY 3rd Grade proficiency is where we ended after Summer Retest • 2nd grade proficiency is 25% higher than last year’s Spring IREAD data. </div>
<p>Dibels Assessment</p>	

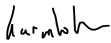


<p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st- 3rd proficiency is 8% higher than last year's end of year proficiency. K-3 growth is 4% higher than end of year last year. 	<p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Root Causes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The decline in math proficiency could be a reflection of an increase in new teachers. 3 of 4 schools have had increase in new teachers and staffing vacancies. ELA proficiency and growth gains are products of our Early Literacy focus and partnership with LIT. We initiated our USI Response to Intervention (RTI) protocol, which focuses on identifying students across the network who are performing below grade level and determining the specific learning gaps that need to be addressed This year, only 48% of exceptional learners were enrolled in the same school last year.
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<p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Plan of Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Math: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network wide math practice clinics instructional practices Continue to provide coach support on utilizing our instructional system protocols Differentiated meeting structures to provide targeted, individualized development for all teachers Literacy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide literacy practice clinics on instructional practices Continue to provide coach support on utilizing our instructional system protocols Continue work with LIT on Cycle goals Differentiated meeting structures to provide targeted, individualized development for all teachers 	

School Dashboards

<p>Principal Highs and Lows</p> <p><u>AMA</u> High: School culture is improving! Only 6 first responder calls today! Low: Proficiency scores are still not where they need to be.</p>
<p><u>AMMS</u> High: Good school culture is showing impact on OSS numbers and proficiency scores. Low: Attendance.</p>
<p><u>VAR-EL</u> High: IREAD data is pointing toward promising EOY results proving interventions are working. Low: Proficiency scores are still not where they need to be.</p>
<p><u>VAR-MS</u> High: Growth data is encouraging and proves what we are doing is working. Low: Proficiency scores are still not where they need to be.</p>

The meeting moved into and Executive Session pursuant to IC 5-14-15-6.1(b)(5) to receive information about prospective employees. Meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

ATTEST:  04/04/2025
 Aaron Williamson, Secretary Date