

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 September 11, 2017
6:06 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:

Richard Niederberg	Steven Duben	Michael Seibert	Terry Mcweeney
Larry Brown	Linnie Murphy	Carolyn Sievers	
Jack Evans	Ron Villachica	Deborah Kent Clark	

Past Presidents in Attendance:

Bill Snyder

Staff in Attendance:

CEO Sil Orlando
Superintendent Alan Eskot
CFO Doug Buttrick
COO Mental Health Dept. James Gibson

Meeting Agenda:

Motion to accept agenda items
1) Richard Niederberg 2) Bill Snyder
Motion carried with 13 yeas - 0 nays

Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting
1) Jack Evans 2) Larry Brown
Motion carried with 13 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 July 31, 2017	--	\$238,393
Total Liabilities as of July 31, 2017	--	\$125,977
Beginning Fund Balance		112,565
Current Surplus/Deficit		(149)
Total fund Balance		112,416
Total Liabilities and Equity		238,393

Motion to accept report and file for audit

1)Richard Niederberg 2)Steve Duben

Motion carried 13 Yeas - 0 Nays

Discussion Items Requiring Action – none presented at this meeting

Discussion items:

Superintendent Alan Eskot gave the following report

Current enrollment as of Friday September 8, 2017 was 110 (122 enrolled), ADA 97 (113) Given the fact that our ADA has been low for several months, we may explore approaching another group home to participate in enrolling students in our school program.

71 (75) Optimist

12 (14) Aviva – last year we averaged over twenty students

21 (27) Pacific Lodge, this is a significant increase over the past month.

7 (6) Community

First six week report cards:

81.5% (84.63%) of all of the grades for students who attended eighteen days or longer were passing grades, one of our worst reporting periods. Part of this may have been due to having school full time during the summer, this was the first time. Additionally, two of our staff could not teach this summer and we hired two substitutes who did not work out very well. One only lasted for the first two weeks of school. There were 12 (7) students who earned four or more fails. By subtracting all of these students' fails, our overall percentage of passing grades would go up to 88.5% (88.76%). In terms of our honor roll, 9 (20) students made our regular Honor Roll and 7 (10) made our High Honor Roll (All A's and B's). This was quite a low number which equates to 16% (27%) of our students earning the Honor Roll.

Eight students graduated on Friday August 18, 2017. Three students had been in our program for three months or less and one had been in our program for 1.5 years. We had one day of training before starting our Track B. We trained our staff in our new computer program called My Path.

Thursday September 21, 2017 will be a minimum day when we will provide training to the staff. Staff will be trained in LGBTQ issues.

Staffing

Our social studies teacher left on August 18, 2017 and a new staff was supposed to start tomorrow, however, she declined the position over the weekend. We are going to offer the position to another person but we are waiting to hear back from him.

Site Council

We held our first meeting last month which overall was quite good. The majority of the students were new representatives and we had a Pac Lodge staff join for the first time

Library

It continues to look amazing and many books are being checked out regularly.

Student of the month Lunch

We may have the lunch on August 14, 2017, but due to a conflict it might have to be changed.

LACOE

We have submitted all updated documentation required by LACOE for this school year.

Disproportionality

We have disproportionality with our special education students. The state is comparing statistical data this year for the 2015-2016 school year, and this is the first time this has been done. They look at discipline data across student's races to see if you are disproportionate with your statistics. Unfortunately, the way they compute their data does not work for a school such as ours that has over a 300% turnover rate. We are working with them to resolve their issues but will probably be disproportionate every year. For example, we had five African American students who were disciplined all year during the 2015-2016 school year, and they are comparing that to 35 African American students enrolled on one day when, in fact, we had over 111 for the year. Thus, statistically our numbers look far worse than what they actually are.

LACOE Training

Lynn DeYoung and Alan Eskot will be at an all-day training session with LACOE on Friday September 22, 2017.

LACOE Visit

We will be having an unofficial visit by LACOE on September 28, 2017 from 9 am to 11 am.

Submitted by

Linda McWeeney
Charter School Board Secretary