

Northern United Charter Schools
Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting

Minutes

August 13, 2025

Members Present: Rosemary Kunkler, Jere Cox, Brian Payton, Barbara Boerger
Members Absent: Jessica Ramirez
Staff: Shari Lovett, Tamara McFarland, Kelley Withers, Rebekah Davis, Lisa Ambrosini, Greta De la Padraja, Colleen Allen
Guests: Sarah Coppini, Rosemary Biesecker, Josh Biesecker, Maria Freitas, Marco Freitas, Regina Fosnaugh

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/AGENDA: Rosemary Kunkler called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Adopt the Agenda: Jere Cox moved to approve the agenda; Brian Payton seconded. Vote: Rosemary Kunkler – aye, Brian Payton – aye, Jere Cox – aye, Barbara Boerger – aye; motion carries.

2.0 CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Consideration of Approval of Warrants and Payroll for NU-HCS

2.2 Consideration of Approval of Warrants (24/25, 0707, 0724, 0808) and Payroll for NU-SCS

2.3 Consideration of Approval of Minutes for the June 25, 2025, June 26, 2025 and July 22, 2025 Board Meetings

2.4 Consideration of Resignations, Hires, Leaves, and Change of Assignments

2.5 Consideration of Removal of Surplus Items List for NU-Humboldt Charter School

Jere Cox inquired about the Resignations, Hires, Leaves, and Change of Assignments report. Jere Cox moved to approve the consent agenda; Brian Payton seconded. Vote: Rosemary Kunkler – aye, Brian Payton – aye, Jere Cox – aye, Barbara Boerger – aye; motion carries.

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Multiple members of the public made comments related to recent changes to NUCS curriculum guidelines and policy on vendors for outside lessons.

4.0 ACTION ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED

4.1 Approval of the NUCS Independent Study Policy: School Director Shari Lovett explained that this policy is required to be reviewed annually, and that there have been no changes made since last year. Jere Cox moved to approve the NUCS Independent Study Policy; Brian Payton seconded. Vote: Rosemary Kunkler – aye, Brian Payton – aye, Jere Cox – aye, Barbara Boerger – aye; motion carries.

5.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 2025-2026 Annual Goals: School Director Shari Lovett explained that these goals are reviewed annually, in alignment with our LCAP, and she recommended that no changes

be made since last year's (2024/25) goals. Jere Cox shared his thoughts about the visual representation of our goals. Jere Cox also spoke about a goal of having a new consolidated facility in the 2024/25 school year, and the board members and Shari spoke about adding language to the goals relating to pursuing a facility. This will be brought back for continued discussion and/or approval at the September board meeting.

- 5.2 **NUCS Board Self-Evaluation:** Shari Lovett inquired whether the board wanted to complete a self-evaluation for the 2024/25 school year. Jere Cox shared some ideas about other aspects of board performance he would like to see covered. He also expressed a desire for more recognition of the board members at events such as graduation. Rosemary Kunkler shared a desire for a mechanism for providing feedback on strength, areas for growth, and a follow-up process for accountability. She also expressed a desire to complete the evaluation process as a group in a collaborative process. Brian Payton spoke about reflecting on how well the board is actively listening and working together with parents/guardians.
- 5.3 **NUCS Chief Business Official Compensation:** Jere Cox expressed a desire to ensure that the compensation is adequate for the position and its responsibilities. Rosemary Kunkler expressed appreciation for our current CBO's skill level, and shared a concern about setting a pay level for others following in her footsteps. The board expressed desire for time to examine the HCOE comparable salaries that were provided, and if they want this item added to a future agenda, they will let Shari know.
- 5.4 **Onboarding New Siskiyou Board Member - Barbara Boerger:** Jere Cox provided onboarding information to new board member Barbara Boerger

6.0 REPORTS

- 6.1 **Enrollment and Attendance Report:** no comments
- 6.2 **Fiscal Report:** Jere Cox inquired about receipt of previously withheld federal funds.
- 6.3 **Director's Report - Correspondence from CliftonLarsonAllen LLP:** Shari Lovett suggested that we add an agenda item to the September board meeting regarding recent excessive absences of board member Jessica Ramirez. Rosemary Kunkler offered to attempt to contact Jessica Ramirez one more time, including by mail. The board discussed a need to collect emergency contact information for the board members. Shari reminded the board that October's board meeting (October 9th) was planned for Humboldt board members to travel in person to Siskiyou. Shari also shared a report on the building we are considering purchasing.
- 6.4 **Board Report:** Brian Payton shared that his child is enrolling in NUCS this fall. Rosemary Kunkler reminded the board about their annual Vector trainings and shared that the Cutten Learning Center's back to school night is next Tuesday at 5:00. Jere Cox shared that Eureka Learning Center's back to school night is next Monday at 5:00.

7.0 OPEN SESSION BEFORE CLOSED SESSION

- 7.1 The Board Chair verbally reviewed items to be discussed during Closed Session as listed below.
- 7.2 **Closed Session Open Hearing:** no comments
- 7.3 **Adjourn to Closed Session:** Rosemary Kunkler adjourned to closed session at 6:01 pm.
- 7.3.1 **Conference with Labor Negotiations (§ 54957.6)**

Unrepresented Employee: School Director

- 8.0 **RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION:** The board reconvened into open session at 6:37 pm.

8.1 **Report of Action Taken During Closed Session:** No action taken.

9.0 NEXT BOARD MEETING

9.1 Possible Agenda Items

9.2 Next Board Meeting Date: September 10, 2025

10.0 ADJOURNMENT: Rosemary Kunkler adjourned the meeting at 6:59 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Kunkler", is written across the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.