



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, October 19, 2016

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, October 19, 2016, was called to order by Ken Morris at 6:05 pm. Pledge of Allegiance led by OTA 8th grade student, Corrina DeLost.

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-Scott, 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

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

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

- Corrina DeLost
- Connie DeLost
- Delano Jones (CSMC)
- Laura Studebaker
- Bob Hamm
- Nathalie Hirsh

Public comment

No comments.

Board member comments

Ken Morris spoke about the 360 campaign letter from him and Monika Hanft. He encourages all board members to participate, to set the example. He also mentioned that he's looking forward to seeing everyone at the Jog-a-Thon.

Approval of minutes

Minutes of the prior meeting of September 21, 2016 were available for any members of the public to review and comment on. Motion to approve the minutes of the prior regular meeting of the board dated Wednesday, September 21, 2016, (distributed in advance) was made by Chris Cole, and seconded by Mark Burgess.

Vote results: All 9 present, voting members voted to approve the prior minutes.

Reports (no action taken)

Treasurer/Fiscal Report: Ryan Callan.

i. Discussion of OTA Foundation Unrestricted/Restricted Gifts

The Foundation has given the school some money to be kept in reserve for cash flow. We're going through the ins and outs of that to determine how best to show that on the books. The board will need to set a policy.

ii. 2016/2017 Revised School Budget

The prior budget was set based on 270 students, we actually have 256 currently. That is a big enough variance to warrant a new look at the budget. Board members went back and forth discussing various line items on the revised budget. We received the backdated SB740 funds, the check was deposited yesterday.

Principal's Report: Jon Centofranchi.

Matt Lebarber will teach guitar to middle school students as an elective during the school day beginning in 2nd quarter. Very successful 'Coffee with the Principal', where he conducted a Restorative Circle with the parents to demonstrate. It was a very powerful meeting, and the feedback was positive and very encouraging. He attended the ResMed luncheon where the school was granted \$10,000. The Great American Shakeout is at 10:20 am tomorrow. Jog-a-thon is this Friday, and the kids are really excited.

Teacher Liaison Report: Gabriel Solis.

Teacher morale is really high. The teachers are grateful for the parent support and donations to classroom needs, and also for the teacher luncheons. He spoke about project based learning, and plans for the middle school STEM project. Electives are going really, really well. Restorative Circles are becoming a cultural thing at the school and are helping to build community among the students

Office Manager's Report: Nathalie Hirsch.

Accountant Alexis McKeon completed the end of the year audit. Some information is still missing from TVLC. We have communication out to them in that regard. Our free and reduced lunch information is now up to date. We will need to update our part time policy in the employee handbook. The application period for the 2017/2018 school year has been posted.

Student Locker Proposal: Corrina DeLost (8th grade student).

OTA eighth grader Corinna DeLost presented an idea to improve the morale of middle school students. She presented information regarding the average student's backpack, which weighs 20 pounds (the equivalent of 5 bricks). Each student has many notebooks and has to carry everything around all day, from class to class. She proposed an idea for the board to consider: lockers for middle school students including a fundraising plan to underwrite the cost. A speaker from the public, Laura Studebaker, was fully in support of the idea. She made a compelling case, and the board seemed interested in pursuing the option. Ken Morris stated that this should be an item on the next meeting agenda.

Student Representative Report: Elio Celentino.

Elio Celentino updated the board on behalf of students. He stated that this year seems to be going more smoothly than years past. The middle school students like how we've incorporated projects into math, ELA, etc. Restorative Circles are good well. The fire drill last week was a success. The students raised \$500 in hat sales at the movie night. The principal's advisory committee was very positive, they talked about Halloween and spirit days.

OTA Strategic Planning Subcommittee Report: Ken Morris.

Ken Morris reported that the subcommittee met with Meredith and got through 60% of what we'd covered in June. We aligned the points we'd made in June with the commitments OTA made in the Parent Handbook. There's about 40% left to go.

Safety Sub-Committee Update: Sarah Ozeroff.

Sarah reported that she's getting a new group together to discuss safety concerns. Mr. C discussed changes in the staff schedule to accommodate drop off and pick up times, so there is more coverage for safety concerns.

OTA Parent Foundation Update: Monika Hanft.

Monika (nor any other Foundation members) were present, no update this meeting.

New business action items and sub-committee reports requiring action

Action Item: Approve the 2016/2017 Revised School Budget.

Motion to approve made by Chris Cole and seconded by James Gartland. All present voted in favor of approving the revised school budget.

Action Item: Retention of School Consultant for the 2016/2017 School Year (action deferred from the 9/21/16 meeting).

Motion was made, not to retain the consultant, but rather to keep the pre-approved one month consultant fees in play in the event that the subcommittee sees fit to retain him for one month.

Motion made by: Ken Morris

Motion seconded by: Ryan Callan

Vote: all 9 voting members who were present voted in favor.

Action Item: Approve 9/17/16 to 10/14/16 Warrant listing (distributed in advance of Wednesday, October 19, 2016).

Motion to approve the current warrant listing as presented made by: Ryan Callan, and seconded by: Cathie Berlin

Vote: all 9 voting members who were present voted in favor.

Public comment on closed session items

No comments.

Closed session

The board entered closed session at 7:58 p.m. to confer with legal counsel regarding:

Pending litigation – OTA v. Donahue and related matters.

Report on closed session items

After conferring with legal counsel, the board came out of closed session at 8:25 p.m. and had no new information to report.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.
