



BOARD MINUTES
Meeting of the Board of Directors
University High School Meeting
November 6, 2025
Room 108

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5:00 PM Open Session

MEMBERS PRESENT: Xuanning Fu (Chair), Brent Woodward (Vice Chair), Dominic Dizon (Secretary), Nichole Walsh, and Lori Hamada

MEMBERS ABSENT: Saul Jimenez-Sandoval, Rajee Amarasinghe (Treasurer),

1. Call to Order/Recognize Visitors

The meeting was called to order at 5:03pm by Dr. Xuanning Fu, Chair.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was unanimously **APPROVED** as submitted.

Woodward - motion, Hamada - second

3. Public Comment

Public comment on any item of interest to the public that is within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard. At this time, anyone present may speak for up to three minutes. Those who wish to speak may **voluntarily** sign in on the Sign-In sheet.

4. Student Presentation - Madeline Hu and Naye Lee

Mrs. Bird, counselor, introduced Naye Lee; Madeline Hu was not in attendance. Naye wrote a book about her experiences as a Korean girl growing up in the United Arab Emirates; the book is titled *A Girl Between Two Worlds: From Abu Dhabi to the World*, and is available on Amazon. She shared with the Board her international experiences and now her time at UHS. Mrs. Bird shared about Madeline's success as a student. Madeline received a perfect score on the PSAT last year (1520/1520) and is one of 16,000 Semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program. The finalists will be named in the Spring of 2026 and she could earn a \$2500 scholarship. She is also the captain of our Academic Decathlon team.

5. Executive Reports

- a. **Student Report** - ASB President Leo Jimesanagnos shared various events from October (Spirit Week, Phoenix Bowl, Senior field trip to the Ropes Course, and of course, MOTA) as well as upcoming events: Veterans Day holiday, Ice Cream Bowl, and Winter Formal. He also shared a [video](#) that he created with pictures of students from the past month of activities. He finished by saying that students are content and happy after several busy weeks.
- b. **Superintendent/Principal (Hickman):** Superintendent Hickman shared the enrollment numbers: 9th/135, 10th/130, 11th/116, 12th/ 117 = 498. She shared about past events in October: Magic of the Arts, Boys and Girls Basketball, and upcoming Fall concerts.

Superintendent Hickman also shared about facility updates. The Drama storage project is complete with the two metal containers on campus and that the Drama students had removed items from the POD and put them inside the containers. UHS has received two quotes from companies for new cameras and camera system. They are just waiting for the server to come in; installation will probably be completed during this semester. Lastly, UHS has met with two vendors for a new electronic door lock system. Superintendent Hickman has reached out to Clovis Unified since they have one of the systems.

Superintendent Hickman shared that she just heard back from Fresno State Student Involvement regarding the change of date for graduation. UHS graduation is confirmed for Thursday, May 14, 2026. However, UHS has not been able to reserve the FS Concert Hall for Baccalaureate. Superintendent Hickman asked for Dr. Fu's assistance to reserve that space or another one like it for the UHS Baccalaureate program. The space will need to accommodate about 400 people. Dr. Walsh suggested the Table Mountain Reading Room on the 3rd floor of the Library and the Planetarium. Dr. Fu asked Superintendent Hickman to send him an email with the information.

- c. **Budget Review (Bryson):** CFO Bryson presented the current budget for the month and the 5-year budget. She explained that UHS is in very good shape financially due to the growing unrestricted balance. It was also noted that the Vanguard account has continued to grow over \$2 million. CFO Bryson did not foresee any issues with the budget coming up, even with the government shutdown.

6. Consent Agenda

All consent agenda items are considered routine by the Board of Governors and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of items unless a Board member or citizen so requests, in which event, the item(s) will be considered following approval of the Consent Agenda.

- a. Approve the Minutes from the October 2, 2025 Meeting
- b. Total Payments Report

The consent agenda was unanimously APPROVED as submitted.
Dizon - motion, Walsh - second

7. Discussion Items (Including Potential Action Items)

- a. **48 Book Program (discussion/voting item):** Superintendent Hickman asked Dr. Larry Jarocki, English Department Chair, to join the discussion to change the program from 48 books to 40 books. Teachers are not able to get through all 12 of the books annually. The cost savings would be about \$10,000 a year. Superintendent Hickman shared that she had spoken with Wendy Costa, one of the writers of the original charter, to ask for her opinion. Mrs. Costa appreciated the phone call, but said that she trusted the decisions of Superintendent Hickman and the administration; she stated that change is inevitable and necessary to move forward as a school. Superintendent Hickman also asked for feedback from the Student Advisory Council, and they also believe that 10 books would be better than 12 books. They would like to have more depth rather than quickly skimming through a book due to time constraints. Dr. Jarocki shared that he has not been able to get through all 12 books in his six years at UHS.
The change of the 48 Book Program to the 40 Book Program was unanimously APPROVED as submitted.
Walsh - motion, Dizon - second
- b. **First Interim Report & MYP (voting item/Bryson):** CFO Bryson presented the First Interim Report, along with the Multi-Year Projection worksheet to the Board. She explained that these reports are required reports that she sends in to FUSD, our authorizer. These reports are also the same or very similar to

what she shares monthly with our Board, except that the MYP document is a 3 year projection and she shares a 5 year projection each month.

The First Interim Report and MYP spreadsheet was unanimously **APPROVED** as submitted.

Dizon - motion, Walsh - second

- c. **Employee Handbook (voting item/Hickman):** Superintendent Hickman brought back this handbook after receiving information from the school's attorneys regarding Bone Marrow leave, which the Board had questions about. Yes, employees are granted leave for bone marrow donation, even if they do not have sick time accrued.

The Employee Handbook update was unanimously APPROVED as submitted.

Hamada - motion, Dizon - second

- c. **MOU with Fresno Unified for 2025-2030 (voting item/Hickman):** Superintendent Hickman shared that she had not received the final Memorandum of Understanding document from Fresno Unified yet, but had heard from the school's attorneys that it was complete. She will bring it for Board approval at a future meeting.

- d. **Other:** There were no additional items added to the agenda.

8. Future Meetings: December 4

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6.00pm by Dr. Xuanning Fu, Chair.