

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the OTA Board of Directors / OTA Site Council

October 20, 2015, 7:00 pm

7th Grade Classroom, Old Town Academy, San Diego, CA

Approved: November 17, 2015

1. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Chris Celentino called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Dr. Trevor Garb and Ryan Callan were absent; all remaining board members were physically present, establishing a quorum.

Kevin Olenick led the Board and public in the pledge of allegiance.

A voluntary sign-in sheet was provided for members of the public, and signed by the following:

Cathie Berlin, Maya Howry, Terri Cox, Heidi Weaver, Sarah Cook, Rose Ann Denton, Julie Gabrielli, Laura Studebaker, Erin Parente, Bob Hamm.

2. Public Comment: Public Comments/Correspondence

Chris Celentino advised the audience of the procedures for and restrictions related to public comment presented at board meetings.

Board meetings calendar posted on governance tab, check on Agenda you will see Board Packet, 24 hrs. prior additional items may be posted as well

Martin Lopez- helps with Periscope and Twitter Feed, but please do not record Twitter Feed as this is not allowed, only as a live feed

Speaker slips available, sign in sheet voluntary

Mr. C- Fri assemblies having vets lead the pledge of allegiance has been a great opportunity for our students to develop a relationship with Vets

Several audience members submitted speaker slips.

3. Board Member / Site Council Comments / Correspondence

Anna Sick- some kids are not bringing a lunch to school and many feel compelled to share

CC-talked to Claye from Top Notch, we only have 60 orders a day need 100 a day to sustain , will be offering a promotion so kids can try the food and encourage parents to purchase

CC-free lunch program/afterschool and field trip programs will have scholarship applications coming out soon, only Principal and Office Manager will know your financial situation, need to do this b/c some parents taking advantage of the system

Olenick-thanking fellow board members of OTA 2.0, shared the experience of Catalina, experience is invaluable i.e.:spider maze wall

CC-we are off track with field trips , should be better planned, offered in the Spring, not a given must be earned through good behavior

Terri Cox- Star Of India automatically gives you same annual date as a school

Ken Morris-need to consider temperatures/seasons of some of the trips, maybe 5th graders fundraiser in Spring for 6th grade trip in Fall?

4. Consent Agenda – Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, September 15, 2015 (distributed to the public)

Chris Celentino made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Kevin Olenick. A roll call vote was conducted. The motion carried 7-0, with Dr. Garb and Ryan Callan absent.

#5) Action Item-Ratify Charter Renewal

CC-Thanking Laura Studebaker for all her work, offered a sign up sheet for those who wanted a copy of Charter Renewal, Nov.3rd 5pm public hearing at SD Unified, Dec. we will know outcome of their vote

We are only school to not have an assigned SD Unified board member difference in fees from county to the state level, might be an economic advantage if approved at another level.

Celentino moved to ratify the submission of the Committee, second by Dave Cain, approved 7-0 unanimous vote.

5. Closed Session

6. Report on Closed Session

In public:

#6A) Sonja added to the litigation, we don't have a resolution in this case, May Harris was hired by Tom, Caren to represent OTA, but she will not turn over her files unless we pay her, which is itself a violation of law

2/11/16 our motion to compel documents from May Harris

7/1 a trial readiness conference

7/15 trial

CC- our preference would be to put this behind us

#6B.)Wage claims-went to mediation with former employees with Labor Commission , we resolved all 5, claims made were not paid in full, mutual non disparage clause, unilateral release to OTA, if anyone says anything disparaging, please report, as it is strongly discouraged

#6C) Anticipated Litigation- Sonja added to litigation

7. Public Comment on Closed Session

None.

8. Board Member Comment on Closed Session

Cain-behind the scenes counsel worked very hard to resolve relations with former employees

9. Discussion Items Only -- No Action to be Taken

#10A) Mr. C's Principal's report. - teachers welcomed observations in classroom and how to improve, they recognize we need to up the rigor especially in middle school, added staff-Spanish teacher part time, every day in 7th and 8th and every other day in 5th and 6th, developing 2nd quarter schedule now, offered job to art consultant every Fri, will help direct class projects for the Gala; awaiting acceptance.

YMCA will do walk thru on 10/27 and take measurements of the site. Thiago set up today and IDENTIKID System , scanned DL's, prints volunteer badges, logs volunteer hours, purchased hand held radios for on campus use, phones now in every classroom, proposed a different school calendar than SD Unified

CC- applaud Mr. C for all he has done, we learned before school started that our academic rigor was not up to par, especially in middle school, Mr. C attempting to cure and align our academics more with Common Core.

#10B) Teacher Liaison Report-Sarah Rock Cook-lots of collaboration with staff, importance of teacher conferences, report cards, excited about Spanish, enjoyed 8th grade staff lunch, getting kids pumped and informed about JAT

CC- first time in school history that a teacher liaison appeared at a board meeting despite it being in the original charter

#10C) Office manager report- Natalie Hirsch- good attendance overall, 5-6 families have more than 5 absences, also several families with multiple tardies, overall 97% attendance, working with TVLC so we gain full attendance, 255 students enrolled, average class has 28 students record keeping-in the past was inconsistent or nonexistent :i.e. health forms, emergency cards; all parent handbooks have been signed, volunteer paperwork to help no more than 40 hrs; health-no major issues, headaches, minor bruises

#10D) TVLC Board Meeting- Ken Morris and MR. C. said it's sub optimal audio/visual, hard to hear, overall Principals from all TVLC schools gave good info about what is happening in their schools, putting together a search committee for Batchelor replacement

#10E) Charter Renewal Petition Efforts-

CC- you may get an email instructing you to write a letter, send an email, attend and speak or submit a speaker slip for out Nov 3rd public hearing

#10F) Foundation Update-Hanft-8th grade lunch and movie night, upcoming-reforming our Gala Committee , 10/29 meeting proposed, Parent Foundation is sponsoring the art consultant, working on a web presence
CC- thanked Monica for all she has done for the school/gala

#10G)JAT-Bridget Celentino/Erin Parente-shirts have arrived, special guest, shirts delivered in the morning, 11/13 awards ceremony, Terri Cox- do we need to sign up to volunteer/check id? A: No, event remains outside, ID cards for inside use.

11. Action Items

#11A) Action Items-Resolution to ratify Execution of Audit Letter for 2014-2015 school year

CC- moved we should not use the same audit report as TVLC, should submit an independent report to SD Unified
Gartland-2nd. Roll call vote, passed 7-0.

#11B) Review /approve school calendar

CC- we should not start before labor Day

Mireille-coming back 1/2 too early

Laura Studebaker-speaker slip-asking about Thanksgiving week

CC: motion as follows: start after labor day 9/6, 2 ½ days 11/21/ and 11/22, 1/3, 5/26,6/15,6/16; asked Mr. C. to ask teachers to advise about quarter breaks, need to look at State and testing dates for final approval.

2nd-Olenick. Roll call vote, passed 7-0.

#11C) Action Item-Warrant Listing

CC-you will note certain warrants are redacted b/c of personnel wages to former employees, board recalls true amounts

CC motion to approve

2nd- Anna Sick. Roll call vote, passed 7-0.

#12) Adjournment-8:44pm

