

Northern United Charter Schools

Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting

Minutes

June 26, 2025

Members Present: Rosemary Kunkler, Jere Cox, Brian Payton, Barbara Boerger

Members Absent: Jessica Ramirez

Staff: Shari Lovett, Lynda Speck, Tamara McFarland, Kelley Withers, Kirk Miller, Lisa Ambrosini, and Greta de la Pedraja

Guests:

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: Rosemary Kunkler called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm.

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1.2 ADOPT THE AGENDA: A motion to approve the agenda as posted was made by Brian Payton and seconded by Jere Cox. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

3.0 ACTION ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED:

3.1 Approval of 2025-2026 Budget Overview for Parents and Local Control and Accountability Plan with 2024-2025 Annual Update for NU-HCS: Shari Lovett reminded the board that a hearing was held yesterday for the public to comment on this item. Since no additional feedback was received, the document remains unchanged. A motion to approve the 2025-2026 Budget Overview for Parents and Local Control and Accountability Plan with 2024-2025 Annual Update for NU-HCS was made by Jere Cox and seconded by Brian Payton. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.

3.2 Approval of 2025-2026 Budget Overview for Parents and Local Control and Accountability Plan with 2024-2025 Annual Update for NU-SCS: Shari Lovett reminded the board that a hearing was held yesterday for the public to comment on this item. Since no additional feedback was received, the document remains unchanged. Shari added that these LCAPs have been reviewed by HCOE and SCOE, and that they will be posted to our website. A motion to approve the 2025-2026 Budget Overview for Parents and Local Control and Accountability Plan with 2024-2025 Annual Update for NU-SCS was made by Barbara Boerger and seconded by Jere Cox. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.

3.3 Approval of 2025-2026 Final Budget Adoption for NU-HCS: Shari Lovett reminded the board that Kelley Withers presented on this topic last night, and a public hearing was held. Since no additional feedback has been received, the document remains unchanged. A motion to approve the 2025-2026 Final Budget Adoption for NU-HCS was made by Brian Payton and seconded by Jere Cox. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.

- 3.4 Approval of 2025-2026 Final Budget Adoption and Budget Transfer Resolution for NU-SCS:** Shari Lovett explained to the board that in addition to the budget that was shared last night, a budget transfer resolution required by SCOE has been added. Since no additional feedback has been received, the main document remains unchanged. A motion to approve the 2025-2026 Final Budget Adoption for NU-SCS, including adopting the budget transfer resolution, was made by Barbara Boerger and seconded by Jere Cox. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.
- 3.5 Approval of LCFF Local Indicator Data Report for NU-HCS:** Shari Lovett explained that certain state priorities must be included in the LCAP – some of these are referred to as ‘local indicators.’ Once this locally collected information is approved and submitted, it becomes part of the California School Dashboard. A motion to approve the LCFF Local Indicator Data Report for NU-HCS was made by Brian Payton and seconded by Jere Cox. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.
- 3.6 Approval of LCFF Local Indicator Data Report for NU-SCS:** Rosemary Kunkler asked for information about response rates between Humboldt and Siskiyou and Shari Lovett responded that parent response rates are fairly similar between the two counties, and teacher participation is a bit higher in Siskiyou, likely due to Humboldt’s higher percentage of lower-FTE teachers. A motion to approve the LCFF Local Indicator Data Report for NU-SCS was made by Barbara Boerger and seconded by Brian Payton. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.
- 3.7 Approval of the Beginnings, Inc. Food Service Agreement 2025-2026 for Briceland Learning Center - NU-HCS:** Shari Lovett shared that the agreement reflects a \$0.25 increase for each breakfast and a \$0.25 increase for each lunch compared with last year. The other terms remain the same. Rosemary Kunkler asked if the food is prepared on-site at the school, and Shari said it was. A motion to approve the Beginnings, Inc. Food Service Agreement 2025-2026 for Briceland Learning Center - NU-HCS was made by Brian Payton and seconded by Barbara Boerger. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.
- 3.8 Approval of the Eureka City Schools Food Service Agreement 2025-2026 for Cutten Learning Center, Cutten Resource Center and Eureka Learning Center - NU-HCS:** Shari Lovett shared that the agreement does not reflect any increase for each breakfast and a \$0.15 increase for each lunch compared with last year. Rosemary Kunkler shared that the culinary class at ELS is often able to use the leftover fruit from these meals in its cooking projects. A motion to approve the Eureka City Schools Food Service Agreement 2025-2026 for Cutten Learning Center, Cutten Resource Center and Eureka Learning Center - NU-HCS was made by Jere Cox and seconded by Brian Payton. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.
- 3.9 Approval of the Fire Monkey Food Service Agreement 2025-2026 for Mt. Shasta Learning Center and Yreka Learning Center - NU-SCS:** Shari Lovett explained that this vendor charges different prices for different grade levels. This agreement reflects no change to breakfast pricing, and a \$0.35 per lunch increase for grades K-8 and \$0.30 per lunch increase for grades 9-12. A motion to approve the Fire Monkey Food Service Agreement 2025-2026 for Mt. Shasta Learning Center and Yreka Learning Center - NU-SCS was made by Barbara Boerger and seconded by Brian Payton. Vote taken: Jere Cox-

Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.

- 3.10 Approval of NUCS Corporate Officer - Secretary:** Shari Lovett explained that due to Lynda Speck's retirement, a new Secretary is needed, and Tamara McFarland has been nominated. A motion to approve Tamara McFarland as the NUCS Corporate Officer - Secretary was made by Brian Payton and seconded by Jere Cox. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.
- 3.11 Approval of Resolution for an Exemption Request for Separation From Service Requirement for CalSTRS:** Shari Lovett explained that due to the retirement of our School Psychologist, and the fact that we were unable to hire an appropriately credentialed replacement, and instead opted to hire a School Psychologist Intern, there is a need for someone to supervise said intern. Our retiring Psychologist, Mitchell Block, is willing to supervise our intern for one year, and this exemption is required for him to be able to work within the first 180 days of his retirement. Rosemary Kunkler expressed appreciation to Mitchell for being willing to supervise our new intern. A motion to approve the Resolution for an Exemption Request for Separation From Service Requirement for CalSTRS was made by Jere Cox and seconded by Brian Payton. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.
- 3.12 Approval of Lease Agreement for 505 S. Broadway, Yreka - NU-SCS LC:** Shari Lovett explained that this is a lease for the same building we've been leasing for many years. The rate has decreased to \$4,000/month (compared with \$4,250/month previously) due to the landlord's difficulty finding insurance coverage for the building (he requested that we keep the building covered under our insurance, and offered this decrease in exchange). A motion to approve the Lease Agreement for 505 S. Broadway, Yreka - NU-SCS LC was made by Brian Payton and seconded by Jere Cox. Vote taken: Jere Cox-Aye, Brian Payton-Aye, Barbara Boerger-Aye, and Rosemary Kunkler-Aye. Motion carries.

4.0 NEXT BOARD MEETING:

- 4.1 Possible Agenda Items:** Prop 28 plans, Humboldt-Siskiyou MOU, onboarding, CBO salary, and a process for including staff feedback in future evaluations for the School Director
- 4.2 Next Board Meeting Date:** August 13, 2025 at 4:00 pm

5.0 ADJOURNMENT: Rosemary Kunkler adjourned the meeting at 4:42 pm.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Brian Payton, is written across the bottom of the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, starting with a large 'B' and ending with a long horizontal stroke.