

Optimist Youth Home & Family Services
Charter School Board Meeting
Optimist Main Campus
6957 N. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles CA 90042
YLC Board Room

Minutes of Meeting May 7, 2018
6:07 PM

Welcome and Call to Order – President Malak Kazan

Flag Salute – Bill Snyder

Roll Call of Board Members: President Malak Kazan

Board Officers in Attendance:

President Malak Kazan
Leslie King – Vice President
Vice President Dennis Andolsek
Treasurer – Leland Lau
Secretary Linda McWeeney

Board Members in Attendance:

Michael Seibert	Terry McWeeney	Jack Evans	Linnie Murphy
Carol Morack	Lenna Welling	Carolyn Sievers	
Sumako Cohrs	Ron Villachica	Richard Niederberg	

Past Presidents in Attendance:

Bill Snyder

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) Leland Lau
Motion carried with 15 yeas - 0 nays

Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting
1) Richard Niederberg 2) Terry McWeeney
Motion carried with 15 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. If things continue as is we should have a small surplus at the end of the year for the school.

Total Assets as of March 2018	--	\$302,763
Total Liabilities as of March 2018	--	\$187,091

Beginning Fund Balance	112,565
Current Surplus/Deficit	3,107
Total fund Balance	115,672

Total Liabilities and Equity	302,763
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Motion to accept report and file for audit

1)Richard Niederberg 2)Bill Snyder

Motion carried 15 Yeas - 0 Nays

Discussion Items Requiring Action

CEO Sil Orlando presented the Memorandum of Understanding from the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE). The Memorandum must be signed and returned to LACOE by May 7, 2018.

Superintendent Eskot also reported on a few little "tweeks" that must be made and proof provided to LACOE of meeting the conditions stated on the Memorandum. There are just a few minor items that need to be addressed and they will all be done on or before the required date.

Superintendent Eskot answered any and all questions and concerns raised by members of the Board of Directors.

Motion to Accept Memorandum of Understanding as presented

1-Richard Niederberg 2-Bill Snyder

Motion Carried – 15 yea 0 no

A Resolution was presented dealing with the revised Fiscal Policies and with specific regard to the use of the Optimist Charter School Credit Cards. It was reported that the policy states the following:

Three key staff is allowed to make purchases on behalf of Optimist Charter School with the agency credit card as follows:

CEO Silvio Orlando \$5,000 limit per purchase

CFO Doug Buttrick \$5,000 limit per purchase

Superintendent Alan Eskot \$5,000 limit per purchase

The Resolution also covers the Optimist Charter School Bidding Policy and states that it requires more than one bid if costs of project is in excess of \$5,000.

Motion to Accept Resolution to Adopt Revised Fiscal Policy

1-Richard Niederberg 2-Dennis Andolsek

Motion carried 15 yea 0 no

Approval of 18-19 Budget. CFO Doug Buttrick presented the 2018-2019 proposed budget for the 2018-2019 school year. He explained in detail all aspects of the proposed budget and answered any and all questions or concerns from the Board of Directors.

He addressed what effect the declining census has on the budget, and in particular what it means with regard to programs at the school.

Motion to accept the Budget for the 2018-2019 year was made

1 – Richard Niederberg 2- Bill Snyder

Motion Carried 15 yea – 0 no

Discussion Items

Superintendent Eskot gave a detailed update on the petition of re-authorization. He explained how difficult it is for our school to compare to the State Testing scores due to the length of stay of our residents. We are working with LACOE to make things more acceptable to them. He also addressed a few small items that we need to altered such as our rule on suspension and expulsion and given all of our residents are probation youth it is different than at most schools. We are working very hard to see that all the items LACOE has addressed will be handled and completed and our final approval will be given next month.

Superintendent Alan Eskot gave the following report

Current enrollment

As of Friday May 5, 2018, 88(90) enrolled, ADA 80 (81). Our enrollment and ADA continues to be low but stable.

69 (67) Optimist

13 (15) Pac Lodge

6 (8) Community. One student is not attending. One was supposed to graduate last Friday but has missed too many days (about 40 this semester) and needs to come to school and make up work so that he can graduate on June 21.

Our minimum day this month was May 3, 2018

Graduation Dinner was on April 25, 2018 and it was fantastic. Fifteen students showed up with guests, our community female student was unable to come. Everyone looked dashing and several students spoke.

Last Friday May 8, 2018 was our graduation/awards ceremony. Five students graduated! Nine students made the honor roll. Report cards were not printed out yet so I have not been able to review them and will report on the statistics at the next meeting. Overall the ceremony was excellent and we had a lot of parents/relatives and friends attend! Our coordinator from SELPA Damili Thomas, came and spoke again. The students overall were excellent.

Track A was officially completed last Friday, the end of 180 days of school. We have eleven students from Track A who will continue in school on a scholarship basis. Track B will end on Thursday June 21, 2018 and we will have another graduation ceremony. The new school year will start on Monday July 9, 2018 after two days of staff training. This year and next year's calendars have a total of 13 unpaid days for school staff.

Today was a school closure day, unpaid for the school staff. Tomorrow is a pupil free day and training will occur with our staff.

We hired a new TA for math. She has her BA degree in math and has completed half of her credential. So far she is doing an excellent job. Our new art teacher is scheduled to start on Monday May 7. We are interviewing this Wednesday to hire another TA which has been an open position for all of this school year. I have about 8 candidates who are supposed to come in on Wednesday; all have BA degrees in either history or English. We are anticipating needing this TA for the summer since one of our English teachers cannot teach for the first six weeks of school. Additionally, we are expecting a higher ADA in general and hope to increase our ADA with accepting students from Rosemary's Cottage.

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

We had 15 visitors from LACOE visit our school for 1.5 hours last month. They were all quite impressed with our program. We will have our LACOE official final visit on May 23 which will be followed by a yearend meeting and a written document/review. Lynn and I will be at an all-day training from LACOE on Thursday May 31, 2018.

Superintendent Eskot gave all Board Members a copy of the newest version of the school calendar.

Site Council

Met on April 11, 2018. 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 one new school representative. More involvement in the homerooms regarding Site Council involvement needs to take place. Our next meeting will be this Wednesday May 9, 2018

Student of the month lunch will be this Friday May 11, 2018. Last month's was wonderful as usual

Twenty of our students and four of our staff went to the Regan Library last month. It was a very successful field trip. We have another planned for May 22, 2018

Success Stories

Our five graduates were in our program from 5 months to one year. All five graduated via AB 216, needing 130 credits to graduate since they transferred in either 11th or 12th grade and are foster youth who could not graduate with the traditional 210 credits. Their career choices include cosmetology, auto mechanics, business and criminology, and mechanical engineering and going into the Marines. They were the best dressed graduates we have had.