

Minutes-Approved
Ocean Charter School Board Meeting
February 11, 2016

Called to order by Joshua Dome, Chair and convened at 7:19pm.

Board members present: Joshua Dome, Edward Eadon, Sue Ingles and November McIlhargey.

Lori Andrade was absent. A quorum was present.

Also present was Executive Director Stephanie Edwards, Director Kristy Mack-Fett, OCS teacher Stephanie McGurk, and Gordon Engstrom from Excellent Education.

CLOSED SESSION: Board Members and Administration only

Pursuant to section 54956.8 – Conference with Real Property Negotiators regarding APN # 4223008003, # 4223008004 – OCS Negotiators: Stephanie Edwards and Kristy Mack-Fett.

Jason Haas arrived at 7:36.

The board reconvened to open session at 7:47pm.

There were no action items to report from closed session.

Open Forum

There were no speakers for open forum.

Finance

Gordon Engstrom presented the December 2015 and January 2016 financial statements and check register. We are forecast to achieve a net income of \$4,000 in the 2015-16 fiscal year compared to \$107,000 in the board approved budget. We continue to have significantly higher expenses for legal fees than originally budgeted. We also have increased expenses for student supplies \$52,000 above the budgeted amount, primarily due to adjusted forecast in food service costs. We continue to see ADA that is below the budgeted amount.

MOTION: Sue Ingles moved to approve the December 2015 and January 2016 financial statements and check register. Joshua Dome seconded the motion. Joshua Dome, Sue Ingles, Edward Eadon, Jason Haas and November McIlhargey voted in favor. Motion passed.

The Finance Committee met and presented the board with it's recommended revisions for the 2015-16 budget to more accurately reflect current forecast numbers. The recommendations included increasing the amounts budgeted for legal expenses and health and welfare benefits as well as cuts to budgeted funds for some

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student materials and for teacher training. The board discussed the committee's recommendations.

MOTION: Sue Ingles moved to revise the 2015-16 budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. Joshua Dome seconded the motion. Joshua Dome, Sue Ingles, Edward Eadon, Jason Haas and November McIlhargey voted in favor. Motion passed.

Gordon indicated that the Consolidated Application would be submitted, as required. No board action is necessary for this portion of the application.

Gordon also provided the board with a copy of the Form 990 that will be submitted, as required, on February 16, 2016. The Form 990 reiterates the information reflected in our annual audit.

Site

Steps such as environmental studies and testing continue to be taken with our newly identified site under contract. CTA and OCTA are working on letters of support for our acquisition of the site, to be submitted to LAUSD prior to consideration of our augmentation grant application. We will be submitting the augmentation grant application next week and hope to have it considered at the March board meeting of the LAUSD.

Board Composition

Joshua Dome spoke about the legal advisement we've received regarding the potential for having an employee, specifically a teacher, filling a voting member's seat on the board of trustees. While the initial advice is that such a representative on the board could create legal issues for the school, it is still the desire of the board to keep the idea under consideration. There are still differing opinions on the matter in the charter school world and because teacher representation on the board is part of the collaborative model we wish to align with, the board would like to investigate this option further. More research is necessary to find out how charter schools currently governing with teacher representation on the board are doing so successfully. Also, the current language in our charter specifically prohibits a teacher seated on the board, so any change to the current status would have to be included in our next charter renewal.

ACTION ITEM: At the April board meeting, the board will review how other public Waldorf charter schools or other charter schools in general manage to maintain teacher participation on their boards and remain in compliance with California law.

The board also discussed the ACG Governors seat on the board. When initially envisioned, the ACG board seat was meant to act more as an extension of representation of the parent community. ACG participation was meant to be a direct

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source of communication between parents and the board via the Governor seated on the board. Because ACG now operates almost exclusively as the arm of parent education for the school and not representation to the board, the Governors seat is not serving as intended. The current Bylaws are written expressly for the Governor's board seat to operate in this manner, so a revision would be required. The board will work toward such a revision in the future.

Mark Galanty arrived at 9:04.

Director's Report

Stephanie Edwards shared information about the February 2016 Director's Report.

Annual Family Giving totals are down from where they were at this time last year. This is attributed to a later start in the campaign. However, individual donation amounts are up slightly. The emphasis remains on each family contributing at a level that is meaningful to them and represents the value they place on the public Waldorf education their child receives at OCS. Stronger efforts at communicating about the campaign to parents have begun.

ACTION ITEM: The administration will send a one-way communication out to board members regarding the actual AFG contribution totals to date prior to the next board meeting.

LAUSD is discussing our 2016-17 Prop 39 offer, which currently includes a reduction in space allotted to us by 2 classrooms. We are continuing to share with the district our overall space needs, which are for expanded space, not reduced space. We hope to come to an agreement with them that will serve our students next year.

The faculty and staff participated in a full day of professional development on February 1, 2016. The day consisted of breakout groups by campus as well as specialty teachers participating in their own meaningful training. We also had our special education team working together in a breakout group to further develop our best practices.

High school alumni night was held on February 9, 2016 to a great turn out of both returning students as well as current students and parents.

Administration continues to investigate the possibility of offering a summer camp program at one or both of our campuses. In order to generate parental interest in any camp offerings, an announcement will be included in this weeks Friday Folder.

Approval of Minutes

The board reviewed the minutes from the January 11, 2016 board meeting.

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MOTION: Joshua Dome moved to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2016 board meetings. Jason Haas seconded the motion. Joshua Dome, Sue Ingles, Edward Eadon, Mark Galanty, Jason Haas and November McIlhargey voted in favor. Motion passed.

Setting of Next Agenda

The next regular board meeting is scheduled to begin at 7pm on March 3, 2016.

Joshua Dome adjourned the meeting at 9:45pm.