**Minutes – A+UP Board of Directors Meeting**

**Date of Meeting:** May 16, 2023

**Location:** Virtual Meeting Space, Zoom

**Board of Directors:** Kathy Welch, Tom Elsenbrook, Stephen Amante**,** Jess Arnold,

Michael McDonough

**Staff Present:** Paul Castro, Superintendent, Terrie Roberts, Admin

**Other:** Dianne Johnson, Board Liaison  
Rick Reyes, Charter School Success

**Call to Order and Introductions**

The meeting began May 16, 2023, at 7:36 a.m. and Kathy Welch welcomed Board members and staff. The meeting began with a quorum.

**Consent Agenda**

*Approval of Minutes of the April 21, 2023 Board Meeting*

The Board meeting minutes were reviewed and a vote to approve was unanimous.

**Superintendent’s Report**

STAAR testing was completed, and scoring explained. Scores to be released in June.

MAP testing occurs May 23rd.

8th grade promotion ceremony was discussed.

*Adjourned to Closed Session*

The Board went into closed session at 8:01 a.m.

**Executive Session – Continued**

Pursuant to Govt. Code 551.071 (consultation with legal counsel) and 551.074 (personnel) to discuss personnel.

Pursuant to 551.071 (consultation with legal counsel) and 551.083 (considering the standards, guidelines, terms, or conditions the board will follow, or will instruct its representatives to follow, in consultation with representatives of employee groups) to discuss board policy.

*Reconvene to Open Session*

Kathy Welch reconvened to open session at 8:16 a.m.

**Action as Needed from Executive Session:**

*No actions from closed session one needed.*

**Superintendent’s Report Continued**

Enrollment: 154

Attendance: 90.51%, budgeted at 91.2%

Recruitment: As of May 16, the total number of students enrolled for 23/24 is 146. Historically, being one month ahead of schedule from previous years.

An incentive was discussed that for the next 30 days a $1,000 award per family would be given should they recommended a 6th grade student, and that student attended day one.

Paul Castro continues to work with Chris Gonzalez for our Google ads, and seo working for better higher placement on the Google page for people during searches.

Niche is trying more strategies to increase clicks to their site, thus increasing interest in A+UP.

Everydesk is redesigning our website, which should be up and running June 1, 2023.

School Calendar update: Paul Castro proposed that there be a waiver submitted to the state that would allow staff development without student attendance for two days in the school year.

**Board Action Item**  
*Stephen Amante moves to accept staff development waiver for 2 days of non-student attendance. Michael McDonough seconds the motion, and the vote was unanimously passed.*

**Expansion Update:**

New Schools Venture Fund grant for 1 year for $225,000.00 has been sent to their board for approval.

City Seed fund will review the request for planning grant and awaiting falls scores.

The budget model draft is being finalized, and A+UP Board will vote at the June 2023 meeting for final approval of TEA’s approval of the A+UP high school expansion.

**Finance Report**  
Rick Reyes discussed the current and future finances of A+UP with detail about current and future budget items.

**Safety Report**

The Raptor SPAT system is to be installed in early August 2023.

Window films, doors, silent alert system, cameras and fencing companies chosen and most projects will be completed by the end of July 2023.

**Board Training**  
Paul Castro, TEA approved Board Trainer, covered STAAR 2.0 during the Governance Training hour.

1 Hour training obtained.

**Executive Session**

Kathy Welch adjourned the meeting to closed session notice having previously been given and reiterated in accordance with Sections of the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551, Subchapters D and A.

**Adjournment**

With there being no further business, the board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m.