









June 2024 Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

Schedule	Wednesday, June 5, 2024 8:45 AM — 9:30 AM CDT
Venue	UofM Lambuth - Jackson, TN
Organizer	Colton Cockrum

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1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Presented by Doug Edwards

2. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

For Approval

Presented by Colton Cockrum

3. Legislative Update

Presentation

4. Innovative School District Approval

For Approval

Presented by Doug Edwards

The University of Memphis Board of Trustees

Recommendation for Approval

Innovative School District Approval

Date: June 5, 2024

Committee: Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

Presentation: Innovative School District Approval

Presented by: Dr. Sally G. Parish, Associate Vice President for Educational Initiatives

Background: For 112 years, The University of Memphis has been home to some of the state's most highly successful schools. Today, our three early childhood programs, Campus Elementary, University Middle, and University High schools collectively serve a diverse population of students from every zip code in Shelby County, without any educational requirement for admission. The University Schools are the highest performing school system in the state of Tennessee with a waitlist of over 1,500 children. In the most recent academic year, the University Schools had the highest pass rate across all subjects of any school system in the state of Tennessee. All three K12 schools earned an "A" letter grade from the TDOE and the highest possible scores for student growth. As a result of such longstanding success, and in an effort to scale it, state lawmakers passed the Innovative School District Act in 2024 (TCA 49-8-1501 et seq) which authorizes The University of Memphis to operate the first Innovative School District in the state of Tennessee.

Committee Recommendation: The Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee requests a motion to approve the launch of the Innovative School District at the University of Memphis.

Innovative School District Approval

Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

Dr. Sally G. Parish
Associate Vice President, Educational Initiatives

June 5, 2024



**Board of
Trustees**

JUNE 2024

Innovative School District Approval



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MEMPHIS®

Board of
Trustees



Our mission is to provide the children of our community with educational experiences that enhance their development from birth to graduation and promote dynamic research, collaborative partnerships, and innovative practices.



Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee Charter Revisions

Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

Dr. Sally G. Parish
Associate Vice President, Educational Initiatives

June 5, 2024



JUNE 2024

Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee Charter Revisions

Purpose

The Governmental Affairs and Public Policy Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and remaining informed of public and educational policy that impact the University. The committee shall be kept abreast of local, state and federal issues that may affect the University. **The committee shall also serve as the governing board for the University's PK-12 schools and school partnerships.**

Membership

A minimum of four trustees will serve on the Governmental Affairs and Public Policy committee. The chair of the committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee. The chief government affairs officer and **Director of Schools will serve as ex officio members of the committee.**

Authority and Responsibilities

- Approve or delegate approval of necessary PK-12 policies.
- Approve or delegate approval of significant PK-12 budget, finance, and capital improvement needs.
- Approve or delegate approval of school calendars.
- Approve or delegate approval of new schools and school partnerships in the ISD.

Innovative School District Policy

Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

Dr. Sally G. Parish
Associate Vice President, Educational Initiatives

June 5, 2024



JUNE 2024

- Board subcommittee to serve in capacity as local board of education
- Ability to delegate powers and duties to the President including:
 - Designating an employee to serve as the Director of Schools
 - Approval of Annual ISD budget
 - Annual ISD academic calendar
- Adoption of founding policy manual of the ISD
 - Inclusion of all state board required policies
 - Authorization of a policy review process for subsequent policy approvals
 - Identification of university property that serves as K12 space qualified for K12 capital improvement investments
- Approval of capital improvements & investments
- Approval of new school openings and new school partnerships

Innovative School District Director of Schools

Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

Dr. Bill Hardgrave, President

June 5, 2024



JUNE 2024

Director of Schools Approval

Pursuant to TCA 49-8-1501 et seq, a governing body for a public university that is approved by the department of education to operate an innovative school district may delegate to the chief executive officer of the public university authorization to designate a university employee to serve as the director of schools for the innovative school district. The director of schools for the innovative school district shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the established committee and liaison between the board and the schools.

5. Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee Charter Revision

For Approval

Presented by Doug Edwards

The University of Memphis Board of Trustees

Recommendation for Approval

Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee Charter Revisions

Date: June 5, 2024

Committee: Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

Presentation: Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee Charter Revisions

Presented by: Dr. Sally G. Parish, Associate Vice President for Educational Initiatives

Background: The University of Memphis Board of Trustees (BOT) is authorized and empowered by the Innovative School District Act, 49-8-1501 et seq, to serve as the governing body of the Innovative School District (ISD). The BOT therefore will serve as the local board of education for the ISD. The law authorizes the BOT (see: 48-8-1503(b)(1)) to appoint a committee from its membership to perform all functions of a local board of education. The Governmental Affairs and Public Policy Committee of the BOT is recommended to serve in this capacity. The necessary revisions to the Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee Charter are attached for review and approval.

Committee Recommendation: The Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee calls for a motion to approve the Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee Charter revisions.

Governmental Affairs & Public Policy

Purpose

The Governmental Affairs and Public Policy Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and remaining informed of public and educational policy that impact the University. The committee shall be kept abreast of local, state and federal issues that may affect the University. The committee shall also serve as the governing board for the University's PK-12 schools and school partnerships.

Authority and Responsibilities

- Be provided updates on state/federal education policy and initiatives.
- Receive legislative updates that may impact the institution.
- Be informed of the status of state appropriations and its impact on the institution.
- Build positive relationships between state, local, and federal governmental entities.
- Identify local, state, and federal activities that may affect the University.
- Review and recommend policies relating to local, state, and federal legislation.
- Approve or delegate approval of necessary PK-12 policies.
- Approve or delegate approval of significant PK-12 budget, finance, and capital improvement needs.
- Approve or delegate approval of school calendars.
- Approve or delegate approval of new schools and school partnerships in the ISD.

Membership

A minimum of four trustees will serve on the Governmental Affairs and Public Policy committee. The chair of the committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee. The chief government affairs officer and Director of Schools will serve as an ex officio member of the committee. The Director of Schools and the chair of the committee shall serve as University Schools Board Executive Committee.

Meetings

The Governmental Affairs and Public Policy committee shall meet twice a year or at any other time upon the call of the committee chair. A majority of the members of the Governmental Affairs and Public Policy committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Approved December 12, 2023; Revised June 5, 2024

Governmental Affairs & Public Policy

Purpose

The Governmental Affairs and Public Policy Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and remaining informed of public and educational policy that impact the University. The committee shall be kept abreast of local, state and federal issues that may affect the University. The committee shall also serve as the governing board for the University's PK-12 schools and school partnerships.

Authority and Responsibilities

- Be provided updates on state/federal education policy and initiatives.
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- Approve or delegate approval of new schools and school partnerships in the ISD.

Membership

A minimum of four trustees will serve on the Governmental Affairs and Public Policy committee. The chair of the committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee. The chief government affairs officer and Director of Schools will serve as ex officio members of the committee. The Director of Schools and the chair of the committee shall serve as University Schools Board Executive Committee.

Meetings

The Governmental Affairs and Public Policy committee shall meet twice a year or at any other time upon the call of the committee chair. A majority of the members of the Governmental Affairs and Public Policy committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

6. Innovative School District Policy

For Approval

Presented by Doug Edwards

The University of Memphis Board of Trustees

Recommendation for Approval

Innovative School District Policy

Date: June 5, 2024

Committee: Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

Presentation: Innovative School District Policy

Presented by: Dr. Sally G. Parish, Associate Vice President for Educational Initiatives

Background: As the governing body of the Innovative School District, The University of Memphis Board of Trustees (BOT) is establishing a policy to outline powers, duties, and procedures for the operation of the ISD, including the designation of a director of schools, the authority to delegate duties and approvals on behalf of the ISD, the adoption of a district policy manual, the establishment of a policy review process, and the approvals of critical district functions including capital improvements, capital investments, and new school openings. The Innovative School District Policy establishes these powers and duties.

Committee Recommendation: The Governmental Affairs and Public Policy Committee calls for a motion to approve the Innovative School District Policy.

The University of Memphis Board of Trustees – Innovative School District Policy

Purpose

The Board of Trustees has the power to serve as the local board of education for the Innovative School District (ISD) operated by the University of Memphis. The Board may appoint from its membership a committee to perform the functions of a local board of education for the operation of the Innovative School District.

Policy

- I. The Board shall identify a subcommittee to serve in the capacity of the local board of education for the ISD.
- II. The subcommittee may exercise the powers and duties authorized by TCA 49-8-203, including, as appropriate, the ability to assume general responsibility for the operation of the institution, delegating to the President such powers and duties as are necessary and appropriate for the efficient administration of the institution and its programs, inclusive of the ISD.
- III. The subcommittee may delegate to the President authorization to designate a university employee to serve as director of schools for the ISD.
 - a. The employee designated to serve as Director of Schools shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the subcommittee and liaison between the board and the schools.
 - b. The board, acting through the president, shall delegate duties specific to the operations of the ISD, as deemed appropriate, to the Director of Schools.
- IV. The subcommittee hereby adopts an initial policy manual for the ISD, and authorizes a policy review process for subsequent policies that guide the operations of the schools within the ISD, including enrollment and academic policies.
- V. The subcommittee shall approve, or delegate approval to the appropriate University official, the annual ISD budget.
- VI. The subcommittee shall approve, or delegate approval to the appropriate University official, the annual ISD academic calendar.
- VII. The subcommittee shall approve any capital improvement investments in property currently owned and operated by the ISD for the operation of PK-12 schools including the Early Learning & Research Center, Campus Elementary School, and the Orgel Educational Center (home to University Middle and University High Schools).
- VIII. The subcommittee shall approve any capital improvement investments in new properties identified or obtained in the future for the operations for schools within the ISD.
- IX. The subcommittee shall approve any new school openings or new school partnerships in the ISD.
- X. The subcommittee shall have, at minimum, the same authority and autonomy afforded to LEAs under state law regarding the procurement of goods and services.
 - a. The subcommittee's written procedures for procurement of all goods and services in compliance with expenditure thresholds for competitive bidding outlined or permitted in 49-2-203 are reflected in University Policy [BF4007](#)- Procurement and Contract Services.

Effective Date/Revisions: June 5, 2024

Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 49-8-1501-1510

7. Approval of Director of Schools

For Approval

Presented by Doug Edwards

The University of Memphis Board of Trustees

Recommendation for Approval

Innovative School District Director of Schools

Date: June 5, 2024

Committee: Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee

Presentation: Innovative School District Director of Schools

Presented by: Doug Edwards

Background: Pursuant to TCA 49-8-1501 et seq, a governing body for a public university that is approved by the department of education to operate an innovative school district may delegate to the chief executive officer of the public university authorization to designate a university employee to serve as the director of schools for the innovative school district. The director of schools for the innovative school district shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the established committee and liaison between the board and the schools.

Dr. Sally G. Parish serves as the Associate Vice President for Educational Initiatives at the University of Memphis where she provides leadership and strategic direction for the University Schools, the UofM's birth to graduation lab school compendium. Under Sally's leadership, the University Schools compendium has opened four schools in the past four years and has been nationally recognized for their high academic quality as Blue Ribbon Schools, Trauma Informed Schools, Innovative School Models, Reward Schools, and STEM and STEAM designated schools. The University Schools serve children in every local zip code within Shelby County, and have no academic requirement for entry yet have the state's highest success rate of any public school system. This model has been highly sought after for expansion across the nation, and within our own state and provides an important teacher training environment that promotes teaching as a profession, dual enrollment pathways, literacy and college access. During Sally's tenure as the first AVP for Educational Initiatives at the University of Memphis, student applications to attend a University School have increased by more than 1000% and enrollment numbers have quadrupled.

Committee Recommendation: The Governmental Affairs & Public Policy Committee requests a motion to approve Dr. Sally Parish as the inaugural Director of Schools for the Innovative School District.

8. Additional Business

Presented by Doug Edwards

9. Adjournment

Presented by Doug Edwards