

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the OTA Board of Directors / OTA Site Council  
June 23, 2015  
Old Town Academy, 2120 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110

Board Members Present in Person: Chris Celentino, Anna Sick, Mirielle DesRosiers-Kutchuk (arrived 6:10 p.m.), Ryan Callan, Sandra Gartland, David Cain (arrived 6:10 p.m.), Dr. Trevor Wayne Garb, Kevin Olenick.

A quorum of members physically within the jurisdiction was present.

Absent: Dr. Kenneth Morris

The following members of the public were present based upon the sign-in sheet (there were other members of the public, present, who did not sign the sign-in sheet):

Brian Bogle, Marisa Calderon, Michael Rosenbaum, Erik Bickfeld, Magie Bickfeld, Cathy coleman, Michael Shinkle, Laura Studebaker, Samantha Olenick, Jeremy Turner, Michelle Mason, Clarissa Shanney, Eliot Feldstein, Cathie Berlin, Kristen Koch, Maria Araujo, Terri Cox, Erin Parente, Chris Cantzler, Julie Gabrielli, Lynn Di Filippo, Jennifer Senn, Ebru Covington, Val Calandra, Cindy Stullich, Reid Warrick, Toni Mannarino (2014-2015 Special Education Specialist), Susan Crawford (2014-2015 second grade teacher), Kym Tobias, Casey Murphy, Ernie Delost, Jian Chan

### **Item 1 – Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Chair, Chris Celentino. Upon call to order, Board Members Kevin Olenick and David Cain led the community with the pledge

Mr. Celentino, Chair and Presiding Officer, welcomed everyone, and described the responsibility of the Board, the meeting procedures, and provisions of the Brown Act. Mr. Celentino asked everyone to sign in, and to indicate, if a parent, the number of children enrolled at the school. Mr. Celentino requested attendees to submit speaker slips for any item on the Agenda. Several speaker slips were turned in as noted below. Chris welcomed new Board members David Cain, Dr. Trevor Wayne Garb, Sandra Gartland and Kevin Olenick.

The Board moved directly to the Special Agenda.

### **Item 2. Public Comment: Public Comments/Correspondence**

Terri Cox submitted a speaker slip, asking why some children had not yet received report cards, and wanted to know when to expect them.

**Item 3. Board Member / Site Council Comments / Correspondence**

Chris Celentino indicated that he would investigate the report card issue and confirm all report cards would be distributed.

There being no further comment, the Board moved to the next item on the Agenda.

**Item 4. Consent Agenda -- Approval of Minutes -- Special Meeting, June 7, 2015; Regular Meeting June 18, 2015; and Special Meeting June 18, 2015.**

Laura Studebaker submitted a speaker slip, asking for a determination of whether the comments attributed to her as part of the June 7, 2015 minutes were “completely” accurate in that she was unsure of her comments. After some discussion, she chose not to request a change and no changes were made to the minutes.

There being no further public comment, the Chair then asked for Board member comment. There being none, the Chair called the question of the consent agenda, requesting a roll-call vote on each of the minutes being considered:

**Minutes of Special Meeting, June 7, 2015 – Motion to Approve by Chris Celentino, Second by David Cain. Roll-call vote.**

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

**Minutes of Regular Meeting June 18, 2015 -- Motion to Approve by Chris Celentino, Second by Kevin Olenick. Roll-call vote.**

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>

<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

**Minutes of Special Meeting June 18, 2015 -- Motion to Approve by Chris Celentino, Second by Ryan Callan. Roll-call vote.**

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

There being no further comment, the Board moved to the next item on the Agenda.

**Item 5. Discussion Items:**

- a. Update on Celentino conversation with San Diego Unified School District re: Material Revision to Old Town Charter, Result of Site Visit on May 7, 2015: Meeting set with SDUSD on July 8, 2015 @ 10:00 a.m.**

Chris Celentino reported that, since the termination of the E.D. on June 5, 2015, Chris had been in regular communication with personnel in the Charter School office at SDUSD. Chris reported that SDUSD was pleased with the developments of the Board over the last several meetings, that the “urgency” of meetings was no longer felt by SDUSD, that SDUSD had moved a July 1 meeting to July 8 in light of positive progress by OTA and its Board in responding to the actions of its former E.D. in the last several days of school, and that Chris felt extremely confident that school would open in the fall without a hitch.

There being no public comment, Board Member Ryan Callan commented that, based upon his meeting with SDUSD, things were moving in the right direction.

Board Member Anna Sick reported the same based upon her meeting with SDUSD.

**b. Bob Hamm – update on teacher discussions**

Interim Principal Bob Hamm reported that he had been in constant communications with teachers since the end of school, that OTA was aware for several months that Shana Pitcher and Drew Cohick would not be returning to OTA (and reminded us that he, Bob, had recruited both those teachers to OTA), and that he felt that there would be significant stability in the ranks – but that some teachers were on vacations and honeymoons, and could not yet be reached. Bob said he felt that changes being made by the Board and TVLC would ensure that OTA was a stronger school in the fall.

Michael Rosenbaum submitted a speaker slip, indicated that he had personal communications with both Ms. Pitcher and Mr. Cohick and was convinced that their departures were not related to the “chaos” created in the last few weeks of school, and thanked Mr. Hamm for taking the position of Interim Principal to guide the school through the summer.

There being no further public comment, and no further Board Member comment, the Board moved to the next item on the Agenda.

**c. Update: the status of the OTA website, blogs and digital communication with parents.**

Cathie Berlin submitted a speaker slip, indicating that she had started the Facebook Parents page, to allow for parent dialogue concerning the issues, and that parents could email Cathie if they wanted to join the page: [catlyanne@hotmail.com](mailto:catlyanne@hotmail.com).

There being no further public comment, Board Member Trevor Garb mentioned that he had been active on the Facebook page, that he was actively answering questions of parents in an effort at greater transparency, and that he felt that most parents were aware of the situation at the school.

There being no further public comment, and no further Board Member comment, the Board moved to the next item on the Agenda.

**d. Proposed regular meeting schedule of third Tuesday of every month, except August: proposed dates: August 11, September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15, January 19, February 16, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21.**

There being no public comment, Board Member Chris Celentino indicated that, at the July 9, 2015 meeting, a monthly schedule would be decided, and that, unlike the past when meetings were cancelled by the E.D. when the E.D. was unprepared, or not available, the future OTA Board Meetings would run at Board readiness, and with the Board's agenda, and all OTA stakeholders could rely on the monthly meetings happening monthly, with the above schedule being proposed at the July 9, 2015 meeting. Several audience members and Board members audibly applauded.

There being no further public comment, and no further Board Member comment, the Board moved to the next item on the Agenda.

**Item 6. Action Items:**

- a. Resolution to ratify Chair's acceptance of resignations of Hunter Hawkins and Carleton Lincoln – Chris Celentino moved, David Cain second.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

- b. Resolution to provide, until such further time, that the composition of the OTA Board of Directors and the composition of the OTA Site Council be one and the same, for all purposes, until further resolution of the OTA Board of Directors – Chris Celentino moved, Anna Sick second.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

**c. Resolution and Motion to Approve and Ratify Decisions of the Board of Directors made in open and closed session at Regular Meeting on May 27, 2015; to wit:**

- i. Ratification of TVLC/OTA MOU dated August 2, 2014, and ratification of formation and membership of Principal Search Committee.**
- ii. Ratification of appointment of Dr. Kenneth Morris as OTA Representative to the TVLC Board of Directors**
- iii. Ratification and approval of the OTA Final 2014-2015 Budget as presented by Chris Celentino, Treasurer on May 27, 2015**
- iv. Ratification and approval of the Minutes of February 12, 2015**
- v. Ratification and approval of the Minutes of June 30, 2014.**
- vi. Ratification and approval of Warrants 2-11-15 to 4-22-15.**

**Chris Celentino moved the above, Ryan Callan and Kevin Olenick each second the motion.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>

<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

**d. Resolution and Motion to Approve and Ratify Decisions of the Board of Directors made in open and closed session at the Special Meeting on June 7, 2015; to wit:**

- i. Ratification and approval of termination of May Harris and forpurposelaw.com as of June 7, 2015.**
- ii. Ratification and approval of Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 – confirmation of dismissal of Thomas Donahue in any roll or capacity on behalf of Old Town Academy, including but not limited to roll as Executive Director, Principal, President, officer or agent of Old Town Academy**
- iii. Ratification and approval of retention of Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b), and anticipation of Charter Revision and Charter Renewal with SDUSD.**
- iv. Ratification and approval of Public Employment: Title, Interim Principal, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 – approval of appointment of Robert Hamm as Interim Principal**

**Chris Celentino moved the above, David Cain second.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>

<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

- e. Resolution to ratify and approve the TVLC/OTA MOU dated August 2, 2014, and to authorize Anna Sick, Board Member of the Old Town Academy, to execute on behalf of the Old Town Academy, any and all outstanding closing or other documents relating to the TVLC/OTA MOU.**

**Chris Celentino moved the above, Ryan Callan second.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

- f. Resolution to reject and disapprove any and all actions allegedly undertaken at improperly noticed Special Meeting attended by Mireille DesRosiers-Kutchuk, former Board member Hunter Hawkins, and former Board Member Carleton Lincoln, allegedly held on Monday, June 15, 2015.**



**Chris Celentino moved the above, David Cain second, and clarified and confirmed that an “approval” of the motion resulted in a “rejection” of any actions taken on Monday, June 15, 2015.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion to REJECT the actions allegedly taken on June 15, 2015, passed by an 8-0 vote.

**g. Resolution to appoint Sub-committees, appoint Board Member to Chair each Sub-committee, and for such Sub-committee to set its membership and reporting agenda prior to and on July 9, 2015 meeting.**

Casey Murphy submitted a speaker slip, expressing concern that some sub-committees will not be in communication with one another, which could lead to inefficiency and conflicting policy, and encouraged Sub-committee Chairs to keep each other “in the loop” as matters progress.

There being no further public comment, and no further Board Member comment, the Board moved to the next item on the Agenda.

- i. OTA/TVLC Task Force Ad Hoc Sub-committee: goal to investigate parental concerns and issues with TVLC, make reports and recommendations for TVLC/OTA community, Sub-committee make-up to include OTA parent(s), teacher(s), and TVLC representative(s) – Motion to form Ad Hoc Sub-committee with Board Member Dr. Trevor Wayne Garb as Chair, Motion by Chris Celentino, second by Ryan Callan.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

- ii. Principal Search Committee: designate Chair, secure / appoint replacement for Tom Donahue, solicit a vote of teachers for second teacher representative, report timeline on July 9, 2015 (goal for candidate for August 1, 2015) – Motion by Chris Celentino, second by Mireille DesRosiers-Kutchuk; Motion amended by Chris Celentino and second by Kevin Olenick to have Board Member Ryan Callan and James Gartland to serve as Co-chairs.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

- iii. OTA Fall Board Composition/Election Sub-committee: Development of Board composition recommendation, election plans, promote and conduct election – Motion to Approve Ad Hoc Sub-committee by Chris Celentino, second by Ryan Callan, with Board Member David Cain to serve as Chair.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

- iv. OTA Bylaws Revision Sub-committee: redefine focus of local control issues of Site Council/Board, proposed revised Bylaws, focus of SDUSD CRF and Charter renewal – Motion to appoint Ad Hoc Sub-committee made by Chris Celentino, second by Sandra Gartland; motion supplemented by Ryan Callan, second by Anna Sick, to have Board Members Chris Celentino and David Cain serve as Co-Chairs.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>

<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

- v. OTA Parent Handbook Sub-committee: review OTA and TVLC handbooks and formulate final 2014-2015 handbook – Motion to appoint Ad Hoc Sub-Committee made by Chris Celentino, second by Mireille DesRosiers-Kutchuk; Motion supplemented by David Cain, second by Sandra Gartland, to have Board Members Dr. Kenneth Morris and Chris Celentino serve as Co-chairs.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

- vi. OTA Teacher Handbook Sub-committee: review OTA and TVLC handbooks and formulate final 2015-2016 teacher handbook – Sub-committee should include teachers – Motion to appoint Ad Hoc Sub-committee made by Chris Celentino, second by Kevin Olenick; motion supplemented by Chris Celentino, second by Ryan Callan, for Board Member Anna Sick to serve as Chair of Sub-committee.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

**vii. OTA Policies and Procedures Sub-committee – uncover and review OTA and TVLC school policies and procedures and formulate final 2015-2016 policies and procedures -- Sub-committee should include at least one teacher – Motion to appoint Ad Hoc Sub-committee by Chris Celentino, second by Ryan Callan; Motion supplemented by Chris Celentino, second by Ryan Callan, for Interim Principal Robert Hamm and Board Member Ryan Callan to serve as Co-chairs.**

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

**h. Closed Session: Discussion with Legal Counsel, Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b), and anticipation of Charter Revision and Charter Renewal with SDUSD**

Chair Chris Celentino moved that such item be deferred until the next meeting, and that a subsequent closed session report would be requested of counsel for discussion at the next regularly scheduled meeting on July 9, 2015, second by Ryan Callan.

There being no public comment, and no Board Member comment, the question was called by roll call vote.

<b>Cain</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Callan</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Celentino</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Mireille</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Garb</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Gartland</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Dr. Morris</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Olenick</b>	<b>Approve</b>
<b>Sick</b>	<b>Approve</b>

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

**i. Report from Closed Session**

Chair Chris Celentino indicated that, in light of the deferral of the Closed Session, the report from Closed Session would likewise be deferred.

**j. Public Comment on Report from Closed Session**

Chair Chris Celentino indicated that, in light of the deferral of the Closed Session, the public comment on the report from Closed Session would likewise be deferred.

**k. Adjournment.** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

