

Record of Proceedings of a regular meeting of the Board of Education, School District of University City, St. Louis County, held at Ronald E. McNair Administration Building, 8136 Groby Road, University City, Missouri, April 30, 2009.

The following Board members were present:

Mr. Tom Peters, President; Mr. Stacy Clay, Vice-President; Mr. Bob Elgin, Secretary; Ms. Ellen Bern, Mr. Todd Gilyard, Ms. Trudy Moon, and Ms. Linda Peoples, Directors.

Ms. Joylynn Wilson, Superintendent; Dr. Chauna Williams, Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum & Instruction; Mr. Scott Hafertepe, Chief Financial Officer/Business & Financial Management, and approximately 39 staff members, students, and citizens were present.

#### CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, Mr. Peters called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kristin Rice was not in attendance.

Board members in attendance highlighted activities they engaged in since the last board meeting. Activities included attendance at the Golden Lion's Award ceremony at University City High School, the UCHS PTO, a Mortgage Assistance meeting at Barbara Jordan, and a Dropout Prevention Summit on April 20. There was a reminder that tickets were still available for U. City Night at the Ballgame.

#### Ms. Wilson

- It is with pleasure that I announce that Ms. Jennifer Ice has been named the Missouri Latin Teacher of the Year.
- The District will host a community meeting at the Natatorium on May 11 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. The topic will be the current realities of the Natatorium, some possible options and long-range planning for possibly a joint venture between the City of University City and the District for a facility. Flyers will be forthcoming.

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- The District-wide Celebration of Learning will take place on Wednesday evening, May 6, from 6-8 at Brittany Woods Middle School. Celebrating the completion of standardized testing and keeping the educational focus, the Celebration will include cross-curriculum and hands-on activity booths, organized and facilitated by faculty and staff volunteers. The content of the booths is based on what students in grades pre-K-12 are learning or have learned throughout the school year.
- Athletic Director, Ms. Kim Loomis has received notification that UCHS has been named as a Leadership School for the 2008-2009 school year from the Missouri State High School Activity Association. This distinction is based upon sportsmanship, citizenship, respect and leadership with regards to athletic activities and programs.
- It is with pleasure that I introduce Mr. Timothy Wernentin, the newly appointed principal for University City High School. Mr. Wernentin brings 22 years of educational experience, including classroom teacher and administrative positions (career education and speech communication teacher; associate principal at middle school level, and principal at the high school level).

Mr. Wernentin is currently the principal at Central High School in Davenport, Iowa.

Mr. Wernentin received his Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education from Cornell College and his Master's degree and Educational Specialist's degrees from Western Illinois University in Educational Leadership.

09-152

#### YALE DISTINGUISHED MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD

Mr. Stanley Coleman is the instrumental music teacher at Brittany Woods Middle School. However, he is best known as the school's jazz band conductor.

He has passed his passion of jazz and performing to his students. For the past several years, he has staged a jazz concert at The Sheldon which features members of the Brittany Woods and University City High School Jazz Bands along with several professional jazz musicians who "sit-in" with the students during the performance. His classroom serves as a pit stop for many professional jazz musicians who visit St. Louis to perform at local venues but enjoy sharing their musical gifts with Stan's students.

As a result of his dedication to the music program within the School District of University City and the encouragement he provides to students, Mr. Coleman will

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receive the Yale Distinguished Music Educator Award and will attend the 2009 Symposium on Music in Schools which will be held on the Yale University Campus June 10-11. Mr. Coleman is among 50 honorees that were selected from 448 award nominees across 46 states.

The Board of Education, along with the Superintendent, recognized Mr. Stanley Coleman for being selected as a 2009 Yale Distinguished Music Educator and for his continued commitment to educational excellence. Mr. Coleman was presented with a certificate of achievement.

09-153                      DUKE TIP PROGRAM

Each year Duke University, through its Talent Identification Program (TIP), recognizes academically talented seventh graders from across the nation. TIP students are selected based on the standardized test scores achieved while attending elementary or early middle school. Candidates are invited to complete either the SAT I Reasoning Test or the ACT assessment college entrance examination.

During the 2008-2009 school year, 11 students from Brittany Woods Middle School participated in the Duke TIP. Of that group, Jacqueline Cox, Haley Landre, James Murphy and Kathryn Williams qualified for state recognition.

The Board of Education, along with the Superintendent, recognized Jacqueline Cox, Haley Landre, James Murphy, and Kathryn Williams for the academic accomplishments they achieved in the Duke Talent Identification Program. Each was presented with a certificate of accomplishment.

09-154                      NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSES DAY

School nurses are considered the gatekeepers of health. Everyday, they support the physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing of students. School nurses do much more than bandage the occasional scrape. They conduct hearing and vision tests, administer medications and help to minimize health related barriers that may impact a student's success.

Kathleen Agusti, Cassandra Brown, Pat Chandler, Johnnye Farrell, Joanne Fehling, Virginia Frantz, Virginia Jefferson, Julia Theobald, and Pat Wilson are members of the school nursing team within the School District of University City. On May 6, 2009, they will join more than 60,000 colleagues from across the country to celebrate National School Nurse Day. The theme for this year's observance is "School Nurses: Meeting the Needs of Today's Students." The

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theme is reflective of the overall impact school nurses have on the health and wellbeing of students who face more challenging issues today than ever before.

In honor of National School Nurses Day, the Board of Education and the Superintendent recognized the District's nursing team for the medical assistance and support they provide daily. Each was presented with a certificate of achievement.

#### 09-155 NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Earlier this month, the American Library Association designated April 12-18 as National Library Week. The week long celebration honored the contributions of libraries and librarians. The theme of the observance was "Words Connect @ Your Library."

Lori Adkins, Naomi Cooksey-Bonner, Donna Gilchrist, Adrienne Powers, Susan Renick and Kelly Werthmuller are librarians within the School District of University City. Everyday, they encourage student learning and exploration.

In honor of National Library Week, the Board of Education, along with the Superintendent, recognized the District's school librarians for providing instruction, support and assistance to students daily. Each librarian was presented with a certificate of achievement.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS

The following individuals addressed the Board:

1. Leroy Eason, 1223 Mt. Olive
2. Justin Nicks, 7116 Delmar
3. Marva Miller, 1224 Fairview
4. Walter Daniels, 7523 Drexel
5. Cheryl Carr, President, UCFT
6. Kathy Leahy, 838 Warder, Alumni '75
7. Elsie Glickert, 6712 Etzel
8. Mary Ann Zaggy, 6303 McPherson
9. George Lenard, 7232 Shaftsbury

#### PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion to approve the April 16, 2009 minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

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## CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented under the Consent Agenda which can be approved by a single motion and vote.

Action	09-156	Order for Drawing Checks
Action	09-157	Conference Attendance

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

### 09-158 UNIVERSITY CITY EDUCATION FOUNDATION GRANT RECIPIENTS – SPRING 2009

Ms. Wilson and Ms. Barbara Santoro, of the University City Education Foundation Grants Committee, presented the newest round of grants. The UCEF funds two cycles of grants each year for University City teachers and staff, based on submissions which fulfill the Foundation's guidelines. Grant proposals that implement creative ideas and projects designed to enhance student learning and performance will be considered. The grants are awarded in amounts up to \$1,000.

1. Kimberly Fileccia, BW, "Tuskegee Tigers Take A Trip," Grade 7, Communication Arts
2. Greg Byrne, FP, "A.R.R.O.W.S. – Archery for Really Responsible Outstanding & Worthy Students," Grade 6

### 09-159 PACESETTER AND UNIQUELY UNIVERSITY CITY RECIPIENTS

The success of the schools is the result of the efforts of the people involved in the schools: the staff, parents, and community. The superintendent and Board of Education encourage and support recognition of individuals for commendable, District-wide accomplishments. Each year, the School District of University City honors those individuals who go above and beyond their responsibilities to make a difference for our students, our schools, and our District. Two such honors are the PACEsetter Award (Positively Affecting Community Education) and the Uniquely University City Award.

#### PACEsetters:

Beverly Brandt, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Bryce Cooper, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Pearl Jones, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Jim and Marcia Loomis, UCHS Athletic Volunteers  
Judy Maffitt, PTO Volunteer (UCHS)

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Marva Miller, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Diana Nichols, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Acme Price, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Byron Price, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Barb Reilly, Volunteer (FP)  
Howard Sallis, Athletic Custodian (UCHS)  
Erica Tepper, Teacher, (NH)  
Cindy Thierry, Parent Volunteer (JP)  
Jan Vieth, Parent Volunteer (JP/BW)

Uniquely University City:

Joseph Adams, Mayor of University City  
Nicole Adewale, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Walter Daniels, District-wide Community Volunteer  
David Harris, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Rodney Jennings, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Meg McClelland, Former Board of Education President  
Gene Ruth, District-wide Community Volunteer  
Kristin Sobotka, District-wide Community Volunteer

Ms. Wilson presented this item and stated that on May 21, 2009, at the annual Honorees and Retirees reception, the District will recognize the PACEsetters and Uniquely University City recipients.

09-160

TEACHER OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION

Each spring, school districts across the state of Missouri conduct local Teacher of the Year competitions. Each district's representative then competes in the statewide competition hosted by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Any full-time teacher, grades PreK-12, in a public school district may be a candidate. Candidates should play active roles in their communities, providing service and leadership in civic, religious, or humanitarian activities. They should have the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues, inspiring students of all backgrounds and abilities.

Lillian Blackshear-Bryant Summers, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Flynn Park, was chosen as the School District of University City's Teacher of the Year for 2009-2010.

Lillian Blackshear-Bryant Summers will receive a check for five hundred dollars (\$500) at the Opening Day Ceremony. She will also be honored at the end-of-the-year retirement and employee recognition celebration.

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The Board of Education and the Superintendent recognized and presented a certificate of appreciation to Lillian Blackshear-Bryant Summers for being chosen as the District's Teacher of the Year.

09-161            EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION

Over the past several years, the School District of University City has recognized a support staff member as the Educational Support Person of the Year. The support staff person selected for the 2009-2010 school year is Tony Curtis, Custodian. Mr. Curtis began his employment with the District on January 29, 1997. During his years in the District, Mr. Curtis has assisted students and staff; he has helped to keep his assigned facility clean, orderly and safe. He is also responsible for the overall maintenance in the McNair Administrative building. In all of his work in the District, he has given tirelessly of his talents, efforts and dedication to the School District of University City.

Mr. Curtis will receive a check for two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) at the Opening Day Ceremony which will be held on August 10, 2009. He will also be honored at the end of the year retirement and employee recognition celebration.

Congratulations to Tony Curtis, the 2009-2010 Educational Support Person of the Year.

The Board of Education and the Superintendent recognized Tony Curtis for being chosen as the District's Educational Support Person of the Year. Tony was not in attendance but will be presented with a certificate at the next board meeting.

09-162            SUMMER LEARNING ACADEMY 2009 UPDATE

The School District of University City offers the Summer Learning Academy (SLA) to PreK-12<sup>th</sup> grade students each summer. The purpose of the SLA is to provide school readiness to PreK students, data driven instruction in math and communication arts, as well as enrichment to elementary students, and credit and/or course recovery to secondary students.

This item is to inform the Board of Education and the School District of University City's community of teachers, students and parents of the changes and direction of the 2009 Summer Learning Academy. Topics addressed included: highly qualified and certified staff, data driven curriculum, structure of the school day, and assessment of the academic program.

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Ms. Rebecca Forgash O'Connell presented this item and responded to questions from the Board.

A lengthy discussion took place.

09-163                      OPTION PLUS PROGRAM EVALUATION

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the Option Plus Program evaluation and recommendation.

The Department of Elementary & Secondary Education has provided school districts with the Option Plus Program, a tool to reduce the school district dropout rate. Participating school districts will also be able to continue to earn average daily attendance funds for participating students, thus providing students a way to stay in school and acquire the necessary high school level knowledge and skills to pass the GED Exam and earn a high school diploma.

The School District of University City Option Plus Program is designed for a specific group of students, those who have the ability to meet regular graduation requirements, but are so credit deficient that they cannot reasonably expect to graduate with their cohort class. The program allows students to stay in school, participate in meaningful classes, receive support services, and have the opportunity to graduate on schedule by passing the GED Exam and completing several other state-mandated classes.

In compliance with Missouri's School Improvement Program (MSIP) Standard 6.1 School Services, all district programs must be reviewed biennially for effectiveness and attainment of goals and objectives.

Ms. Dale Bergdorf, Ms. Lorraine Eason, and Dr. Chauna Williams presented this item and responded to questions from the Board.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Peters announced that Ms. Wilson was offered and has signed a three year contract as Superintendent of the School District of University City.

He also mentioned that some internal communications involving the Board will undergo slight changes. All committee and PTO liaison reports will be submitted to Bob Elgin and Charlotte Tatum and will include very brief statements of what

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has taken place during those committee meetings. More information on the format and timeline will be forthcoming.

Mr. Peters also stated that committee assignments have been distributed and will be voted on at the next scheduled meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to hold an executive session before the regularly scheduled meeting on May 14, 2009 for discussions of personnel, real estate, legal matters, pupil personnel, and meet and confer. The meeting, records and votes are to be closed to the public. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Ms. Bern, Mr. Clay, Mr. Elgin, Mr. Gilyard, Ms. Moon, Ms. Peoples, and Mr. Peters.

A motion to adjourn this meeting at 9:26 p.m. was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

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Tom Peters, President

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Bob Elgin, Secretary