

Northern United Charter Schools
Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting

Minutes

October 9, 2025

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

Members Absent:

Staff: Shari Lovett, Kelley Withers, Rebekah Davis, Lisa Ambrosini, Kirk Miller,
Colleen Allen, Jen Rand, Joe Cannon, Julia Anderson

Guests:

- 1.0 **CALL TO ORDER/AGENDA:** Rosemary Kunkler called the meeting to order at 4:02 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 **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS**
 - 2.1 **Student Presentation - Yreka Learning Center:** Yreka Learning Center students and SGI Joe Cannon shared about their school's E-Sports initiative. Board members and staff expressed appreciation for their work on the project and a desire to link Humboldt staff and students to this program.

- 3.0 **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - 3.1 **Consideration of Approval of Warrants & Payroll for Northern United - Humboldt Charter School (NU-HCS)**
 - 3.2 **Consideration of Approval of Warrants & Payroll for Northern United - Siskiyou Charter School (NU-SCS) (0919, 0930)**
 - 3.3 **Consideration of Approval of Minutes for the September 10, 2025 Board Meeting**
 - 3.4 **Consideration of Resignations, Hires, Leaves, and Change of Assignments**
 - 3.5 **Consideration of Approval of Williams' Uniform Complaint, Quarterly Report for NU-SCS**

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

- 4.0 **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
 - 4.1 **Comments by the Public:** None

- 5.0 **ACTION ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED**
 - 5.1 **Approval of the Pay Schedule Policy:** Shari Lovett and Tamara McFarland explained that the policy was updated for clarity and accuracy, and to bring it into better alignment with actual payroll practices. More detail was added about how pay is calculated for non-center-based teachers. Brian Payton moved to approve the Pay Schedule Policy; Jere Cox seconded. Vote: Rosemary Kunkler – aye, Brian Payton – aye, Jere Cox – aye, Barbara Boerger – aye; motion carries.

- 5.2 Approval of the Unaudited Actuals for NU-SCS:** Kelley Withers reported that special education contributions were higher than expected. Brian Payton moved to approve the Unaudited Actuals for NU-SCS; Barbara Boerger seconded. Vote: Rosemary Kunkler – aye, Brian Payton – aye, Jere Cox – aye, Barbara Boerger – aye; motion carries.

6.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 NU-HCS California Community School Partnership Program Implementation

Grant: Every year as part of the grant, the board must be updated on the activities associated with this grant. Shari Lovett reported on the goals and action steps that came from the needs assessments and data collection – (1) enhanced student well-being: action steps – wellness coaches, expanded elementary outdoor ed, expanded ORBE, staff professional development on restorative practices, implementation of character strong curriculum; (2) expanded/enriched learning time: action steps – expanded CTE pathways, swim lessons, expanded athletic programs, FFA offerings; (3) strengthen school culture: action steps – community advisory committee meetings, student presentations at board meetings, hosting multiple engagement events, parent/caregiver appreciation night. First CS advisory meeting of the year is coming up next week.

6.2 NU-SCS California Community School Partnership Program Implementation

Grant: Every year as part of the grant, the board must be updated on the activities associated with this grant. Shari Lovett reported on the goals and action steps that came from the needs assessments and data collection – (1) mental health and academic supports: action steps – community partnerships, tutoring/study hall; (2) expanded learning and physical education opportunities: action steps – many community partnerships, cross-country team, ORBE, songwriting class; (3) engagement / student and parent voice: action steps – Daybreak referral program, Character Strong, restorative justice staff training, having a school counselor, community partnerships. First CCC (Community Collaboration Committee) meeting of the year is coming up soon.

7.0 REPORTS

- 7.1 Enrollment and Attendance Report:** no questions or comments
7.2 Financial Report for NU-HCS and NU-SCS: no questions or comments
7.3 Northern United - Humboldt Charter School Report: no questions or comments
7.4 Northern United - Siskiyou Charter School Report: no questions or comments
7.5 Director's Report - Correspondence from county office regarding LCAP and budget approval: Shari Lovett reported on the following topics:

- LCAP and budget approval

- NU-HCS Williams Review report (zero findings) has been received and will be included in next month's board packet.

- NU-HCS charter petition renewal is happening this year. HCOE provided a suggested renewal timeline, recommending that we submit our charter petition by February 1st (hard deadline of March 1st).

- Responses to phones-in-classrooms survey (with most responses coming from parents and caregivers) mostly said they didn't want a full ban, but want them available at breaks and at lunch.

- Barbara's Form 700 needed.

7.6 Board Report:

- Jere Cox reported that he and Rosemary Kunkler recently attended the ELC open house and enjoyed speaking with the teachers. He expressed appreciation for Amanda Cobine's ELC weekly newsletters.

- Brian Payton reported that he also attended the ELC open house as a parent. His son is enjoying sports and other engagement opportunities at ELC.

- Rosemary Kunkler was pleased to have all three Humboldt board members at the ELC open house. She thought that turnout was great.

8.0 OPEN SESSION BEFORE CLOSED SESSION

8.1 The Board Chair verbally reviewed item(s) to be discussed during Closed Session as listed below.

8.2 **Closed Session Open Hearing:** Under this item, the public is invited to address the Board regarding items that are on the Closed Session. Speakers are limited to three minutes each. The Board is not allowed under the law to take action on matters that are not on the agenda.

8.3 **Adjourn to Closed Session:** The Board will adjourn to closed session pursuant to Government Code 54950 - 54962. Closed Session attendees will include: Board members; Shari Lovett; Director and other individuals that may be invited to attend by the Board.

8.3.1 **Conference with Real Property Negotiations (§ 54956.8):** Property: 4001 Broadway Street, Eureka, CA 95503

Rosemary Kunkler adjourned to closed session at 5:08 pm.

9.0 RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

9.1 **Report of Action Taken During Closed Session:** Reconvened into open session at 5:57 pm. No action was taken during closed session

10.0 NEXT BOARD MEETING

10.1 **Possible Agenda Items:** Follow-up from upcoming community schools meetings; another closed session; working on the board self-evaluation tool

10.2 **Next Board Meeting Date/Location:** November 13th (in Siskiyou)

11.0 **ADJOURNMENT:** Rosemary Kunkler adjourned the meeting at 6:05 pm.

