



Equity and Excellence for All Students

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

MEETING LOCATION

Old Town Academy, 7th Grade Room

2120 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110

Wednesday, September 20, 2017, 6:00 p.m. PDT

1. 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, August 9, 2017, was called to order by James Gartland at 6:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by OTA 8th grader, Will Tobias.

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	
Christopher Cole, Member	X	
Karen Pasieczny	X	
Will Tobias, Student Member (non-voting)*	X	

*subject to ratification at this meeting

7 of 9 Voting Board members were present at roll call, constituting a quorum.

Members of the public in attendance:

- Kym Tobias
- Sydney Tobias
- Will Tobias
- Bob Hamm
- Monika Hanft
- Nathalie Hirsch
- Mark Burgess
- Melanie Merritt

2. Public Comments/Correspondence

Melanie Merritt introduced herself and volunteered to help the school with its social media presence.

Bob Hamm spoke about last year's 3rd grade paper quilt art project, which is on display at Trader Joe's in Hillcrest.

3. Board Member Comments/Correspondence

Board member Chris Cole mentioned the local paper for the area (the Sentinel), and wondered why other neighborhood school events are promoted and not OTA's. Mr. Centofranchi said he would make a call to the paper to inquire.

Board member Cathie Berlin mentioned that immediately prior to the board meeting, she had attended a different board meeting for a local charter high school, the School for Entrepreneurship and Technology (SET), and that she was impressed with what was going on there, and the direction the school was taking. Board member Jon Centofranchi followed this up by discussing how OTA has been looking at possibilities of aligning with a few local high schools.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated August 9, 2017.

Motion: Christopher Cole moved to approve the meeting minutes.

Second: Sarah Ozeroff seconded the motion.

Voting Board Members	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Kenneth Morris				X
James Gartland	X			
Ryan Callan	X			
Cathie Berlin	X			
Jon Centofranchi	X			
Gabriel Solis				X
Sarah Ozeroff	X			
Karen Pasieczny	X			
Christopher Cole	X			

5. Reports/Presentations–Discussion items only with possible action to be taken

- a. Treasurer/Fiscal Report: Ryan Callan

Ryan reviewed the board report from the previous school year, and noted that this is the first year where we've started the new school year ahead of the game. Mr. Centofranchi added that the school was conservative in its spending last year, but that some facilities upgrades were done over the summer break. Christopher Cole encouraged the school to continue to be conservative in its spending while we build a reserve.

- b. Principal's Report: Jon Centofranchi

Jon Centofranchi noted that the play structure was completed before school started, and gave many kudos to Mario and his team for their hard work to make that happen. The school hired a new 4th grade teacher when the one originally hired took a position somewhere else. The 5th grade teacher, Sarah Cook, is working with a student teacher (which is a first for OTA). He spoke about the New Teacher Induction program available at the school, which is a program run by Mrs. Cook to allow teachers to clear their credential. The Boo Hoo Breakfast was successful for incoming kindergarten parents, as was the first Coffee with the Principal for the new school year. Mr. Centofranchi reported that, at the Coffee with the Principal meeting, there was a lot of thanks given to Bridget and Chris Celentino for all of their work and commitment to the school. Jon noted that the

individual test results have been sent to parents, but that the school-wide results have been delayed due to a statewide glitch. This year the teachers will be focusing on response to intervention in their professional development. Students who have not met or nearly met the standards will be targeted for improvement. Further, students who are well past standards will also be targeted to make sure their need to be challenged and improve continues to be met. Jogathon packets will be going out soon. Bridget and Chris are working with two 1st grade parents to hand off Jogathon responsibilities.

i. I.T. Report: Mark Burgess

Mark Burgess updated the board with all of the many things he has been working on at the school, including: updating the computers in the music room (next up is the computer lab), establishing a ticketing system for teachers and staff to receive IT help; completing a physical inventory of the school's technical property; working with a local computer shop for repairs; obtaining quotes for cyber security software; consolidating system logins; streamlining the homepage; collaborating with teachers and staff; starting an operations guide; and consolidating parent email contact lists. He will be investigating a possible network (Apple TV), and ethernet option for the music room, and solving some of the wifi 'dead spots' on campus.

c. Teacher Liaison Report: Jon Centofranchi (given on behalf of Gabriel Solis, who wasn't in attendance)

Mr. Centofranchi spoke about the professional development that teachers at the school receive. He mentioned that we now have instructional assistants in all grades, not just the lower grades. The school has streamlined the disciplinary policies. Teachers appreciate the help desk ticket system set up by Mark Burgess.

d. Office Manager's Report: Nathalie Hirsch

Nathalie Hirst broke down the enrollment numbers for each grade. The school is now at 260 total students enrolled. There is no waitlist for the 4th grade, so if anyone knows a 4th grader who wants to attend, they should call the office. Forms have been sent home to all parents, which need to be completed and returned as soon as possible.

e. Student Representative Report: Will Tobias

Student Representative, Will Tobias, gave his first board report for the new school year. He reported that students are excited to come back to school, new students are making friends quickly, and the new teachers are great. He spoke about the value of restorative circles from a student's perspective. All grades really love the new 'Supernova' on the playground, so much so that the principal's advisory committee is considering rules to ensure that all students get a turn. The newly elected principal's advisory committee is also discussing a non-playground option for recess, paint ideas for the blacktop, and picking less expensive restaurants for the winners of the Outstanding Osprey ticket drawing.

f. Real Estate Advisory Panel Update: James Gartland

James Gartland gave a quick update, noting that he had approached the landlord, who in turn has given the school an offer for an extended lease, and also a price for the purchase of the building, if we are interested. The rest will be discussed in closed session.

g. Safety Advisory Panel Update – Jon Centofranchi

Jon Centofranchi gave a positive report about the effect the extension of the fence has had on pick up, drop off, and the use of the space during the school day. The school is still considering a net at the top of the fence to prevent balls from flying over the fence.

h. OTA Parent Foundation Update – Monika Hanft

Monika Hanft gave an update from the OTA Parent Foundation. The playground project was completed, and the Foundation is very pleased to hear that the students are enjoying the new space. The kindergarten outdoor space is still underway, as is the native plantings project. Back To School Night was a hit, we had great sign ups, and all room parent positions have been filled. The Foundation will fund the stenciling and painting of the new asphalt area, and they will coordinate with the students in the principal’s advisory committee. The new music teacher have a great presentation to the Foundation on her five year plan for music at the school. The Jogathon is coming up, October 20th, and is the second biggest fundraiser of the year. There are still a few tickets available for the Alesmith wine vs. beer fundraiser dinner, the link for tickets is on the Foundation website.

i. Jogathon Report – Jon Centofranchi

Jon Centofranchi encouraged students to get involved, this is their opportunity to contribute.

6. New Business Action Items & Advisory Panel Reports Requiring Action

a. Action Item: Ratification of the Unaudited Actuals for 2016-2017 as reviewed, revised and submitted by delegated authority of the Fiscal Subcommittee to SDUSD on September 15, 2017.

Motion: Cathie Berlin moved to ratify the unaudited actuals.

Second: Chris Cole seconded the motion.

Voting Board Members	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Kenneth Morris				X
James Gartland	X			
Ryan Callan	X			
Cathie Berlin	X			
Jon Centofranchi	X			
Gabriel Solis				X
Sarah Ozeroff	X			
Karen Pasieczny	X			
Christopher Cole	X			

b. Action Item: Approve 8/5/17 to 9/15/17 Check Register listing.

Motion: Chris Cole moved to approve the register.

Second: Ryan Callan seconded the motion.

Voting Board Members	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Kenneth Morris				X
James Gartland	X			
Ryan Callan	X			
Cathie Berlin	X			
Jon Centofranchi	X			
Gabriel Solis				X
Sarah Ozeroff	X			
Karen Pasieczny	X			
Christopher Cole	X			

c. Action Item: Board of Directors Appointee Applications.

The board considered and discussed applications received for potential candidates, Kym Tobias and Michael Taulbee.

Motion: Cathie Berlin moved to appoint both candidates.

Second: Sarah Ozeroff seconded the motion.

Voting Board Members	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Kenneth Morris				X
James Gartland	X			
Ryan Callan	X			
Cathie Berlin	X			
Jon Centofranchi	X			
Gabriel Solis				X
Sarah Ozeroff	X			
Karen Pasieczny	X			
Christopher Cole	X			

Kym Tobias was in attendance and joined the board at the front of the room.

7. Public Comments on Closed Session Items

No comments.

8. Closed Session – With Possible Action to be Taken

The board entered closed session at 7:08 p.m. regarding the following:

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel; Pending litigation – OTA v. FPLG (legal counsel related to former Donahue matter)
- b. OTA Lease – Term Extension

9. Report on Closed Session

The board came out of closed session at 8:09 p.m., with nothing to report.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Note: The next regular meeting of the Old Town Academy K-8 Charter School Board of Directors, is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18th at 2120 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110. Everyone is welcome to attend.