

Optimist Youth Home & Family Services
Charter School Board Meeting
6957 N. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles CA 90042
Youth Learning Center Board Room
Minutes of Meeting March 5, 2018
6:05 PM

Welcome and Call to Order – President Malak Kazan

Flag Salute – Jack Evans

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	Jack Evans
Larry Brown	Carolyn Sievers	Richard Niederberg
Lenna Welling	Linnie Murphy	

Past Presidents in Attendance:

Bill Snyder

Staff in Attendance:

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

Meeting Agenda:

Motion to accept agenda items
1) Richard Niederberg 2) Bill Snyder
Motion carried with 12 yeas - 0 nays

Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting
1) Richard Niederberg 2) Bill Snyder
Motion carried with 12 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 January 2018	--	\$313,265
Total Liabilities as of January 2018	--	\$141,886
Beginning Fund Balance		112,565
Current Surplus/Deficit		29,321
Total fund Balance		141,886
Total Liabilities and Equity		313,265

Motion to accept report and file for audit
1) Steve Duben 2) Richard Niederberg
Motion carried 12 Yeas - 0 Nays

Discussion Items Requiring Action

Con-App Winter Report

Superintendent Eskot presented the Con-App Winter Report that will be sent to LACOE. He explained in detail all aspects of the report and what it must cover. We currently have 180 billable days and have two tracks A and B. Our new ADA is 106.68 but we had hoped for an ADA of at least 124. Hopefully the census will continue to grow and not decline any further. All questions regarding the report were asked and answered in full detail by the Superintendent.

Motion to accept report as filed
1) Richard Niederberg
2) Jack Evans
Motion Carried

Discussion Items

Form 700

CEO Sil Orlando reminded all Board Members that their form 700 is due no later than March 7, 2018. It should be mailed directly to LACOE. If you give them to the office here at Optimist they will be forwarded (unopened) to them.

Update on petition for re-authorization

We will be giving a ten minute presentation to LACOE as to what we are doing with our program. Also will give information relating to test scores – graduates and our track system. We will be submitting a 22 page document along with our presentation. There will be a clarification of the EX ED Budget based on 180 days. They will also want information relating to fundraising and our future ability to fund the school. Also, seven people can speak that are not employees of the school.

We will get the results sometime around April 3, 2018. We are hoping for a 5 year re-authorization, but nothing is guaranteed.

Superintendent Alan Eskot gave the following report

Current enrollment

Current enrollment as of Friday March 2, 2018 was 89 (85) enrolled, ADA 76 (79). Our enrollment and ADA continues to be low but stable as of now.

67 (64) Optimist

14 (16) Pacific Lodge

8 (5) Community – we have four females in our community program!

Previous report cards given on January 26, 2018, 11 students made the honor roll. In terms of failing grades we had full range of grades. Our students have become more challenging and six students had three fails, eight students with four fails and five with five fails. There were only 25 fails on report cards with two or less fails. Overall our passing rate was 80.2%. If one subtracts the five students with five students with five fails, this percentage increases to 85.2%. Additionally, with a two track system, A track grades were the end of the semester and B track was only the first six weeks, the majority of our current students. Generally, our first six week report cards have more fails.

Our minimum day this month will be on Thursday March 8, 2018.

We are having Tri-Terms next week March 12-14, 2018 and report cards will be distributed on Tuesday March 20, 2018

Spring Break will be March 26 to March 30, 2018.

Site Council

We will meet a week from Wednesday March 13, 2018. Students are very happy with our new policy of student of the day, reinforcing the best or most improved point sheet in each homeroom.

Student of the Month Luncheon

The luncheon will be held on Friday March 9, 2018.

LACOE

Review requested information from LACOE that has been submitted. There were questions about out enrollment numbers which were lower than our ADA, which is impossible. This was information which had been prepared by Ex ED and we worked with them to make this and a few other changes. Clarification regarding our ADA calculation based on 180 days versus 210 days as sent. Additionally, they wanted clarification as to information regarding our fundraising over the past five years.

Sil, Lynn and I will have ten minutes to present to LACOE tomorrow. We have already delivered our 621 page document several weeks ago. In addition to the three of us presenting our information and success stories, we have one of our graduates from 1.5 years ago, a previous employee who had worked for the Department of Probation for 30 years and for our school for 15 years and is currently a volunteer, our board president, and a member from our advisory board speaking, each has three minutes. We have a letter of support for our LAC SELPA coordinator and are waiting for a letter of support from our previous LACOE and LAC SELPA coordinator got OCS for the two previous years. Overall we are excited about this presentation.

Success Stories

One of our female group home students who became a community student who graduated in August of 2009 continues to be in contact with us. She is married to one of our previous male students and has three boys, one of which she had 1.5 years before she graduated. In fact, we had assisted with child care so that she could come to school and graduate. She was very entrenched in gang behavior and wore heavy makeup in a gang style. She contacted us again last week and has been employed by an excellent company for the past three years in customer service and is doing really well, make \$16 per hour. She was in her company's video and sent us recent pictures depicting a very mature and professional looking young adult. She is no longer involved with any gang behavior and is now very involved in her church.

Submitted by

Linda McWeeney
Secretary
Optimist Charter School Board Secretary