

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the OTA Board of Directors / OTA Site Council  
July 27, 2015  
Old Town Academy, 2120 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110

Board Members Present in Person: David Cain, Ryan Callan, Chris Celentino, Dr. Trevor Wayne Garb (arrived 7:15 p.m.), Sandra Gartland, Dr. Kenneth Morris, Anna Sick

A quorum of members physically within the jurisdiction was present.

Absent: Mireille DesRosiers-Kutchuk, Kevin Olenick

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

Larry Rutman, Anthony Kaneaster, Jeremy Turner, Viveca hess, Thiago batista, Zach Jones, Heidi Weaver, Chris Cantzler, Jenny Blackwood (Sampogna), Sarah Cook, Allan Jewell, Ann Marie Jewell, Jennifer Senn, Laura Studebaker, Lauren Drinkward, Rose Ann Denton, Chris Cole, Drew Cohick, James Gartland, Kristen Koch, Tom Gabrielli, Jenny Ciampa, Cathy Coleman, Tilahum Fesseher, Eliot Feldstein, Natalie Holford, Kristine Afansev, Bridget Celentino, Turner Watts

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chair, Chris Celentino. Upon call to order, Board Member David Cain led the community with the pledge of allegiance.

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. Only one speaker slips was turned in as noted below.

The Board moved directly to the Special Agenda.

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

Former Teacher Drew Cohick submitted a speaker slip and asked for the Board to address the fact that some former teachers, who believed they were to be paid through August 31, 2015 for services rendered through June 30, 2015, had not received their July and August paychecks.

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

Board member Chris Celentino reported that, with an assist from parent Kay Moreno, OTA had received a restricted grant from the ResMed Foundation of \$10,000 to support the OTA orchestra program.

Dr. Ken Morris commented that he was glad to have parents and teachers present at the Board meeting and hoped that level of participation would continue throughout the school year.

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

**Item 4. Consent Agenda -- Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, July 9, 2015**

There being no further public comment, the Chair then asked for Board member comment. Dr. Morris noted a misspelling of Jian Chan’s last name, which appeared on page 5 of the minutes, and requested an amendment to get the name spelled correctly. There being no further comment, the Chair called the question of the consent agenda, requesting a roll-call vote for approval of the minutes.

**Minutes of Regular Meeting, July 9, 2015 – Motion to Approve by Chris Celentino as amended for spelling error by Dr. Morris, 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>Absent</b>  |
| <b>Garb</b>       | <b>Absent</b>  |
| <b>Gartland</b>   | <b>Abstain</b> |
| <b>Dr. Morris</b> | <b>Approve</b> |
| <b>Olenick</b>    | <b>Absent</b>  |
| <b>Sick</b>       | <b>Approve</b> |

The Chair and Presiding Officer declared the motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

The Board moved to the next item on the Agenda.

**Item 5. Closed Session: Action to Approve or Reject Principal Search Committee recommendation concerning hiring of Public Employee Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957**

The Board met in closed session.

## **Item 6. Report from Closed Session**

Chris Celentino reported that the Board had unanimously voted to accept the unanimous recommendation of the PSC to hire Jon “Mr. C” Centofranchi as the new Principal at OTA. Mr. C was introduced to a round of applause, and indicated that he was fresh and ready to start, and was thankful for the opportunity.

## **Item 7: Public Comment: Public Comments regarding Report from Closed Session -- Speaker Slips Required**

James Gartland submitted a speaker slip, as Co-chair of the PSC, described the process, indicated that Mr. C stood out among the many qualified candidates interviewed, that he was trustworthy and had high integrity, that he had a great depth of experience, that he passed a thorough background check, and that James personally, and the PSC, had the utmost confidence in Mr. C.

## **Item 8: Discussion Items**

### **a. Update on Potential Expansion – additional K and possible 1<sup>st</sup> classrooms**

Chris Celentino reported that the Board had voted last year to add a second K class to the 2014-2015 year, but that the approved plans called for the then E.D. to give up some or all of his office space, so the plan did not get implemented. Chris reported that, with over 460 students on the waiting list, and OTA climbing to new and improved heights, it was incumbent to determine how to continue to expand and provide services as possible, and indicated that an expansion discussion would take place at the next Regular board meeting.

### **b. Update on Teacher Retentions/Hiring**

Interim Principal introduced returning music and math teacher, Anthony Kaneaster, newly hired 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher Jenny Blackwood, newly hired PE teacher Zach Jones, newly hired 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Yvette Lopez, and welcomed returning teachers present Lauren Drinkward, Diana Pham, Sarah Cook, Turner Watts, Thiago Batista.

### **c. Update on Status of OTA website, blogs and digital communication with parents**

Chris Celentino reported that the blog was functioning, that it would be moved to a new platform, that it would continue to be updated right up until school started, that online registration portals and a future emergency notification system were in the works, and people could continue to expect a new and improved OTA.

**d. Update on Charter Renewal Process.**

Lynn Lysko, our consultant from TVLC, was present to discuss the charter renewal process, timing, details, and committed to vastly improve the teacher professional development program under the renewed charter.

**Item 8: Action Items**

**a. Resolution to Provide that, notwithstanding Terms of the OTA/TVLC MOU, OTA Board will continue to have maintain governance over OTA, and may consult with TVLC, but shall retain final authority until Charter Renewal granted by SDUSD**

After introduction, there being no public or Board comment, Chris Celentino so moved, second by Anna Sick, and upon the call of the question, role call vote, the following votes were recorded:

| Name       | Approve | Reject | Abstain | Absent |
|------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
|            |         |        |         |        |
| Cain       | x       |        |         |        |
| Callan     | x       |        |         |        |
| Celentino  | x       |        |         |        |
| Mireille   |         |        |         | x      |
| Dr. Garb   | x       |        |         |        |
| Gartland   | x       |        |         |        |
| Dr. Morris | x       |        |         |        |
| Olenick    |         |        |         | x      |
| Sick       | x       |        |         |        |
|            |         |        |         |        |

The Chair and presiding officer reported that the motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

The Boar moved to the next item on the Agenda.

**b. Resolution to Approve Articles of Incorporation for OTA Parent Foundation, Approve Fiscal Sponsor Agreement with TVLC, and disband Ad Hoc Foundation Committee**

After introduction, there being no public or Board comment, Chris Celentino so moved, second by Dr. Trevor Wayne Garb, there being no public comment, there was question and comment from Ryan Callan and David Cain concerning specific wording of the Fiscal Sponsor Agreement. Upon clarification of the language therein, and modficiation

thereof as set forth in the final version attached hereto, upon renewed motion by Chris Celentino, second by David Cain, and upon the call of the question, role call vote, the following votes were recorded:

| Name       | Approve | Reject | Abstain | Absent |
|------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
|            |         |        |         |        |
| Cain       | x       |        |         |        |
| Callan     | x       |        |         |        |
| Celentino  | x       |        |         |        |
| Mireille   |         |        |         | x      |
| Dr. Garb   | x       |        |         |        |
| Gartland   | x       |        |         |        |
| Dr. Morris | x       |        |         |        |
| Olenick    |         |        |         | x      |
| Sick       | x       |        |         |        |
|            |         |        |         |        |

The Chair and presiding officer reported that the motion passed by a 7-0 vote.

**Item 10. Adjournment.** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.