

Minutes-Approved
Ocean Charter School Board Meeting
October 1, 2020

Called to order by Laura Stoland and convened at 6:40pm.

Board Members Present: Laura Stoland, Jason Haas, Sue Ingles, Edward Eadon, Mark Galanty, Dominique DjeDje, Dan Wierzba, and Tammy Stanton.

Board Members Absent: Zach James

A quorum was present.

Also present: OCS Executive Director, Stephanie Edwards; OCS Executive Director, Kristy Mack Fett; OCS H.R. Coordinator, Debbie Tripp; OCS Teachers Aly Leavitt, Emily Smith, Stephanie Becker, and Hanna Mehring; Ayanthy Peiris of Excellent Education; and Parent Collective Coordinators, Kim Rowe, Andy Tunnicliffe, Miriam Burke, Lauren Hall and Anna Berk.

CLOSED SESSION: Board Members and Administrators Only

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Pursuant to section 54957.6 Conference with Labor Negotiator – Agency designated representatives: Chastin Pierman, Stephanie Edwards and Kristy Mack-Fett.
Employee Organization: OCTA

November McIlhargey joined the meeting at 6:43pm

The board reconvened to Open Session at 6:55pm.

There were no actions taken during the closed session.

Open Forum

Parent, VJ Rhoads shared concerns about slow or no response to her child's special education needs.

Teacher, Aly Leavitt shared her gratitude for the current medical benefits offered to OCS employees.

Parent, Rachel Petru shared her concerns regarding special education services.

Finance

Ayanthy Peiris shared the August 2020 financial records and check register. The operating net income for this year is -\$1.2M compared to \$7K in the Board approved budget. This variance is due in large part to the over-allocation payments to LAUSD that have been budgeted over multiple years.

November McIlhargey left the meeting at 7:23pm.

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MOTION: Laura Stoland moved to approve the August 2020 financial records and check register. Tammy Stanton seconded the motion. Laura Stoland, Jason Haas, Sue Ingles, Edward Eadon, Mark Galanty, Dominique DjeDje, Dan Wierzba, and Tammy Stanton voted in favor. Motion passed.

Fundraising Report

Rachel Petru, our new Annual Family Giving (AFG) Captain, shared her vision for this year's AFG, including an expected shift in total donations due to the current economy. She emphasized reaching 100% participation as a main objective and outlined a strategy for working with the Parent Collective Fundraising Coordinator and the school's leadership to reach the school's AFG goals.

Parent Collective

The Board recognized and expressed gratitude for the work of all Parent Collective Coordinators who served during the 2019-20 school year, Andy Tunnicliffe, Kim Rowe, Lauren Hall and Miriam Burke. The Board was also introduced to the newest Parent Collective Coordinators, Anna Berk and Heather Keenan, assuming the positions as Fundraising Coordinator and Events Coordinator, respectively. Lauren Hall will continue in her position as Communications Coordinator and the Parent Collective is still seeking a parent volunteer to assume the position of Education Coordinator.

School Reopening

Kristy Mack Fett and Stephanie Edwards shared the current LCAP plan, which does not yet include guidelines for in-person learning. Current county health recommendations do not yet support a return to in-person learning in a hybrid model. However, it is anticipated that that option may become authorized later this year, if public health reporting of active Covid-19 cases in the area decrease. We are investigating the option of allowing a small cohort of students in need of proctored distance learning and EL testing to return to in-person learning as soon as possible. This will be contingent on finding a temporary available space, since our Panama campus is not currently ready. We will also have to work on how to staff proctored distance learning, as all current employees are otherwise assigned to essential positions.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

Committee Chair, Dominique DjeDje shared a report about the 3 work sessions held so far with Dr. Patricia Brent Sanco. The school's community, leadership, faculty and staff have had the chance to work with Dr. Sanco to develop our antiracism action plan and incorporate antiracism into our mission statement. The next DEIC meeting will be held on October 8, 2020 at 7pm. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

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Director's Report

Kristy Mack Fett and Stephanie Edwards provided the director's report. They expressed appreciation for the opportunity for the faculty and staff to work with Dr. Sanco. The teachers have been very pleased with the sessions held so far.

Enrollment continues to grow. Our total enrollment is currently 575 students, which is higher than the 557 students in the budget and is the largest student population OCS has served to date.

The admin team continues to work with individual families to address needs for student devices and technical support. Our CARES team continues to actively address the unique, individual needs of families struggling during distance learning. Our executive directors will be holding a new parent orientation on October 2, 2020 at 10am in the hopes of supporting families that are new to the school.

Site

Dan Wierzba provided an update on site. The project is nearing 98.2% completion. The biggest remaining tasks include B-permit work, coordinated with the city, such as utility work, street paving and completing sidewalks. We are working with Mike Bonin's office to hopefully get a sidewalk installed in front of the school and additional bike paths in the area.

Brown Act

Dan Wierzba provided a refresher training about Brown Act procedures and compliance.

Governance

Committee Chair, Jason Haas gave a report about the recent work of the Governance Committee. At the last meeting, the committee discussed Board member duties and plans to create a Board member manual and other documents and guidelines that will support new members as they transition to the Board. The committee will meet next week to review the strategic plan and work with Dr. Sanco to incorporate our antiracism goals into our mission statement

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the draft minutes from the September 3, 2020 Board meeting.

MOTION: Laura Stoland moved to approve the minutes from September 3, 2020 Board meeting. Sue Ingles seconded the motion. Laura Stoland, Jason Haas, Sue Ingles, Edward Eadon, Mark Galanty, Dominique Djedje, Dan Wierzba, and Tammy Stanton voted in favor. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33pm.