



Equity and Excellence for All Students

Old Town Academy K-8 Charter School Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

MEETING LOCATION

2120 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110

Wednesday, January 18, 2017

6:00 p.m. PDT

Call to order

A regular meeting of the Old Town Academy K-8 Charter School Board of Directors, held at 2120 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110 on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, was called to order by Ken Morris at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by OTA 2nd grader, Abby Berlin.

Attendance-Board Members

Board Member	Present	Absent
Kenneth Morris, President	X	
James Gartland, Vice President	X	
Ryan Callan, Treasurer	X	
Cathie Berlin, Secretary	X	
Jon Centofranchi, Principal	X	
Gabriel Solis, Teacher Seat	X	
Sarah Ozeroff, Member	X	
Chris Celentino, Member	X	
Christopher Cole, Member	X	
Mark Burgess, Member	X	

Elio Celentino, Student Member (non-voting)*		X
Emma Denton, Student Member (non-voting)*	X	

*Eighth grade students will be sharing one position, which is a non-voting position

10 of 10 Voting Board members were present, constituting a quorum.

Members of the public in attendance (as noted from sign-in sheet):

- Bob Hamm
- Gail Warrick
- Nathalie Hirsch
- Rose Denton
- Laura Studebaker
- Delano Jones

Public comment

None

Board member comments

Ken Morris commented on his experience as a chaperone on the 5th grade field trip to the Star of India, the HMS Surprise, and the Berkeley. It was a great experience.

Approval of minutes

Minutes of the prior meeting of December 14, 2016 were available for any members of the public to review and comment on. Cathie Berlin has one change, there is a typo on page 7, the board actually came out of closed session at 8:58 p.m. Motion to approve the minutes (so amended) of the prior regular meeting of the board dated Wednesday, December 14, 2016, was made by Chris Celentino, and seconded by Chris Cole.

Vote results: all present voting members voted to approve the prior minutes as amended.

Reports/Presentations for Discussion only (no action taken)

Treasurer/Fiscal Report: Ryan Callan.

The financial report is looking very good. We brought in more revenue than we had budgeted for, due to the SB740 funds coming in, and we spent less than we had budgeted for. The graph on page 8 shows where we expect to be at the end of the school year. Chris Celentino explained the timing and process regarding how the SB740 funds are allocated and paid.

Principal's Report: Jon Centofranchi.

Thank you to Julie Burgess for the new chairs for the seminar room. 2nd quarter ends next Friday, and report cards will be mailed out to parents the week after next along with the 2nd quarter MAPP results. Mainly Mozart donated 70 tickets to the school, and Mr. C gave them to Mr. Kaneaster to distribute to students that he knew really wanted to go. There is no immediate update to the proposed lockers as we continue to look at other options. Christopher Cole inquired about something he read recently regarding changes to how schools' performance is measured. Mr. C informed the group that API will likely no longer be used as a measurement of academic performance, but rather there will be some new formula which takes into account things like school attendance, number of suspensions, and school climate. He expects to hear something from the San Diego County Office of Education once it has been determined. Things are still being worked out and may change once a new secretary of education is appointed. Chris Celentino discussed the proposed new secretary of education, and specifically the differences between how charter schools in Michigan operate versus those in California.

Teacher Liaison Report: Gabriel Solis.

MAPP tests are happening this week. We're getting really good data feedback already, that there has already been great improvement in both math and reading. 85% of students showed improvement in math scores and 60% of students showed improvement in reading scores since the last test. Staff meeting tomorrow. We'll have professional development on mental health. Huge thank you to the parents for the staff lunches and holiday gifts.

Office Manager's Report: Nathalie Hirsch.

Natalie Hirsch and Mr. C had a meeting with CSMC last week. The school is really satisfied with the collaboration with CSMC so far. Re-enrollment due date is coming up on February 8th. Open enrollment dates will start soon, and lottery will be held on April 21st. Attendance: We estimate that there has been about \$43,000 lost so far this school year due to students' absences. Chris Celentino noted that this equates to \$48.45/day/student, and he urged the board to think about having a policy where absences over a certain threshold results in expulsion. There was board discussion about different ideas relating to letting parents know about the funding shortfall and rewarding positive attendance. The board will keep this discussion in mind when it comes to approving a school calendar. A member of the public, Rose Denton, proposed that the school frame this issue a positive way, letting parents know that that this is the challenge for the year.

Student Representative Report: Emma Denton.

Last day of 2nd quarter is a half day, the principal's advisory committee agreed that this will also be a Spirit Day (sports theme). The principal's advisory committee has proposed an OTA talent show, they

are thinking that perhaps we could hold it at the PMA Karate Studio, and that ticket sales would benefit the OTA Foundation.

OTA Strategic Planning Advisory Panel Report: Ken Morris.

No new information to report.

Real Estate Advisory Panel Update: James Gartland

James Gartland has made some new key contacts in this regard, but other than that no new information to report.

Safety Advisory Panel Update.

No new information to report.

OTA Parent Foundation Update: Ken Morris.

Chris Celentino reported that a new OTA family, the Kalenovs, have stepped up to run the jog-a-thon going forward. He and Bridget have spent some time with them teaching them what we have done so far, and Chris delivered a thumb drive to the school with all of the spreadsheets, emails, etc. used to run the event in the past. Final jog-a-thon numbers: gross revenue \$44,689.40; total expenses: \$4,276.00; \$40,413.40 is the net number deposited to the OTA Foundation account. As relayed to him by OTA Foundation President, Monika Hanft, Ken Morris noted that the gala meetings are now held independently from the Foundation, and next gala meeting is January 25th. The two teacher wish fund grant applications are due this Friday. The Foundation is buying a PA system to be used for school functions. February 4th is the Pokemon-themed family dance, organized by the 5th grade. Gail Warrick made flyers for the teachers to pass out to the students - \$25/family and will include pizza, face painters, etc. Net proceeds to benefit the Foundation.

New business action items and Advisory Panel reports requiring action

Action Item: Discussion and possible approval of the 2017/2018 School Calendar.

Mr. Centofranchi discussed the proposed options, including the staffs' preferences. The staff overwhelmingly preferred to have the 'Option 1' calendar, which mirrors the calendar we used this year (starting the day after Labor Day).

Motion was made to select Option 1 for the School Calendar for 2017-18.

Motion made by: James Gartland.

Motion seconded by: Chris Cole.

Vote: 9 voting members voted in favor, Chris Celentino opposed. The motion carries.

A draft version of the approved calendar is attached to the minutes below, noting that the holidays in the side bar are misaligned due to Veterans' Day being on the list twice:

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Aug	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Sep 2017	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Oct 2017	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Nov 2017	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Dec 2017	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Jan 2018	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Feb 2018	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	1	2	3
Mar 2018	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Apr 2018	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
May 2018	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Jun 2018	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

School Events, Holidays & Minimum Days	
Labor Day	Sept. 4, 2017
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	Sept. 5, 2017
Veteran's Day	Nov. 10, 2017
Observed	Nov. 11, 2017
Veterans' Day	Nov. 20-24, 2017
Thanksgiving Break	Nov. 23, 2017
Thanksgiving Day	Dec. 18-Jan. 1
Winter Break	Dec. 25, 2017
Christmas	Jan. 1, 2018
New Year's Day	Jan. 15, 2018
Martin Luther King Jr.	Feb. 16-19, 2018
Presidents Day Holiday	March 26-30, 2018
Spring Break	April 1, 2018
Easter	May 28, 2018
Memorial Day	June 15, 2018
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	
178 School Days	
Minimum Days	
Jogathon:	October 20
End of 1 st Quarter:	Friday, November 3
Parent Conferences:	November 15-17
Start of Winter Break:	Friday, December 15
End of 2 nd Quarter:	Friday, January 26
End of 3 rd Quarter:	Friday, April 13
Grandparents Day:	Friday, April 27
Last Day of School:	Friday, June 15

Action Item: Appointment of Advisory Panel to work on the 2017/2018 LCAP

Ken Morris would like to put together an advisory panel. Mr. Centofranchi will be part of the panel, as will Mr. Solis and Ms. Scott. This panel is not meant to be exclusionary, and Mr. C will also reach out to some parents who might be interested.

Ken Morris appointed the advisory panel. No vote needed.

Action Item: Appointment of Advisory Panel to conduct OTA Board elections for the 2017/2018 year.

There will be (2) elected 3 year term position openings in addition to the (1) current appointed position opening. Ken Morris appointed Laura Studebaker (who was also involved last year), and would also like to extend an appointment to Jeremy Turner (who was also involved last year) if he is still available and interested.

Ken Morris appointed the advisory panel. No vote needed.

Action Item: Approve 12/10/16 to 1/13/17 Check Register listing (distributed in advance)

Ken Morris explained the difference in the rent, which was due to a settlement with the landlord for needed repairs and explained that there were two notations of the rent being paid, with one being in error. The 5 legal bills in December was in relation to the 501(c)3 work that was done.

Motion was made to approve the register listing.

Motion made by: Chris Celentino.

Motion seconded by: Chris Cole.

Vote: all 10 voting members who were present voted in favor. The motion carries.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

No public comment. Ken Morris noted that he expects to have something to report after closed session.

Closed Session

The board entered closed session at 7:07 p.m. regarding:

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- Conference with Legal Counsel regarding litigation--OTA v. Donahue and related matters
 - Conference with Principal on student excessive absence issue
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Report on closed session items

The board came out of closed session at 7:41 p.m. and had the following information to report:

Ken Morris reported that OTA has reached a settlement in the litigation with Tom Donahue. The majority of voting members voted in favor of approving the settlement. As part of the settlement, no expenses will be paid by either party to the other, and Mr. Donahue will release all claims against OTA and its directors. To the extent of Mr. Donahue's claim that any of the related intellectual property belongs to him, OTA has secured a perpetual use license. Ken stated that we wish Mr. Donahue well in his future endeavors, and that we are happy to put this issue behind us.

Nothing to report on the other closed session item. No further information to report.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.
