

Optimist Youth Home & Family Services  
Charter School Board Meeting  
Pacific Lodge Campus  
4900 Serrania Avenue  
Woodland Hills CA  
Activity Center

Minutes of Meeting April 2, 2018  
6:05 PM

**Welcome and Call to Order** – President Malak Kazan

**Flag Salute** – Michael Seibert

**Roll Call of Board Members:** President Malak Kazan

**Board Officers in Attendance:**

President Malak Kazan  
Vice President Steve Duben  
Vice President Dennis Andolsek  
Secretary Linda McWeeney

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Michael Seibert	Terry McWeeney	Pam Duben
Larry Brown	Lenna Welling	
Deborah Kent Clark	Sumako Cohrs	

**Past Presidents in Attendance:**

Dee Gadbury

**Staff in Attendance:**

CEO Sil Orlando  
Superintendent Alan Eskot  
CFO Doug Buttrick  
COO Mental Health Dept. James Gibson  
CCO Euna Ra-Smith

**Meeting Agenda:**

Motion to accept agenda items  
1) Richard Niederberg 2) Dee Gadbury  
Motion carried with 13 yeas - 0 nays

Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting  
1) Richard Niederberg 2) Dee Gadbury  
Motion carried with 13 yeas – 0 nays

Public Comment on Non Agenda Items – None Presented  
Public Comment on Agenda Items – None Presented

**Fiscal Report: Doug Buttrick**

Reported on current fiscal standing of the Charter School

We continue to have low census in both facilities and the group homes

Total Assets as of February 28, 2018	--	\$284,323
Total Liabilities as of February 28, 2018	--	\$133,922

Beginning Fund Balance		112,565
Current Surplus/Deficit		37,836
Total fund Balance		150,401

Total Liabilities and Equity		284,323
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Motion to accept report and file for audit

1)Dee Gadbury 2)Richard Niederberg

Motion carried 13 Yeas - 0 Nays

**Discussion Items**

On March 6, Superintendent Eskot, CEO Orlando and Principal DeYoung gave a ten minute presentation regarding our petition for re-authorization. We also had five different people and also an ex-student speak on our behalf. LACOE said many good things about our school. We are now awaiting word regarding our re-authorization.

On March 15, 2018 we had a two hour and forty five minute interview with LACOE. It was a very intense interview and they asked many questions. They were concerned with our diminished census and we tried to explain the reason for the drop and our thoughts on when it would improve. We felt that the interview went very well, but it was an exhausting meeting. We will know on April 3, 2018 if they have approved us for re-authorization. They also informed us that they will be bringing sixteen people to our campus to show how we run our school.

**Superintendent Alan Eskot gave the following report**

**Current enrollment**

The current enrollment as of Friday March 23, 2018 was 90 (89) enrolled, ADA 81 (76). Our enrollment and ADA continues to be low but stable. We are meeting with a group home executive on April 11, 2018 to discuss the possibility of enrolling some of their female residential students. Today we had 95 students enrolled with an ADA of 87.

67(67) Optimist

15(14) Pac Lodge

8 ( 8) Community Students – 2 community students are not attending many days

Previous report cards on March 23, 2018 13 students – 19% made the honor roll. Our highest GPA was 3.77. In terms of failing grades; we had a full range of grades. Our students have become more challenging and six students had 3 fails, 8 students with 4 fails, 3 with 5 fails, 3 with 6 fails and 1 community student earned all fails, but she had not attended school for the past two and one half weeks. There were 23 fails on report cards with 1 or 2 fails. Overall our passing rate was 80%. If one subtracts the three students with 6 fails and the three with 5 fails this percentage increases to 86.6%.

Our minimum day this month will be Thursday April 26, 2018.

Tri Terms will be starting on Monday April 30, 2018.

We are changing our school closure day from this Friday April 6 to Monday May 7, 2018. This is an unpaid day off. School was closed for spring break last week. We had 11 new intakes waiting to enroll in school today.

We are trying to hire an Art Teacher and a math TA. I have interviewed five people and was interested in two who decided against accepting the job. We will be interviewing a group tomorrow and hopefully we will fill these positions soon.

We will be busy completing our state testing over the next two months.

Review school calendar

### **Site Council**

We have been improving with our Buddy System but still need additional improvement in getting students involved with this policy from the first day they start school. We had three new school representatives. More involvement in the homerooms regarding Site Council involvement needs to take place. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday April 11, 2018

### **Student of the Month**

Our Student of the Month Lunch will be on Friday April 6, 2018.

### **LACOE Meeting**

Our meeting with LACOE was held on March 6, 2018. Sil, Lynn and I presented to the Board a full and rushed 10 minutes information. They asked us several questions which we answered. At the end of our presentation we had five people represent us with positive comments including a student who graduated from Optimist in June of 2017. At the end of all the presentations, two LACOE Board members made positive statements about the need for programs like ours.

Success Stories.

We recently got an update from one of our graduates from 2007. He graduated eleven years ago and is currently taking care of his mother who has Parkinson's and he is also an Uber driver. Overall, he continues to do well. Our student spoke before the Board; he had an excellent speech and did a very good job!

Submitted by

Linda McWeeney  
Secretary  
Optimist Charter School Board Secretary