

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

August 3, 2015  
6:00 pm

**Call to Order:** President Dee Gadbury

**Flag Salute:** Immediate Past President Bill Synder

**Roll Call of Board Members:** Secretary Linda McWeeney

**Board Officers in Attendance:**

President Dee Gadbury  
Vice President Malak Kazan  
Treasurer Leland Lau  
Secretary Linda McWeeney

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Steve Duben	Jesse Fox	Lennie Murphy	Ron Villachica
Larry Brown	Sumako Cohrs	Pam Duben	Jack Evans
Cathy McCutcheon	Jeff Morris	Richard Niederberg	Lenna Welling

**Past Presidents in Attendance:**

Immediate Past President Bill Synder  
Past President Terry McWeeney

**Staff in Attendance:**

Executive Director Sil Orlando  
Superintendent Alan Askot  
CFO Doug Buttrick  
Assistant Executive Director Crystal Bracken

**Meeting Agenda:**

Motion to accept agenda items 1) Richard Niederberg 2) Steve Duben – Motion carried  
Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting – 1) Cathy McCutcheon 2) Terry McWeeney – Motion carried  
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  
As of June 30, 2015 cash balance for the school was 300K  
As of June 30, 2015, 346K is due to Optimist Youth Home and Family Services for operating cash flow loans made to the school during the start up period.  
As of June 30, 2015 the Accounts Receivable balance was 173K  
As of June 30, 2015 the Accounts Payable balance, including payroll liabilities totaled 72K

Total revenue for fiscal year 2014-2015 is \$1,75MM which is 478K or 40% over budgeted revenue of 1.2MM

Motion to accept report for audit 1) Richard Niederberg 2) Steve Duben – Motion Carried

### **Discussion Items**

**See attached detailed report given by Superintendent Alan Eskot and Executive Director Sil Orlando**

### **Highlights of the Report**

1. June graduation Dinner, it was excellent.
2. Awards and graduation ceremony.
  - a. 14 students graduated this year, 2 regular and 12 via AB 167/216
  - b. 18 students made the honor or high honor roll.
  - c. 1 student got into CSUN and is majoring in computer engineering.
  - d. We had many visitors including an administrator from Probation, board members, and advisory board members. Thanks to all of you who show up to these events.
  - e. Share two speeches and read Mia's.
3. Updates on PCSGP purchases:
  - a. \$47,000 on English, Math, and few social studies. About \$9,000 more to spend.
  - b. Expanding our computer lab: moving the computer lab from its current location to room 106 from 10 to 20 computers. Spent about \$6,000 on new computer tables and about \$15,000 on brand new computers. This will allow us to offer the computer lab to double the number of students.
  - c. Purchased new desk for Emilia, record's clerk, and Lynn.
4. Staffing
  - a. The following staff resigned: Kathy, math teacher, Deanna, math TA, Gregoria, history TA.
  - b. Staff we hired in one week: Anthony, science credentialed teacher who has three years of experience teaching Probation youth and is enrolled in his PhD program, Ronke, math credentialed with one year of experience in a charter school, William, multiple subject credentialed who taught for 17 years at Burbank Middle School (using a temp agency for the first 30 days as our 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher), Octavio, PE sub credentialed teacher who has his MA in PE and is enrolling in a credential program in September and will be eligible for his Intern Credential in January, Jose, TA in history who is currently enrolled in a history/Spanish credentialed program, Shaquan, TA probably in 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade classroom is currently enrolled in her Multiple Subjects Credential and should be able to qualify for an Intern Credential within the next few months, Stephanie, TA for Art with a BA degree who will qualify for either a waiver or a 30 Day Sub Permit. Rosario Mireles has been fingerprinted today as our Multiple Subject Credentialed teacher who taught middle school for 7 years in Chicago. We also interviewed a TA today with math experience and a BA in Spanish whose brother actually graduated our residential program after being here for 1.5 years 10 years ago. We will probably be hiring her. This is our best staff in terms of credentials and experience! New staff will be Pro Act trained next week!
  - c. We are opening up our middle school classroom for 7-8<sup>th</sup> graders and have had to hire 2 more staff, see above.

5. University course descriptions for Title 1 dollars. Lynn and David work extremely hard writing all of the required course descriptions and we sent this in last Friday in order to get approval from the University system for courses that we teach which are transferrable for credits. This will also allow us to receive about \$50,000 in Title 1 dollars this year, which we have already included in our budget. All 15 courses were submitted on Friday which was a tremendous amount of work. I will keep you apprised of the progress we will make regarding feedback from this project.
6. Training: We scheduled two weeks of fantastic training for our school staff, at a cost of about \$6,000. Staff were trained in Pathways, our data base system, by their owner/creator, use of Chromebooks and software by Norm, SIR training, LGBTQ, SRA (a reading remediation program), MAP (our academic testing program), and five 5 hour days of Studio Based Learning which incorporated common core, project based learning, etc. This was given by Dr. Kay Brocato who used to work at Optimist NPS 24 years ago where she was a teacher for 2 years and then worked as a group home parent in SBGH for 1.5 years. She left us 20 years ago and moved back to Mississippi, got her Ph.D., and has been a professor at Mississippi State University for the past 15 years teaching and training teachers. She did an amazing training.
7. Change of schedule for lunch. We have needed to increase the amount of time for student's lunch to accommodate the cafeteria. We will be dividing the student population into half and change our homeroom/independent 30 minute period from 7:40-8:10 to 11:30-12:00 for half of our students, the other half will go to lunch, and from 12:00-12:30 for the other half.
8. Maryvale: We are currently in the process of working with another residential agency. They will be starting with 4-5 students and will be sending 1 staff for every 10 students like Aviva. Most of their girls are placed by DCFS. They have been placing 70% of their residential students in public school over the years and will be starting with a small group with us.

### **Discussion Items Requiring Action**

Final Approval of LCAP

Superintendent Alan Eskot explained the small changes that were made to the final version on LCAP. Most of the changes were simply edits made to the language used in the report.

Motion to accept as presented 1) Richard Niederberg 2) Bill Snyder – Motion Carried

Next Meeting – Monday September 15, 2015 at 6:00 pm

Adjourn: 6:45 pm

Submitted by

Linda McWeeney

Optimist Charter School Board Secretary