

Minutes
June 10, 2025, Regular Meeting
UChicago Charter School Board of Directors
Woodlawn Campus, 6300 S University Avenue at 5:00 pm
In-Person

Attendees

Board of Directors Members attending in person: D. Gorman-Smith, K. Kinzler, C. Mitchell, K. Y. Lee, P. Ziegler

Also in attendance: L. Hill, E. Oros, A. Hull, A. Sergeant, T. Island-Childress, C. Ragin

- I. **Welcome:** Board President D. Gorman-Smith welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.
- II. **Minutes:** D. Gorman-Smith called for a motion to approve the May 29, 2025, minutes of the UCCS Regular Board Meeting. C. Mitchell made a motion to approve, and K. Lee seconded. All approved. D. Gorman Smith called for a motion to revise all previous board minutes to add the location of the meeting. C. Mitchell made a motion to approve, and K. Lee seconded. All approved
- III. **Public Participation:** No public participation.
- IV. **FY26 Budget:** A Hull presented the FY26 UCCS budget. The budget includes funds to support new positions recommended through the strategic planning for FY26. D. Gorman-Smith called for a motion to approve the budget, C. Mitchell approved, K. Lee seconded. All approved.
- V. **CEO Report:** T Childress presented the last two strategic plan findings: MTSS and chronic absenteeism.

E. Oros highlighted the current MTSS process implemented since the last charter renewal cycle, including SEL screeners, interventions, and Branching Minds. Branching Minds will be rolled out to all teachers for the SY26. The Board discussed some hurdles to the implementation of Branching Minds and the support teachers will need to use it in the classroom. All campuses will focus on Tier 1 instruction by using data to inform the direct instruction in whole group or small groups, along with SEL instruction in 6-12 at UCW.

L. Hill presented data on chronic absenteeism and key shifts for SY26, including a network-wide norming and restructuring of school-based attendance teams. Initial analyses suggest that a significant portion of student absenteeism is due to challenges of transportation half-day schedules that conflict with employment. The Board discussed potential supportive options to increase attendance.

The Board reviewed the 25-26 meeting schedule, K. Lee moved to approve the schedule, C. Mitchell seconded, all approved.

- VI. Executive Session:** C Mitchell made a motion to go into closed executive session for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee of the UChicago Charter School under Sections 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act. K. Lee seconded, all approved.
- VII. Adjourn:** D. Gorman-Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:30pm.