

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

December 7, 2015
5:06 pm

Call to Order: President Dee Gadbury

Roll Call of Board Members: President Dee Gadbury

Board Officers in Attendance:

President Dee Gadbury
Vice President Malak Kazan
Secretary Linda McWeeney

Board Members in Attendance:

Steve Duben	Jesse Fox	Pam Duben	Ron Villachia
Jack Evans	Cathy McCutcheon	Richard Niederberg	Larry Brown
Ted Carter	Linnie Murphy	Lenna Welling	Jeff Morris

Past Presidents in Attendance:

Immediate Past President Bill Snyder
Past President Terry McWeeney

Staff in Attendance:

Executive Director Sil Orlando
Superintendent Alan Eskot
CFO Doug Buttrick
Assistant Executive Director Crystal Brackin

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 with 14 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

Total Assets as of October 31, 2015	--	\$242,495
Total Liabilities as of October 31,, 2015	--	\$218,956

Beginning Fund Balance	78,875
Current Surplus/Deficit	(55,337)
Total fund Balance as of October 31, 2015	23,538
Total Liabilities and Equity	242,495

Motion to accept report for audit 1) Richard Niederberg 2)Larry Brown
 Motion carried 14 Yeas - 0 nays

Independent Auditor’s Review

The annual Independent Auditor’s Review was presented by a representative of the Harrington Group. We were given a very detailed report on the financial review of the school and all other supplementary information. Copies of the audit were distributed to every board member in attendance. Report accepted by the board.

Discussion Items

Superintendent Alan Askot gave the following report:

Overall the report cards that were handed out on 11/20 were very good. Thirty one students made our honor roll, with at least a “B” average. This is four more than our last reporting period. Overall 25.6% of our students earned the overall which is 3% higher than our last reporting period. Overall, 86% of all the grades were passing grades, 4% above our goal of 82%. Several of our students received six A’s and one B. Overall an excellent reporting period. Great work from the staff and students.

Our PE teacher left last Friday. He overextended himself with taking 12 units in his credentialing program and needed more time for his studies. We are looking to hire a full time PE teacher but have replaced him with a temp who has a 30 day Sub Permit. We also hired two new TA’s who started on November 30. Francisco had been working with us from a Temporary Agency and has 27 years of experience teaching in elementary school. He has a Multiple Subject Credential with authorization to teach Spanish. He will be taking the CSET in Spanish and we plan on having him teach a Spanish class next semester. Manuel has several years of experience and has a BS in Bio-Psychology. We are pleased to have both of them as new staff.

Our last day of school for 2015 will be on Friday 12/18/2015, which will be a minimum day. We will be officially closed for three weeks; however, we have our staff here January 4 to 6, 2016 for a special training which will be paid for by our PCSGP grant. We have the same trainer we used this summer who is a professor at Mississippi State College.

Students will come back from vacation on Monday January 11, 2016, and will have finals the following week. Our last day of the semester, which will be an Awards and Graduation Ceremony will be on Friday January 22, 2016. We have nine students currently slated to graduate on that day! The ceremony will be in our gymnasium and will start at 9:30 am. We hope some of you will be able to attend this wonderful ceremony.

Current enrollment is 133 students and our ADA is 128. Our highest enrollment this month was 136.

94 Optimists

29 Aviva

10 Community – 2 students have not been attending for several months and we will be discharging them as soon as I hear back from LACOE

0 Maryvale and we have not received a referral since the first group of students enrolled.
Our SPED population is at 45 students, 33% of our total population, over 6% higher than last month

Our twenty day ADA from October 12 to November 12, 2015 was 199.05. Since November 1 our ADA has been over 120 students daily and we are budgeted for 114.

Lynn De Young (Principal) and I went to the California Schools Development Center, CSDC, conference on Monday November 16 and Tuesday November 17, 2015. Overall it was a very good conference. From a demonstration at the conference, we have decided to purchase soft wear for our students which has to do with left and right brain functioning. There is also some reading involved and in theory reading and math skills are supposed to go up dramatically. Students will use this soft wear daily, once we have it, for about 10 minutes each day. Every two weeks there is a reading comprehension test (a very quick one), and this will give us additional data to show student academic improvement. The cost of this soft wear for the first year will be paid out of our PCSGP grant. I also learned about changes in the law as well as LCFF changes.

Our Student of the Month Luncheon will be held on Friday December 11, 2015.

Discussion items requiring action

We have submitted our LACOE Accountability Report Card last week and are in the process of now submitting it again on an updated form. When it is completed and approved by LACOE, we will have the board approve it. We will need to have a phone meeting next month for the board to approve the final version.

Motion to Accept the Annual Report to LACOE

- 1) Steve Duben 2) Cathy McCutchen – Motion Carried.

(It was decided by the Board instead of having a phone vote; we would meet on Monday January 25, 2016 to vote on the Accountability Report.)

Next Board Meeting will be held on Monday January 25, 2016 at 6:00 pm

Submitted By

Linda McWeeney
Secretary
Optimist Charter School Board Secretary

Discussion Items Requiring Action:

Adjourn: 6:28 pm

Submitted by
Linda McWeeney
Optimist Charter School Board Secretary