



Northern United Charter Schools Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting

November 13, 2025

Members Present: Rosemary Kunkler, Brian Payton, Jere Cox, Barbara Boerger (4:10pm arrival time)

Members Absent: (none)

Staff Present: Shari Lovett, Kelley Withers, Tamara McFarland, Rebekah Davis, Jen Rand, Lisa Ambrosini, Sara Thompson, Julia Anderson, Kirk Miller, Colleen Allen, Amanda Cobine

Guests Present: Madelyn Gomes and Rider Payton (ELC students)

1. **CALL TO ORDER/AGENDA** - Rosemary Kunkler called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.
 - 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.2. Adopt the Agenda - Jere Cox moved to adopt the agenda; Brian Payton seconded the motion. Vote: Jere Cox - aye; Brian Payton - aye; Rosemary Kunkler - aye (Barbara Boerger not in attendance yet); motion passed.
2. **PRESENTATIONS**
 - 2.1. Student Presentation - Eureka Learning Center - Amanda Cobine introduced ELC students Madelyn Gomes and Rider Payton, who presented on ELC's Back to School Night and BBQ, a bake sale in Old Town, Spirit Week, bonfire. Coming soon - Rescue Mission, Toys for Tots, volunteering at Centro del Pueblo garden and at care homes, and a winter formal.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - 3.1. Consideration of Approval of Warrants & Payroll for Northern United - Humboldt Charter School (NU-HCS) (A/P checks, 10/31 Payroll)
 - 3.2. Consideration of Approval of Warrants & Payroll for Northern United - Siskiyou Charter School (NU-SCS) (1001, 1010, 1020, 1023, 1027, 1107, 10/31 Payroll)
 - 3.3. Consideration of Approval of Minutes for the October 9th Board Meeting

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3.4. Consideration of Resignations, Hires, Leaves, and Change of Assignments

Jere Cox moved to approve the consent agenda items; Brian Payton seconded the motion. Vote: Jere Cox - aye; Brian Payton - aye; Rosemary Kunkler - aye; Barbara Boerger - aye; motion passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

4.1. Comments by the Public: No public comments.

5. ACTION ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED

5.1. Resolution Authorizing Compensation for Certified Wellness Coach I Outside of the Adopted Pay Schedule

Shari Lovett explained the need for this item due to this short term grant-funded position being paid at a rate not reflected on our current salary schedule. Jere Cox moved to approve the Resolution Authorizing Compensation for Certified Wellness Coach I Outside of the Adopted Pay Schedule; Brian Payton seconded the motion. Vote: Jere Cox - aye; Brian Payton - aye; Rosemary Kunkler - aye; Barbara Boerger - aye; motion passed.

5.2. Proposed update to 2025-26 Classified Salary Schedule

Shari Lovett explained that we would like to add a new classification for 1:1 Behavioral Aides; they are currently paid as Instructional Aides (classroom aides), but we have experienced a consistent need for a more highly trained pool of candidates to fill our 1:1 Behavioral Aide vacancies. We also added a line for classified substitutes. Brian Payton moved to approve the proposed update to 2025-26 Classified Salary Schedule; Jere Cox seconded the motion. Vote: Jere Cox - aye; Brian Payton - aye; Rosemary Kunkler - aye; Barbara Boerger - aye; motion passed.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1. 2025-2026 Williams Settlement Site Visit Report for NU-HCS

Shari Lovett shared that NU-HCS was selected for the Williams Settlement Site Visits, so HCOE facilities and program staff visited all of our locations to ensure that we have enough curriculum in every subject for every grade level, as well as to confirm that our buildings match what has been reported in the Facilities Inspection Tool. Their report reflects positive findings. This will happen again in each of the next two years.

6.2. Board Self-Evaluation Tool (Current Board Self-Evaluation Tool)

The board discussed whether to make changes to the existing tool or use it as-is this year. Jere Cox expressed a desire to add a sixth category that reflects code of conduct and professionalism issues. Jere Cox agreed to work on this addition and it will be agendized again next month.

7. REPORTS

7.1. Enrollment and Attendance Report - no comments or discussion

7.2. Financial Report for NU-HCS and NU-SCS - no comments or discussion

7.3. Northern United - Humboldt Charter School Report - Shari Lovett added that we plan to do a staff potluck once a month this year. Jere Cox shared that he appreciated seeing the information from Briceland

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Learning Center this month.

7.4. Northern United - Siskiyou Charter School Report - Several members of the board expressed disappointment at being unable to gather together in Siskiyou this month or last.

7.5. Director's Report (Shari Lovett)

- On her recent visit to SCOE; Shari met their new Associate Superintendent, who toured our learning centers in Siskiyou. Shari returns to SCOE in early December to meet with their Deputy Superintendent.
- We're down to digitizing the last 10 boxes of student records storage from MVCS; there are about 50 boxes of business files to be digitized as well, which we anticipate completing by the end of the year.
- Shari is unable to come to the next board meeting, currently scheduled for December 10, 2025. The board decided to reschedule that meeting for December 15, 2025 at 4:00.
- Shari just learned that a quorum of the board must participate from within the physical boundaries of the county where the majority of students reside. This means that the board can't meet in person in Siskiyou; it also means that if just one board member in Humboldt is absent from a meeting, we don't have a quorum. The board discussed whether we should consider changing the composition of the board to 4 members in Humboldt and 1 in Siskiyou to avoid this happening. This will be agendaized to discuss further.

7.6. Board Report

- Jere Cox inquired about Humboldt Sponsors grant reporting. He also shared that he has a surgery scheduled in January.
- Brian Payton shared that he has been attending NU-HCS's FFA meetings. He is also working with Wendy Kerr on behalf of Rotary and the Moose Lodge to source holiday food donations. He expressed appreciation for the good email communication with ELC parents. He also expressed how much our students appreciate Rebekah Davis, as evidenced by their outpouring of birthday cards recently. He also shared that one of our ELC students is going to be an exchange student through Rotary.
- Rosemary Kunkler apologized for missing School Administrator Appreciation Day last month, and expressed appreciation to NUCS's Administrators for all their hard work. She also attended the Fall Festival and enjoyed it very much.

8. OPEN SESSION BEFORE CLOSED SESSION

8.1. The Board Chair verbally reviewed items to be discussed during Closed Session - Conference with Real Property Negotiations - Property: 4001 Broadway Street, Eureka, CA 95503

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.

No comments

8.3. Rosemary Kunkler adjourned to Closed Session at 5:28 pm. Closed Session attendees included board members, Shari Lovett, Kelley Withers, Rebekah Davis, and Tamara McFarland.

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8.3.1. Conference with Real Property Negotiations (§ 54956.8)

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9. **RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION** - Rosemary Kunkler reconvened into open session at 5:39 pm.

9.1. Report of Action Taken During Closed Session - no action taken

10. **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

10.1. Possible Agenda Items: Board self evaluation, board reconfiguration, TK policy, 1st interim, audit, board meeting calendar and officers

10.2. Next Board Meeting Date: December 15, 2025

11. **ADJOURNMENT** - Rosemary Kunkler adjourned the meeting at 5:41 pm.

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