

**Optimist Youth Home & Family Services
Charter School Board Meeting
6957 N. Figueroa St.
Los Angeles, Ca. 90042
YLC Board Room**

Meeting Minutes for: April. 7, 2014

Call to order: 5:16 p.m. Bill Snyder

Welcome: Bill Snyder

Flag Salute: Dee Gadbury

Roll Call of Members: Bill Snyder; quorum confirmed

Officers in attendance:

Bill Snyder-President
Malak Kazan, Secretary

Dee Gadbury, Vice President
Leland Lau, Treasurer

Board Members in attendance:

Gary Austin
Steve Duben
Jeff Morris
Ron Villachica

Ted Carter
Jesse Fox
Cathy McCutcheon

Dennis Andolsek
Linda McWeeney (PSE Rep.)
Linnie Murphy

Past Presidents in attendance:

Terry McWeeney, Immed. Past Pres.

Bill Bertrand

Staff in Attendance:

Doug Buttrick
Alan Eskot

Crystal Brackin
Lynn DeYoung

Sil Orlando

Meeting Agenda:

1. Approval of Agenda Items: Dee Gadbury motion and Steve Duben second; no opposition
2. Approval of Minutes from prior Meeting: Dee Gadbury motion and Gary Austin second; no opposition
3. Public Comment on non-agenda items: no response
4. Public Comment on agenda items: no response

Fiscal Report:

Doug Buttrick: For Feb. 27,165 surplus; reduced the YTD deficit; June surplus 11K forecasted; cash of \$229K for end of Feb.

Discussion Items:

1. Follow up on PCSGP Grant request: Sil Orlando, 575K request and scored 48 points on narrative which is very good; next step for fiscal review; emailed about 10 days ago questioning 60K expenses and responded; waiting for outcome; in 6 weeks should have response; optimistic of a positive outcome; going quicker than we thought; 3 year grant for Charter School startups.
2. WASC site visit report: Sil Orlando, need to get accredited in order to issue diplomas; Lynn and Alan did tremendous work; informal channels confirmed home is being recommended for approval; is good for 3 years; should hear something definitive by May. Lynn submitted action plan recently requested and were are waiting for feedback on the plan. They came out quickly to accommodate our June graduation.
3. School Updates: See Appendix A from Alan Eskot; Other items discussed: Dee: Less credits? 130 c redits and do not require electives and considered a General Diploma; can stay if they want 220 credits however we recommend they go to community college and the home offers scholarship programs; Terry: Will there be a join graduation or separate? It will be joint graduation on June 20th. Diplomas will be given on June 30th Steve: How do teachers cope with turnover of student population. New hires are notified of this aspect; It is disruptive difficult and challenging; staff turnover is low. Billy: pleased with scores the students are achieving; Alan, honor roll is higher than expected;
4. Sil: Thank everyone for completing the form 700s. Next month meeting from Janet Ruly attorney regarding the Brown Act.

Meeting Adjournment: 5 :43 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: May.5, 2013

Respectfully Submitted: Malak Kazan, Optimist Charter School Board – Secretary

Appendix A

Board Agenda items, 4/7/14

1. Fall 2 reporting in CALPADS (CA Longitudinal Pupil Assessment Data System), completed and submitted. This includes required teacher information, student enrollment information, course information, and services received information.
2. CCSA conference: I went for 2 days to San Jose and made some positive connections and got information about legal issues, LCFF, etc.
3. Update on the potential grant: scored 48 out of 56 on narrative section which was excellent. The budget was reviewed and there were three small revisions/explanations which were completed and resubmitted. We hope to hear soon about qualifying for the \$575,000 grant and are feeling quite hopeful.
4. LCAP (Local Control Accountability Plan) will be started soon. This is a new plan for all public school based on the new LCFF (Local Control Funding Formula) funding model.
5. History Teacher update. Her finger prints have cleared and the new teacher, Tina, will be starting tomorrow. Our current physical/earth science teacher is taking her first of three classes to be admitted into an intern program. Hopefully her admission into the program will be completed by 8/1, at which point she will be considered HQT'd, highly qualified.
6. 8-10 potential graduates in June.
7. Last week our ADA has been in the high 80's.
8. We have our first community student who transferred from the residential program two weeks ago. He lives in Burbank and will be finishing this semester with us. So far his attendance has been great. We are transporting him with some of our NPS students since he is a SPED student.
9. Smarter Balanced testing: California state testing is being replaced with Smarter Balanced Testing. We are required to do math and English with 7, 8, and 11th graders. We are installing five laptops in room 102 in order to do testing with charter students in that room. We will also use the computer lab for some of the testing. SBA testing must be completed by 5/16. Movement to do these tests on a computer, thus we will be needing more computers in the future. We are also required to do CST testing in science with 8th and 10th graders. That testing is done with paper and pencil. The testing window will begin on 5/6 and be completed by 6/09.
10. We have been officially approved by the state for ASAM, Alternative Student Accountability Model.
11. First 6 weeks progress reports went out today. 29% of our students made the honor roll.