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

**Date of Meeting:** October 17, 2023

**Location:** Virtual Meeting Space, Zoom

**Board of Directors:** *Present:* Kathy Welch**,** Jess Arnold, Michael McDonough, Tom Elsenbrook

*Absent:* Stephen Amante

**Staff Present:** Paul Castro, Superintendent,   
Terrie Roberts, Business Operations Manager

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

**Call to Order and Introductions**

The meeting began October 17, 2023, at 7:33 a.m. and Kathy Welch welcomed board members and staff. The meeting began with a quorum.

**Consent Agenda**

Approved minutes from the September 19, 2023, board meeting.

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

**Superintendent’s Report**Paul Castro proposed an investment policy for the money in the secondary bank account of $322,000. A committee will be formed to discuss the options, a presentation made, and a vote will occur at the November 14, 2023, board meeting.

Paul Castro discussed the happenings at the school, events, and the use of different software, e.g., NoRedInk, Lexia, etc., in the classrooms.

**Finance Report**  
Rick Reyes discussed the current finances of A+UP for the current month and fiscal year to date.

**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.

*Adjourned to Closed Session*

The board went into closed session at 7:52 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 8:32 a.m.

**Action as Needed from Executive Session:**

No actions were needed.

**Superintendent’s Report Continued**

Enrollment 154

Attendance average of 90.5%, with the approved budget attendance of 90.8%

There is usually a bump in enrollment in November for 7th and 8th grade, and all advertising is being focused on 6th grade to increase class sizes, as the 7th and 8th-grade classes are at capacity.

Tom Elsenbrook proposed a strategy to proactively reach out to our existing families, soliciting referrals and concurrently emphasizing the paramount significance of our cultural and academic values when evaluating prospective families for enrollment.

**Board Training**  
Paul Castro, TEA approved Board Trainer, covered STAAR 2.0 Governance Training

1-hour training obtained.

**Adjournment**

With no further business, the board voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 a.m.