Welcome and Call to Order – President Malak Kazan

Flag Salute – President Malak Kazan

Roll Call of Board Members: President Malak Kazan

Board Officers in Attendance:
President Malak Kazan
Vice President Dennis Andolsek
Vice President – Steve Duben
Vice President – Leslie King
Treasurer – Leland Lau - absent
Secretary Linda McWeeney

Board Members in Attendance:
Terry McWeeney Linnie Murphy Carolyn Sievers Ron Villachica
Carol Morack Larry Brown Michael Siebert
Sumako Cohrs Pam Duben Deborah Kent Clark

Past Presidents in Attendance:
Bill Snyder
Dee Gadbury

Staff in Attendance:
CEO Sil Orlando
Superintendent Alan Eskot
Principal Lynn DeYoung
CFO Doug Buttrick
COO James Gibson
CCO Euna Ra-Smith

Meeting Agenda:
Motion to accept agenda items
  1) Dee Gadbury
  2) Bill Snyder
     Motion Carried 16 yea – 0 nay

Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting
1) Dee Gadbury
Leslie King
Motion carried with 16 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

The Board was given a detailed report of the financial status of the school at this time and what options we have going forward. It will be discussed later in the meeting with Superintendent Eskot.

Total Assets as of February 28, 2019 $493,674
Total Liabilities as of February 28, 2019 $957,327

Beginning Fund Balance (219,677)
Current Surplus/Deficit (243,975)
Total fund Balance (463,652)

Total Liabilities and Equity 493,674

Motion to accept report and file for audit
1) Steve Duben 2) Leslie King
Motion carried 16 Yeas - 0 Nays

**Discussion Items Requiring Action**
**Continuance of Charter School Operations**

At the Board Meeting in January a motion was made and carried to close the school and have LACOE operate the school on our campus. We would be closing the school due to financial reasons. After speaking with LACOE they informed us that they would not want to take on the operation of our charter school and cited financial reasons as the main point.

The did, however, give our Executive Staff some suggestions that would enable us to continue to operate the Optimist Charter School. Having a non-public school is not an option.

At this point Superintendent Eskot explain what would need to be done in order to keep the school open. We will be having four core subjects and then have an elective class in the afternoon. We would lay off approximately seven staff. Superintendent Eskot and Principal DeYoung would now work one half of the hours they currently work at the school.

Superintendent Eskot also explained just many funds would be saved if we took this approach. At this time the Board asked Superintendent Eskot many questions and discussed the pros and cons of the new proposal. After much discussion and all questions were asked and answered the following motion was given:

To rescind the previous motion to close the Optimist Charter School and to continue operating the school in a new smaller format.
1) Dee Gadbury
2) Bill Snyder
Motion Carried 16 yea – 0 nay
**Approval of Winter Con – App Report**
This report gives details as to how we are using our Title 1 and Title 2 funds. Superintendent Eskot explained in detail just how the funds are spent and how the report is filed.

Motion made to accept report as filed
1) Leslie King
2) Dee Gadbury
Motion Carried 16- yes – 0 nay

**Approval of 2nd Interim Binder Report**
This report to LACOE details to them just how our funds at the Optimist Charter School and spent. We included in the report the sale of the Altadena Home and how it will affect our bottom line regarding our budget.

Motion made to accept report as filed
1) Deborah Kent Clark
2) Larry Brown
Motion passed 16 yea – 0 nay

**Discussion Items**
CEO Orlando informed us that because we have voted to keep the school open we must file our individual form 700 with LACOE. There are two board members who have not yet completed the form.

**Superintendent Alan Eskot gave the following report**

**LCAP:**
Current enrollment as of Friday March 31, 2019 was 63 (61) enrolled, ADA 57 (58). Our ADA last month, February was our lowest for the year but so far March has increased a bit.

A-49-(51) Optimist. Since we have become an STRTP, we have more students with Non-public school IEP’s, which necessitates placing them at another school. We currently have three students placed in an NPS and one student in a traditional public school.

B- 7(7) Pac Lodge. Interesting statistic is that most of the students enrolling in our new assessment program are special education students with IEP’s.

C- 0(0) Community

D-1 (4) Rosemary’s Cottage. She is slated to graduate in August.

E- Thursday March 21, 2019 was a minimum day this month. We spent most of the training time looking at a potential new schedule and revamping our resource period. We got a lot of feedback from our staff and decided not to change the schedule after spring break but to do so when we start the new year in July. We will revamp the resource period when we come back from spring break.

F- LCAP: students’ behaviors have been quite challenging these past four months. Report cards were disseminated on Wednesday January 25, 2019. Eight students made the Honor Roll, 18% and only 73% of the students had passing grades. However, 33% of the student population were here for less then
eighteen days. On March 19, 2019 we handed out report cards and had ten students on the Honor Roll 25%! 78% of our grades were passing, up by 5% from the previous period, and deducting those students who received four fails or more, this number would be 94% of the grade would be passing. 33% of our students had attended these six weeks for less than 18 days.

G- LCAP on May 6th one of our group home girls will be graduating high school; we are going to have a small informal ceremony. We have three students slated to graduate in June and one in August. We will have a graduation ceremony on Thursday June 19, 2019 at 9:30 am in our gym.

H- LCAP STAFFING: our art teacher left on November 20, 2018. We hired someone who only lasted for a couple of days; the program was just not a good fit. We hired a temp in February for four hours a day who is doing fairly well. We let go of a TA in January and did not fill his position bases on our decreased population.

LCAP-STATISTICS: We currently have ten (13) SPED students receiving Resource Specialist Program (RSPP instruction within our general education classes and have 12 (13) SPED students receiving Special Day Classroom (SDC) instruction outside of general education classes in room 107. Overall this represents 34.9% of our entire enrollment which is special education. In the state of California, the average percent of SPED students in schools is between 10-12%. These last two months our SPED percentage has continued to be very high even though our overall ADA has been low. Thus, the STRTP’d residents clearly have more educational needs and have qualified in the past as special education students.

J-LCAP/TRAINING in January we used our minimum day to complete report cards and review several behavioral incidents over the past few weeks. In February, we had a two-hour training on LGBTQ viewing a video and having a discussion. In March we reviewed the potential schedule changes to our schedule and looking at changing our resource period.

2 – LCAP – Site Council: we met in January, February and March of 2019. Because of our turnover rate our representatives continue to change. Our biggest policy change is in our dress code. The students finally got the approval to wear cotton crew shirts rather than polo shirts. This change became effective on Tuesday March 19, 2019. The representatives were very excited about this policy change. We continue to discuss how to get the rest of the student body more involved with the school’s policies. The Buddy System still needs to be implemented more consistently. Discussion around inappropriate behaviors at school and students refusing to follow simple instructions were also discussed. Potential field trips continue to be an agenda item. During our last meeting on March 20, 2019 there were more suggestions from several homerooms which were excellent. Overall these meetings continue to be very productive.

3 – STUDENT OF THE MONTH lunch continues to be highly successful. Since we have consolidated to six homerooms, six students, I and another staff eat lunch together. Each month we have a wonderful luncheon with very positive behaviors. Students are so appreciative of this field trip.

4 – LCAP Our 80% club continues to be an excellent incentive. Last week we had 28 students who got this award which is 44.4% of our student population. Students must receive 80% or above for five days in a row to receive this honor, a certificate and a treat.

5 – LACOE visit tomorrow, April 2, 2019. Dr Darryl Brown our LACOE coordinator will be doing an onsite review tomorrow from 9 to 12. This will be the last visit of the year.

6 – SUCCESS STORIES – Although we have a group of very challenging students, our students continue to
have a great deal of success in our school program. Last reporting period 25%, of our students earned the Honor Roll. We hand out certificates and a special treat. Last month we took all the Honor Roll students out to lunch since it was the end of the month when they received this award. AT the lunch, the students received their Honor Roll certificates as well as a student of the month certificate. One student said that this is the first time in his life that he had ever received a certificate at school.

Submitted by

Linda McWeeney – Secretary – Optimist Charter School