










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

113th General Assembly Recap

Government Relations & Policy

Allie Jones

Deputy Chief Government Relations & Policy Officer

June 5, 2024

University Center



JUNE 2022

Due to a 3-year retroactive refund of franchise and excise taxes totaling \$1.9 billion, state appropriations were limited compared to previous years.

Higher education allocations in this year's budget included:

- Recurring state appropriation of \$17,194,800 to fully fund the outcomes-based funding formula
 - The University of Memphis received \$3.9 million for outcomes productivity
- 3% salary increase for higher education employee salaries
- \$5.4 million awarded to the University of Memphis for phase 2 of planned safety and security upgrades

- **SB2557/HB2678 – Innovative School District**

- Authorizes the University of Memphis to operate an LEA as an Innovative School District. The legislation allows University’s Campus Schools to serve more students in Shelby County and expand its footprint, while continuing its partnership with the University to research and determine innovative teaching practices.
- Sponsors: Rep. Mark White, Sen. Brent Taylor
- *Passed*

- **SB1711/HB1630 – Artificial Intelligence Policy**

- Requires the board of trustees of each public institution of higher education and the governing body of each local education agency (LEA) and each to adopt a policy regarding the use of artificial intelligence by students, faculty, and staff for instructional and assignment purposes. Requires the board of trustees of each public institution of higher education to post the policy on each institution’s website and to submit the policy to the Chair of the Education Committee of the Senate and the Chair of the Education Administration Committee of the House of Representatives no later than July 1, 2025.
- Sponsors: Rep. Scott Cepicky, Sen. Joey Hensley

- *Passed*

- **SB709/HB1059 – Name, Image and Likeness**

- An intercollegiate athletic association must not unfairly restrict an intercollegiate athlete's ability to earn compensation for, or perform diligence related to, the intercollegiate athlete's name, image, or likeness rights. Allows compensation to be provided in exchange for athletic performance or attendance at an institution.
- Prohibits an institution from compensating an intercollegiate athlete for the intercollegiate athlete's name, image, or likeness unless expressly permitted by federal law, a court order, or the institution's athletic association.
- Authorizes an intercollegiate athlete to obtain representation by a third party for the purpose of performing diligence. Any diligence performed also does not affect the intercollegiate athlete's grant-in-aid or athletic eligibility.
- Provides that an institution or related entities who assists an intercollegiate athlete with performing diligence and securing compensation for the use of the intercollegiate athlete's name, image, or likeness must not be considered to be athlete agents, and are not subject to the requirements for athlete agents as prescribed by the law regarding intercollegiate athlete's name, image, or likeness or Revised Uniform Athlete Agent Act so long as such individual does not have a direct pecuniary or financial interest in the terms of the student athlete's compensation.
- Prohibits an intercollegiate athletic association from interfering with an intercollegiate athlete's ability to earn compensation, seek representation, or perform diligence and from otherwise impacting an intercollegiate athlete's eligibility or full participation in intercollegiate athletic events, unless the intercollegiate athlete has committed a violation of an institution's rules, or the law is invalidated or rendered unenforceable by operation of law.
- Sponsors: Rep. Kevin Vaughan, Sen. John Stevens
- *Passed*

- **SB2486/HB2249 – Military Affiliated In-State Tuition**

- Requires institutions of higher education to classify a student who is the spouse or dependent child of an active service member as an in-state student for tuition purposes, regardless of the spouse's or dependent child's domicile or place of residence, if the service member is a Tennessee resident and has resided in the state for at least a year.
- Sponsors: Rep. Robert Stevens, Sen. Dawn White
- *Passed*

- **SB2501/HB2784 - Divisive Concepts Investigation Procedures**

- Requires a public institution of higher education to investigate reports from students or employees of potential violations of state divisive concepts laws. Institutions shall:
 - Conduct investigations in a timely manner
 - Shall take appropriate steps to correct any violation that is found to have occurred
 - Shall report the results of each investigation to the Comptroller of the Treasury no later than 10 days after the investigation is completed
- If the Comptroller receives more than 10 reports from an institution in one academic year, the the Comptroller shall report to the House and Senate Education Committees
- Sponsors: Rep. John Ragan, Sen. Joey Hensley

- **SB2528/HB2625 – Accreditation**

- Requires the Tennessee Higher Education Commission and each governing board of a public institution of higher education to regularly update their rules regarding accreditation to conform with changes made by the United States Department of Education or by an enactment of the Congress of the United States.
- Requires THEC to determine the accrediting agencies or associations best suited to serve as an accreditor for public institutions of higher education in this state. Requires THEC and each governing board of a public institution of higher education in this state to amend their rules regarding accreditation to ensure that each institution may choose to pursue accreditation by an eligible accreditor.
- Prohibits an accrediting agency or association from compelling a public institution of higher education to violate any state law. Authorizes a public institution of higher education that is negatively affected by retaliatory or adverse action taken against the institution by an accrediting agency to bring a civil action against the accrediting agency.
- Sponsors: Sen. John Stevens, Rep. Kevin Vaughan
- *Passed*

- **SB2095/HB1855 – Security of Academic Research**

- Requires each public institution of higher education to safeguard its academic research from foreign adversaries by establishing a research security policy to be implemented no later than January 1, 2025, and make the policy available on the institution's website. The research security policy must:
 - Comply with legal, regulatory and contractual requirements and standards
 - Promote an institutional cultural of compliance
 - Address efforts to maintain publicly accessible contact information, a process to regularly update the policy and establish internal processes to ensure compliance
 - Comply with state and federal distributions of communications on research security matters
 - Make processes to identify and address compliance concerns at the institution
 - Requires the governing board of each public institution of higher education to submit a report on the institution's compliance no later than July 1, 2025, to the chairs of the education committees of the Senate and House.
- Sponsored by Rep. John Ragan, Sen. Joey Hensley
- *Passed*

- **SB2610/HB2348 – Resources and Support for Terrorist Organizations**
 - Makes it a Class E felony for an entity that is supported in whole or in part by public funds to knowingly provide meeting spaces, electronic and print platforms, to any of the following for the purpose of soliciting material support, recruiting new members, or encouraging violent action:
 - Any entity designated by the United States department of state as a foreign terrorist organization in accordance with § 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. § 1189)
 - A group or organization that the entity knows or reasonably should know has engaged in an act of terrorism
 - A group or organization that the entity knows or reasonably should know receives financial or other support from a designated entity
 - Sponsors: Rep. John Ragan, Sen. Paul Rose
 - *Passed*

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



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



**Board of
Trustees**

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



**Board of
Trustees**

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



**Board of
Trustees**

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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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