

Public Meeting of the Combined Board of Trustees
for
Universal Alcorn Charter School
Universal Vare Charter School
Universal Audenried Charter High School
Meeting held at Universal Vare
2100 S. 24th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19145
December 17, 2019 at 6:00PM

Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Sultan Ahmad
2. Curtis Savoy
3. Claudia Sherrod
4. Rose Bynum (via Phone)
5. Christopher Hill
6. Mrs. Phyllis Randall (via Phone)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

1. Dr. Patricia Williams - Diaw

Meeting called to Order at 6:05pm

1. Meeting Minutes

- i. The Meeting Minutes from November 19, 2019 were reviewed by board members prior to board meeting. Board Members discussed and made corrections to the meeting minutes.
 - a. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to accept and approve the November 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes.
 - b. Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the November 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes and Mrs. Sherrod second that motion.
 - c. By a majority vote the November 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Monthly Reports

a. Alcorn Monthly Reports

1. Mr. Starke presented the Alcorn Principal Report.
2. Board Members were given presentation handouts to follow along with Mr. Starke as he presented his report.
3. Alcorn's total enrollment is 540. Alcorn enrollment cap is 620. Alcorn implements Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) through a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) for behavior. The three (3) tiered system is as follows:
 - a) Tier 1- the base level of school behavior that is applied to all scholars as school policy

- b) Tier 2- Develop individual positive behavior support plans, including: mentorship, monthly team meetings with STS providers, Group Counseling and individual counseling
 - c) Tier 3- referral for evaluation for specialized services, Bi-weekly agency and school-based meetings.
4. Alcorn's made gains in all three subject areas on the PSSA Test.
 5. Alcorn has a goal to achieve a ten (10) percent gain in all subject of scholars performing proficient or advanced.
 6. Alcorn will continue to promote a system-wide culture of safety, effective engagement, cultural competency, and customer service
 7. There was some discussion regarding the Alcorn Principal report
 8. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to approve the Alcorn Principal Report
 9. Mr. Sherrod made a motion to approve the Alcorn Principal Report and Mr. Hill second that motion.
 10. By a majority vote the Alcorn Principal Report was approved unanimously.

ii. Alcorn FSRC Report

1. Mr. Stark presented the Alcorn FSRC Report.
2. FSRC focus areas include:
 - Student and Family health:
 - Adult and Parent Education
 - Professional Growth and Development
 - Family Support Service

b. Audenried Monthly Reports

- i. Mr. Diavua presented the Audenried monthly report
 1. Board Members were given presentation handouts to follow along with Mr. Diavua as he presented his report.
 2. Audenried's total enrollment is 533 with a goal to reach 705. Audenried is under the enrollment cap. Audenried has an eighty-four (84) percent of scholars attending daily.
 3. Audenried implements Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) through a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) for behavior. The three (3) tiered system is as follows:
 - d) Tier 1- the base level of school behavior that is applied to all scholars as school policy
 - e) Tier 2- scholars placed into groups based on the type of infractions. Interventions include: Community service, Group Sessions and daily reports
 - f) Tier 3- Scholars receive behavioral contracts, counseling sessions, positive behavior support plans.
 4. Audenried will continue to promote a system-wide culture of safety, effective engagement, cultural competency, and customer service

5. Audenried focus is on scholars being college and career ready. Scholars take PSAT in grades 9 -11 and can take the pre-test numerous times to determine how prepared scholars are.
6. Audenried has a goal to achieve a ten (10) percent gain in all subject of scholars performing proficient or advanced.
7. Audenried is preparing for it's Homecoming Wednesday December 18, 2019.
8. Audenried scholars request that the lunch menu be revised to provide additional menu options. Mrs. Hinson-Threadgill is working with a focus group of scholars to address the complaints to meet the request from scholars according the budget.
9. There was some discussion about the Audenried Principal Report.
10. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to approve the Audenried Principal Report.
11. Mr. Sherrod made a motion to approve the Audenried Principal Report and Mr. Savoy second that motion.
12. By a majority vote the Audenried Principal Report was approved unanimously.

ii. **Audenried FSRC Report**

1. Mr. Diavua presented the Audenried FSRC Report.
2. FSRC focus areas include:
 - Student and Family health:
 - Adult and Parent Education
 - Professional Growth and Development
 - Family Support Service

c. **Vare Monthly Reports**

- i. Mrs. Howell-Toomer presented the Vare monthly report.
 1. Board Members were given presentation handouts to follow along with Mrs. Howell-Toomer as she presented her report.
 2. Vare's total enrollment is 286. Vare enrollment target is 340. Vare has a ninety-three (93) percent average of scholars attending daily.
 3. Vare implements Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) through a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) for behavior. The three (3) tiered system is as follows:
 - g) Tier 1- the base level of school behavior that is applied to all scholars as school policy
 - h) Tier 2- Develop individual positive behavior support plans, including: mentorship, monthly team meetings with STS providers, Group Counseling and individual counseling
 - i) Tier 3- referral for evaluation for specialized services, Bi-weekly agency and school-based meetings.
 4. Vare has a goal to achieve a ten (10) percent gain in all subject of scholars performing proficient or advanced.
 5. Vare will continue to promote a system-wide culture of safety, effective engagement, cultural competency, and customer service

6. Vare completed a successful fire drill with the Philadelphia Fire Department.
7. Vare is a healthy eating school, no outside snacks are allowed in the building.
8. Principal Toomer is working diligently with the community to increase the enrollment at Vare.
9. Vare will have its “Holiday Around the World Show”, Thursday December 19, 2019 at 6:00PM.
10. There was some discussion regarding Vare’s Principal Report.
11. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to approve the Vare Principal Report.
12. Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the Vare Principal Report and Mrs. Sherrod second that motion.
13. By a majority vote the Vare Principal Report was approved unanimously.

ii. Vare FSRC Report

1. Mrs. Howell-Toomer presented the Vare FSRC Report.
2. FSRC focus areas include:
 - Student and Family health:
 - Adult and Parent Education
 - Professional Growth and Development
 - Family Support Service.

d. Central Office Report

- i. There was no Central Office report presented for Alcorn, Vare, and Audenried. Board members were given copies of the Central Office report prior to the board meeting.
 1. Dr. Nixon is working closely with Vare and Audenried Principal’s to review the Charter renewal conditions.
 2. Vare and Audenried will begin the Charter renewal process in 2020.
 3. Central Office will continue to work hard and diligent to implement common core curriculum to achieve academic achievement.

e. Legal Department Report

- i. There was no written legal department report.

3. Board Matters

a. Committee Reports

i. Financial Report

- 1) Profit/Loss and Budget Statement:** Mrs. Sherrod Presented the Finance Reports for Alcorn Charter School, Audenried Charter High School and Vare Charter School
 1. Board members were given copies the finance reports which were reviewed by board members prior to the board meeting.
 2. There was discussion amongst board members regarding the Financial Reports.

3. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to approve the Financial Report which was reviewed prior to the board meeting.
 - a. Mr. Hill made a Motion to accept and approve Alcorn Finance report and Mrs. Sherrod second that Motion
 - b. Mr. Hill made a motion to accept and approve the Audenried Finance report and Mrs. Bynum second that motion
 - c. Mr. Hill made a motion to accept and approve Vare Finance report and Mrs. Sherrod second that motion.
4. By a majority vote the all Financial Reports were accepted and approved unanimously.

ii. Academic Committee Reports

1. Dr. Williams-Diaw submitted a written Academic Committee report prior to the board meeting.
2. There was some discussion regarding the academic report
3. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to approve the academic report.
4. Mr. Savoy made a motion to accept and approve the academic report and Mr. Hill second that motion.
5. There were questions and concerns regarding the information in the Academic report. The Academic Report was tabled.

iii. HR Committee Reports

1. There was no written HR Committee report. Mr. Savoy presented and oral report.
2. There was some discussion regarding the HR report.
3. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to approve the HR report.
4. Mrs. Sherrod made a motion to accept and the HR report, and Mr. Hill second that motion.
5. By a majority vote the HR Committee report was approved unanimously.

iv. Facilities Committee Reports

1. There was no written Facilities Committee Report. Mr. Hill presented an Oral report.
2. Mr. Lawrence Threadgill and Mrs. Hinson-Threadgill presented a facility plan which includes repairs to each school that were submitted by the principals. The facilities plan also include detailed cleaning to each building during the winter break.
3. There was some discussion regarding the facilities report.
4. Mr. Ahmad asked for a motion to approve the facilities report.
5. Mr. Savoy made a motion to accept and approve the Facilities Committee report and Dr. Williams-Diaw second that motion.
6. By majority vote the Facilities Committee report was approved unanimously.

6. Public Comments

- a. Norman Best, community member, comment regarding repairs to the fire doors at Vare, and repairs to the heat system at Alcorn. Mr. Best also made a comment regarding dismissal from the afterschool program and the safety of the scholars.
- b. Vernard Johnson, community member, comment regarding Public funding the School District of Philadelphia must repair and remove lead paint and asbestos in District Owned buildings and facilities and how his organization can help Universal School's to secure some of the funds for the schools. Mr. Johnson also made a comment regarding enrollment at Vare and Audenried, what can be done to increase the numbers.
- c. Ms. Peoples, comment regarding enrollment and receiving public funding for repairs from the School District of Philadelphia.

7. Adjournment

- a. The meeting concluded at 7:45 p.m.