

Optimist Youth Homes & Family Services
Charter School Board Meeting
6957 North Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90042
Youth Learning Center Board Room

Minutes of Meeting April 3, 2017
6:10 PM

Welcome and Call to Order- President Dee Gadbury

Flag Salute- Jeff Morris

Roll Call of Board Members: Dee Gadbury

Board Officers in Attendance:

President Dee Gadbury

Vice President Malak Kazan

Vice President Dennis Andolsek – Late

Board Members in Attendance:

Larry Brown

Steve Duben

Jeff Morris

Lenna Welling

Sumako Cohrs

Jack Evans

Linnie Murphy

Ron Villachica

Pam Duben

Cathy McCutcheon

Richard Niederberg

Past Presidents in Attendance:

Bill Snyder

Staff in Attendance:

CEO Sil Orlando

Superintendent Alan Eskot

CFO Doug Buttrick

Meeting Agenda:

Motion to accept agenda items

1)Richard Niederberg 2) Bill Snyder

Motion carried with 14 yeas – 0 nays

Motion to accept Minutes of previous meeting

1)Richard Niederberg 2) Bill Snyder

Motion carried 15 yeas – 0 nays

Public Comment on Non Agenda Items – None Present

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None Present

Financial Report: Doug Buttrick

Report on Current Financial standing of the Charter School

Total Assets as of February 28, 2017	--\$ 291,060
Total Liabilities as of February 28, 2017	--\$ 38,538
Beginning Fund Balance	97,074
Current Surplus/Deficit	155,449
Total Fund Balance	252,523
Total Liabilities and Equity	291,060

Motion to accept report and file for audit

1)Linnie Murphy 2)Richard Neiderberg

Motion carried 15 yeas -0 nays

Discussion Items Requiring Action

None this Month

Discussion Items:

Alan wanted to erg as many board members as possible to attend the June 23, 2017 Graduation. He anticipates 12 graduates at this time. The Graduates will have a Dinner on June 14, 2017 to selibrate this occasion.

Superintendent Alan Eskot Gave the Following Report

Superintendent's report

1. Current enrollment as of Monday, 3/31, 130 (126) enrolled, ADA 120 (115), our last week in March we averaged an ADA of 121.6, our highest week in several months!
 - a. 85 (78) Optimist
 - b. 12 (14) Aviva, last year we averaged over 20 students.
 - c. 27 (27) Pac Lodge, significant increase over the past 1.5 weeks!
 - d. 6 (7) Community: One community student has not attended for several weeks.
2. Staffing. Our Math TA resigned after the vacation in January. We are still looking to replace her. All staff evaluations are current for last month again!
3. Progress reports: Our first progress reports for the spring semester were handed out on 3/15. 81% of all grades for students who have attended 18 days or longer were passing grades. This is lower than usual but similar to our first progress reports of other semesters. However, we had 11

students earn the high honor roll and 10 the regular honor roll, 25% of our students made the honor roll which is quite high!

4. Site Council: Our meeting was held on Wednesday 3/8. Here are the items discussed:
 - a. Discussed, again, how students could contribute toward field trips in the future. Also mentioned that our development department was contacted and is going to assist us in raising money for future field trips.
 - b. Reviewed WASC accreditation and its purpose again. We also got feedback and input from the group.
 - c. Buddy system. We discussed implementing a buddy system whereby site council representatives and their alternates would act as buddy's for incoming students to assist new students understand our behavior system, familiarize them with our policies and procedures, and overall make new students feel wanted and comfortable. One of our student representatives, Vincent, is spear heading this and he will be meeting with Alan with a plan once we get back from our spring break.
 - d. Discussed the importance of utilizing our computer programs during the 30 minute homeroom/resource periods. More students are using Catch Up math than before. Teachers are doing a better job of monitoring this.
 - e. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, 4/26, 11:30-12:30.
5. Library. Our part-time librarian will be coming in over the 2 week spring break on Mondays and Wednesday.
6. Student of the Month lunch was last Thursday. We took 9 students out to a Chinese restaurant and had a great time.
7. School schedule: School is closed from 4/3-4/14. Teachers distributed packets of material for students who are failing or getting low D's. If this work is completed appropriate, it will help these students improve their grades.
8. We have our WASC re-accreditation visit the end of April. 4/24-26. We have confirmation that the visit will occur. We sent out our final document. We also sent to LACOE and got a very positive response from our monitor there. Are there any questions about the final document that was sent out?
9. Success Stories: One of our community students who has been with us for 1.5 years has only been passing half of his classes since he enrolled. Recently he has been not going to certain classes and wandering around outside of some classes. Lynn and I met with him and his mother 3 weeks ago, and we placed him on a joint contract at home and in school, his allowance would be contingent on his school scores. Since that meeting, he has totally changed his behavior and is incredibly motivated to doing more work and staying in his classes. He actually looks like a different person. He comes to my office daily with higher behavior levels and has showed us improvements on his quiz scores. I have done two follow up visits with him and his mother on Friday mornings. We are so proud of this quick and significant change.

Two new students, one from Pac Lodge and another from Optimist, tested above 12th grade on both sections of the tests, English and Math.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:35

Submitted by

Pam Duben Standing in For Linda McWeeney
Optimist Charter School Board of Directors