

## **University Prep Board Meeting – 8/29/22**

### **Minutes**

**7:05 – 8:32 AM**

**Call to Order:** Kimberlee Sia called Meeting to order

**Board Attendance:** Cuneyt Akay, Brenna Copeland, Bev Sloan, Emily Eikelberner, Nicholas Martinez, Juan Pena, Recardo Brooks, and Tracey Lovett

**Board Absence:** Kimberlee Sia

**Staff Attendance:** David Singer (Executive Director), Alastair Dawe (COO), and Liz Suarez (CAO)

**Minutes Approval:** Minutes from both the regular board meeting on May 23, 2022 and the special board meeting on June 15, 2022 minutes were approved by the U Prep Board. (*Cuneyt Akay motioned for approval with a second from Nicholas Martinez*)

The meeting launched with an Introductory whip around where those in person and those engaging remotely all had a chance to share what's going on in their lives and re-connect with one another.

### **2021-22 Academic Achievement Deep Dive**

Executive Director, David Singer, walked the board through high level performance data from the 2021-22 school year with a particular focus on CMAS proficiency in 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade (ELA and Math). Moreover, as part of that analysis, Singer provide the board with a variety of data sets including a correlation analysis between FRL percentages and CMAS performance for all schools in the district, and a comparison of 2018-19 achievement data versus 2021-22.

Given notable decrease in performance from pre-pandemic to post-pandemic data, Singer and both the CAO and COO, reviewed four big issues that were the drivers behind the change in outcomes. These included a lack of consistency and quality in leadership (particularly at the Dean level, which drives teacher coaching, a decline in the overall quality of talent simultaneous to an increase in the demands of the academic program being executed, a combination of enrollment issues (including a lack of meaningful onboarding compared to pre-pandemic experiences for families) and attendance challenges, and lastly, a diminished shared and cohesive identity. In reviewing each for the four areas, staff leaders shared data sets that support the hypotheses as to why these were major contributors to the decline in achievement.

Following the deep dive on each, Singer along with Liz Suarez and Alastair Dawe, shared associated solutions that have already been put in motion to ensure changed outcomes and the resolving of the gap areas experienced with heightened intensity over the last two school years in particular. Moreover, staff leadership reviewed the Lead & Lag measures (goals) associated with the 2022-23 school year, highlighting where focus and energy are going to ensure meaningful change in results by spring 2023.

Following open discussion including robust Q & A with board members, Brenna Copeland, chair of the Academic Achievement Committee, asked that the board have more time in the September meeting, after the committee met, to discuss the current outcomes and the staff's analysis.

### **Charter Renewal Matrix Review**

Given the upcoming charter renewal process for the Arapahoe St. campus, the board spent time reviewing the renewal matrix and anticipated outcomes for the renewal terms based on projections connected to the State SPF. Moreover, network leadership reviewed the upcoming process, making sure

board members understand what role they play in the efforts and how the district will ultimately land on its recommendation.

### **Supplemental Budget**

As part of new business, the board reviewed and voted on a supplemental budget specific to the Arapahoe St. entity. Given that the school's total expenditures exceeded the originally approved budgeted expenditures by more than 3%, the approval of a supplemental budget was necessary. ***Brenna Copeland motioned for the approval of the supplemental budget with Bev Sloan seconding the motion. The motion received a unanimous vote in favor,*** and as part of the motion discussion, the board engaged with consultants from G & G regarding how to address issues of this nature in a more timely fashion in the years ahead.

### **Updates**

Senior leaders shared a few quick updates that were also referenced via email leading up to the meeting. These included content regarding enrollment of existing campuses, charter contracting efforts with A14, fundraising updates, ongoing board member recruitment and the upcoming release of a documentary focused on U Prep's growth and expansion efforts.

***The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 AM***