

Minutes
University of Chicago Charter School Corporation Board of Directors
Thursday, April 9, 2026 from 5:00 - 6:30pm
In Person
Donoghue Campus, 707 E 37th Street

Attendees

In Person Board Members: D. Gorman-Smith, K. Lee, M. Zepeda

Absent Board Members: K. Kinzler and N. Grover

Also in attendance: A. Sergeant, A. Hull, C. Ragin, L. Hill, G. Long, T. Pajakowski

School Directors: D. Gordon and E. Hughes

- I. **Welcome:** D. Gorman-Smith welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

- II. **Minutes:** D. Gorman-Smith called for a motion to approve the February 19th, 2026 minutes of the UCCS Regular Board Meeting. K. Lee moved, M. Zepeda seconded, and all approved.

- III. **Public Participation:** None.

- IV. **CEO Report:** A. Sergeant reviewed and shared highlights from the UCW high school tour with CPS Board Member, Karen Zaccour.

A. Sergeant shared current data on student achievement scores (NWEA) for middle school in conjunction with the needs for MTSS intervention and instructional WIN Blocks. M. Zepeda asked about instructional supports for students in 7-8th grades, and K. Lee asked about the math achievement scores for students in 7-8th grades. The board discussed WIN Block implementation and upcoming purchases for math intervention.

A. Sergeant shared current data on student achievement scores (Pre-ACT) for 9-10 grades, in conjunction with the needs for MTSS intervention and instructional WIN Blocks. The board discussed the need to invest in Tier 1 instructional delivery and data-informed small groups in addition to Tier 2-3 instruction in WIN Blocks. The board also discussed schedule changes to allow for daily ELA and Math instruction at the high school.

- V. **Enrollment Report:** T. Pajakowski presented current enrollment numbers for SY27. UCCS is on track for SY27 enrollment, but is seeing a decline in Kindergarten enrollment. UCCS is actively participating in Kindergarten fairs and anticipates an increase in Kindergarten applications over the summer. The board discussed what might be causing lower Kindergarten enrollment, including families leaving Chicago schools, and daycares providing Kindergarten options.

- VI. **Finance Report:** A. Hull presented the February actuals, and UCCS is on target for expenses and revenue. Budget assumptions for SY27 are tied to enrollment numbers

and pending PCTC funds from CPS, which should be reviewed in May. The budget is due to CPS in June and will be voted on at the June UCCS board meeting.

The board reviewed upcoming expenditures relating to SY27 academic priorities and goals, including curriculum and staffing.

- V. **SY27 UCCS Calendar Vote:** D. Gorman-Smith called for a motion to approve the UCCS SY27 Calendar. M. Zepeda moved, K. Lee seconded, all approved.

- VI. **Project Engage Vote:** D. Gorman-Smith reviewed the Project Engage initiative for the NKO Campus, along with the CPS board approval letters for Project Engage. E. Hughes presented the goals for the project and the anticipated impact on students, the community, and teacher relationships. D. Gorman-Smith called for a motion, K. Lee moved, M. Zepeda seconded. All approved.

- VII. **Adjourn:** D. Gorman-Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:16pm.