

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

Minutes of Meeting October 4, 2016
6:08 pm

Welcome and Call to Order – President Dee Gadbury

Flag Salute – Michael Seibert

Roll Call of Board Members: Dee Gadbury

Board Officers in Attendance:

President Dee Gadbury
Vice President Dennis Andolsek
Vice President Malak Kazan
Vice President Leslie King
Secretary Linda McWeeney

Board Members in Attendance:

Richard Niederberg	Steven Duben	Jeff Morris	Jack Evans
Larry Brown	Ron Villachica	Michael Seibert	Sumako Cohrs
Linnie Murphy	Lenna Welling	Pam Duben	Carolyn Sievers

Past Presidents in Attendance:

Bill Snyder

Staff in Attendance:

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

Meeting Agenda:

Motion to accept agenda items
1) Richard Niederberg 2) Leslie King
Motion carried with 16 yeas - 0 nays

Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting – as corrected
1) Richard Niederberg 2) 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

Total Assets as of August 31, 2016	--	\$282,089
Total Liabilities as of August 31 2016	--	\$166,435
Beginning Fund Balance		97,074
Current Surplus/Deficit		18,579
Total fund Balance		115,653
Total Liabilities and Equity		282,089

Motion to accept report and file for audit

1)Richard Niederberg 2)Larry Brown

Motion carried 16 Yea - 0 Nay

Discussion Items Requiring Action

Ratification of By-Law Changes

Motion to ratify change existing By-Laws

1)Richard Niederberg 2) Bill Snyder

Motion carried 16 yea 0 nays

Motion to approve parent representative at LAC SELPA meetings

1) Lennie Murphy

2) Pam Duben

Motion carried – 16 yeas 0 nays

Discussion Items

Superintendent Alan Eskot Gave The Following Report

Current enrollment as of Friday September 30, 2016 was 139. ADA was 132 which is our highest ever.

- 1) 90 Optimists
- 2) 24 Aviva
- 3) 17 Pac Lodge
- 4) 8 Community

Staffing:

We opened our Auto Shop today Brian is a great staff member so far. Downtown Auto Group donated \$20,000 to the Auto Shop. We are evaluating what our staffing needs are since our population has just been increased by 20%. Our SPED population has really grown to 49 SPED students with 24 in our SDC program, 35% of our population. We need a full time TA in our SDC classroom and an English teacher. We are doing a second interview tomorrow with someone with an English credential, who has been subbing quite a bit in special education.

Walton Grant:

We still have almost \$20,000 to spend by next October (October 2017) for building improvements. We are planning on painting at least all of the trim and the doors. We are also hoping to resurface the upstairs deck.

Our teachers voted and our Academic Focus this year will be on building vocabulary throughout the school. We started our Academic Focus today. Staff decided that we are introducing three new words each week, school wide. A committee of three staff will be downloading high school vocabulary lists and will choose three words a week. We will be emphasizing using these words correctly school side and students will be able to either earn bonus points or raffle tickets when they use the word correctly either verbally or in written assignments. Each departmentalized class will also choose ten vocabulary words a week related to their subject area and textbooks. Each room will have a vocabulary board reinforcing vocabulary development. We are also looking into how we can increase our students' written work as well.

Site Council:

We held our first meeting of the year on September 14, 2016 with student elected representatives. Overall the meeting was excellent. We reviewed the purpose of the Site Council, the role of the student and staff representatives, how to communicate what we discuss, and came up with a list of concerns. One of the concerns we are in the process of looking at possibly changing is to add structured button shirts, in appropriate colors to our uniform. We currently only allow polo shirts.

Library:

We have introduced a brief book report form that students started filling out. Within two weeks, 21 students completed reading books and turning in their book reports. They earn 500 points for each book report and will receive a \$5 gift card after five book reports are turned in. We also received a \$12,500 gift from City National Bank to purchase additional books. Thank you to Richard Niederberg also pushing to have a library available to our residents.

Parent/Student Handbook:

The parent/student handbook is in the final stages of being translated into Spanish. We are proof reading it and adding appropriate accent marks. This will be completed by the end of the week.

CAASP/Smarter Balanced Testing

I reviewed these statistics last meeting. We looked at how we compare to other similar sties (i.e.) Camps, Juvenile Hall, SEA and were very similar.

Students are completing their tri-term exams tomorrow and report cards will be handed out a week from today.

We have Indra from LACOE coming out to visit us again for our fall site visit on Thursday October 27, 2016 at 12:00 noon.

We moved our behavioral staff form room 200 in the brick building to the YLC building to open up another classroom space to hold classes. We have expanded our testing room into our previous computer lab to allow us to test as many as twenty students at a time.

One of our new ILP students took our MAP testing and scored 12+ on both the English and Math test, the only 6 student we have had so far who has done this!

Meeting adjourned 6:40 pm

Submitted by

Linda McWeeney – Optimist Charter School Board Secretary