

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 September 12, 2016  
6:00 pm

**Welcome and Call to Order** – President Dee Gadbury

**Flag Salute** – Jeff Morris

**Roll Call of Board Members:** Dee Gadbury

**Board Officers in Attendance:**

President Dee Gadbury  
Vice President Dennis Andolsek  
Vice President Malak Kazan  
Secretary Linda McWeeney  
Treasurer Leland Lau

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Richard Niederberg	Deborah Kent Clark	Steven Duben	Jeff Morris
Larry Brown	Cathy McCutcheon	Ron Villachica	Michael Seibert
Linnie Murphy	Pam Duben	Carolyn Sievers	

**Past Presidents in Attendance:**

Bill Snyder  
Terry McWeeney

**Staff in Attendance:**

Executive Director Sil Orlando  
Superintendent Alan Eskot  
CFO Doug Buttrick

Before Business was conducted President Gadbury had everyone in attendance introduce themselves and their position on the Board. The four **new prospective** Board Members were introduced and each told us a bit about themselves. They were welcomed by President Gadbury and all Board Members.

**Meeting Agenda:**

Motion to accept agenda items  
1) Steve Duben 2) Richard Niederberg  
Motion carried with 15 yeas - 0 nays

Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting  
1) Richard Niederberg 2) Larry Brown  
Motion carried with 15 yeas – 0 nays – 4 Abstentions

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, 2016	--	\$293,764
Total Liabilities as of June 30, 2016	--	\$185,448
Beginning Fund Balance		97,074
Current Surplus/Deficit		11,243
Total fund Balance		108,317
Total Liabilities and Equity		293,764

Motion to accept report and file for audit

1)Richard Niederberg 2)Leland Lau

Motion carried 19 Yea - 0 Nay

**Discussion Items Requiring Action**

Election of Leslie King ad Third Vice-President and Deborah Kent-Clark, Michael Siebert and Carolyn Sievers as Board Members of the Optimist Charter School was presented.

Motion to add said members to the Board of the Optimist Charter School

1) Terry McWeeney 2) Richard Niederberg

Motion Carried **unanimously**.

**Discussion Items**

**Superintendent Alan Eskot Gave The Following Report**

Current enrollment as of Friday September 9, 2016 was 118 and ADA was 111

83 Optimist

22 Aviva

5 Pacific Lodge (and they are doing very well)

8 Community

LACOE – All required information was emailed by August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Lynn and Alan will be going to an All day LACOE training session on Thursday September 15, 2016

Statistics: 93.5% of our students passed their classes. This was the highest percentage since we opened the charter school. In summer school 87% of our students passed all of their classes. For all of last year we enrolled 355 students, almost three times our average enrollment.

Staffing: We hired a science teacher, Clarence, who we will be applying for a teaching permit. He was a Pre-Med major and worked at a University for some years. He is doing an excellent job so far. We also hired an Auto Shop teacher, Brian. He is certified in all areas of auto and has been teaching Auto Shop at Pierce College for the past 12 years, and will continue working there two evenings a week. He also has a BA degree! He started full time last Tuesday and so far is doing very well. We plan on opening up the Auto Shop by October 3, 2016, after he is trained. Volunteers helped clean up the Auto Shop and Brian is getting it ready for its re-opening.

Our air conditioning units were replaced for all of upstairs rooms 200, 201, 202, 023 and 204. The final cost was about \$41,000. This was paid for by the Walton Grant. We have just over \$9,000 for additional maintenance of our school. We are hoping to paint the doors and trim of the brick building this year.

Our teachers voted and our Academic Focus this year will be on Building Vocabulary throughout the school. We will be starting this on October 3, 2016.

We are in the process of voting for our student representatives for our site council. Our first of nine meetings will be this Wednesday September 14, 2016 from 2 to 3 pm

Library: We finally opened up our library. Several students have already read more than one book. We obtained a donation of \$25,000 for additional books.

Parent/Student Handbooks are in the final stages of being translated into Spanish.

CAASP/Smarter Balanced Testing statistics for last year. Generally our students do not do well on state testing. Superintendent Eskot reviewed all current statistics.

One of our former residents Vincent came to visit and requested money for his textbooks. He was given \$437 towards the cost of his books at Cal State Dominguez Hills. He was able to purchase two USED textbooks with the funds. He was very appreciative.

We will be hiring math and English teachers to accommodate the additional students we will be taking on with the merger with Pacific Lodge. We may hire a T/A down the line.

We now have smartboards in all classrooms.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:38 pm

Submitted by

Linda McWeeney  
Optimist Charter School Board Secretary