UNITED SCHOOLS OF INDIANAPOLIS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Official Record | August 10, 2026

DATE	August 10, 2026	**LOCATION**	Vision Academy at Riverside (VAR)
CALL TO ORDER	4:04 p.m.	**ADJOURN MENT**	5:31 p.m.
FORMAT	In person and via Google Meet	**QUORUM**	Present

1. Attendance

Board members present: Jake Crouch; Carlston Elliott; Bill Harris; Abby McDonough; Mariele Rujevcan; Ross Ridge; and Jetta Vaughn.

Present remotely: Ross Ridge via Google Meet.

Arrival noted: Jetta Vaughn arrived at 4:27 p.m. and did not participate in the votes taken before her arrival.

Not present: Sarah Lofton and David Starkey.

USI leaders and guests referenced in the meeting record: Darius Adamson; Dr. Corye Franklin; Kristen Stratton; Laura Burton; Dr. Camille Darden; Victoria Jackson-Dinkins; Aunye Hockett; Carvis Herron; Ciara Jones; Dr. Christina Thurman; Tammy Chaney; and other invited staff and guests.

2. Board Action Items

The Board considered the following matters. Each motion was seconded and carried.

Action	Motion by	Second by	Result
Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes	Jake Crouch	Carlston Elliott	Carried
Approval of Financials	Jake Crouch	Carlston Elliott	Carried
Approval of Milestone Human Resource Services Contract	Jake Crouch	Carlston Elliott	Carried
Approval of Central Indiana Transportation Services Contract	Carlston Elliott	Jake Crouch	Carried

3. Connect to Purpose

Opening of School. Dr. Corye Franklin reported on the Rock the Block community event, the July 31 back-to-school barbecue, and the first day of school kickoff. Mr. Adamson noted that representatives from The Mind Trust and Fox News were scheduled to visit Avondale Meadows Middle School on August 11.

4. Finance Committee

Financials

The preliminary June 30, 2026 financial statements showed $5.02 million in total funds available, including $924,283 in unrestricted funds, and 151 consolidated days cash on hand. The projected debt-service coverage ratio was 2.26, above the 1.10 requirement, while outstanding receivables and payables were $138,153 and $80,977, respectively. Consolidated revenue totaled $18.37 million, $2.30 million above budget after extraordinary VITAL and Lilly Grant revenue, while total expenses were $16.997 million, approximately $32,000 over budget. Consolidated net income was $1.374 million after extraordinary items; personnel costs were $814,000 under budget, though state funding remained $1.43 million below budget because of reduced student enrollment.

FY 2027 Human Resources and Finance Structure

The Committee discussed the Director of Finance position and the engagement of Milestone Business Solutions for human-resources and payroll support. Mr. Adamson provided context for the proposed structure, and the Board reviewed the workflow and scope of services before approving the Milestone contract.

Transportation Services

The Board reviewed the Central Indiana Transportation agreement supporting Vision Academy families during the 16th Street bridge closure. Leadership reported that the new VAR route was operating smoothly and nearing capacity, discussed possible demand for an Avondale route and a second VAR route, and requested continued feedback from school principals.

5. Governance Committee

The Committee reviewed the OEI charter-renewal process for Avondale Meadows Academy, including the planned September application submission, ongoing Board updates, and potential Board participation as guided by OEI. Potential policy revisions were also noted for future consideration.

State of USI: Clarity, Coherence, and Commitment

Superintendent Darius Adamson and Dr. Corye Franklin presented a network-wide assessment grounded in USI's mission, values, and three pillars: high-quality instruction, student agency and well-being, and clear communication and systems. They described enrollment pressure from declining birth rates and a saturated school market, along with rising costs, increased demand for wraparound services, and the organizational tradeoffs required to align staffing and resources with enrollment. The presentation outlined a shift from largely autonomous school practices toward one performance-management system with clearer roles, stronger internal controls, consistent Tier 1 instruction, centralized supports, and outcome-focused accountability. Looking ahead, leadership emphasized instructional coherence, stronger communication, sustainable financial planning, leadership development, and disciplined execution through the annual theme of Clarity, Coherence, and Commitment.

6. Academic Committee

End-of-Year Academic Data

Victoria Jackson-Dinkins presented 2025-26 end-of-year results showing gains in i-Ready math and reading proficiency, with more than half of students in grades 4-8 meeting typical-growth goals and elementary reading growth exceeding the target. Acadience K-3 reading proficiency increased 17 percentage points from midyear to year end, while ILEARN Checkpoint results indicated stronger elementary math and middle-school ELA performance; final ILEARN proficiency results were expected in September following the state's standard-setting process. IREAD3 proficiency improved from spring to summer, including an 18-point gain, with 70% of students continuously enrolled at USI since kindergarten passing; the team will begin early interventions for students who did not pass. For 2026-27, the academic team will implement CKLA in grades K-8, strengthen Tier 1 instruction through common planning and PLCs, refine intervention and progress-monitoring systems, expand student-centered coaching and professional learning, and align school action plans, evaluation, and data tracking to network priorities.

Board members discussed how classroom data walls and student trackers would be managed to maintain a supportive culture and asked how USI's performance comparisons would account for competing schools and the local market.

7. Development Committee

The Committee continued planning for the 2026-27 Annual Gala, with October 22 identified as the tentative date and November retained as an alternate. Members discussed coordinating the event to avoid conflicts with partner organizations and setting an ambitious fundraising goal.

8. Executive Session and Adjournment

At 5:23 p.m., the Board moved into executive session pursuant to IC 5-14-3-4(b)(9) to discuss a job-performance evaluation of individual employees. The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

Sarah P. Kopf   08/14/2026

Board Secretary / Designee   Date Approved