



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, March 21, 2018, 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, February 21, 2018, was called to order by Ken Morris at 6:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lexi and Abby Berlin.

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
Kym Tobias		X
Michael Taulbee		X
Will Tobias, Student Member (non-voting)		X

8 of 11 Voting Board members were present at roll call, constituting a quorum.

Members of the public in attendance:

- Bob Hamm
- Nathalie Hirsch
- Delano Jones
- Mark Burgess
- Monika Hanft

2. Public Comments/Correspondence

None.

3. Board Member Comments/Correspondence

Chris Cole mentioned how moved he was at the student walk out on March 14th, and also how impressed he was upon learning of our cross-grade reading buddy program. He recognizes how special the school is, and is proud to be a part of it. He asked about the teacher's retirement plan options and whether they receive information about how they may direct it, and there was much discussion about how much input teachers have, since CalSTRS is a defined benefit plan.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated February 21, 2018.

Motion: Chris Cole moved to approve the meeting.

Second: James Gartland seconded the motion.

Board Member	Yes	No	Abstain	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
Kym Tobias				X
Michael Taulbee				X

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

- a. Treasurer/Fiscal Report: Ryan Callan reviewed the February financials with the Board. Things are looking good, right around where we hoped they’d be this time of year. Delano Jones mentioned that we’re trending well for the year. We are doing a great job of being disciplined in our expenditures. Delano mentioned that we’ll start the budget process for next year in April, and he gave some indications of how the California governor’s budget may impact the school in the upcoming year.
- b. Principal’s Report: Jon Centofranchi informed the Board that four teachers and four parents attended the California Association for Gifted Children conference, which was here in San Diego. There was a lot of great collaboration between the staff and the parents. They met Richard Cash, whom the Foundation has since hired to do some professional development with our staff in June and in August. He is the author of a book that the staff has been studying. The subcommittee is now named the Student Academic Support Group, the name was chosen to represent all students, not just the academically advanced ones. The Foundation has graciously funded, not only professional development, but also funds to get every one of our teachers GATE certified over the next three years. Our 4th graders did an exceptional job presenting their inventions to the Mirum executives. One of the students’ ideas was so impressive that the owner of Mirum is having his team look into developing it, and if so, would work with our students on this project. We also had three 8th graders win the San Diego County National History Day Competition, they will be heading to a statewide competition in Sacramento in May. Ms. Church has done an amazing job with these kids. The school will pay half of the travel costs, and the parents will pay the remainder.
 - i. I.T. Report: Mark Burgess updated the board on all of the progress he has made on the various I.T. initiatives, including a new OTA website.
- c. Student Academic Advisory Panel Update: No new update this month (other than what was presented in the principal’s report).
- d. LCAP Advisory Panel Update. No new update this month.

- e. **Teacher Liaison Report:** Gabriel Solis discussed the student walk out. One idea that was brought up by students is that, if there is a future event like this, perhaps a time of silence to honor those killed should also be considered. The recent staff meeting was mostly focused on the disaster drills, there was an earthquake disaster drill today. Each teacher has a specific role, and are well informed about that role. Gabe then gave a summary of the various recent and upcoming field trips and events for each grade. He also mentioned Pi Day, and that a middle school student memorized 191 digits of Pi.
- f. **Office Manager's Report:** Nathalie Hirsch informed the Board about the number of new student enrollment applications to date by grade (this is the last week for potential new students to get their applications in). Two families have indicated that they will not return next year. She gave a friendly reminder to the five remaining board members who need to complete and file their Form 700. She mentioned that several teachers have recently received information about the State Charter School Facilities Incentive Grant, which opened up a few days ago. Delano mentioned that this is a reimbursable grant, and that it is based on a point system where the free and reduced lunch percentage and overcrowded ratio is different than we have here at OTA. He said that we can certainly submit an application and see where we get slotted.
- g. **Student Representative Report:** Jon Centofranchi gave the report on Will Tobias' behalf. Jon started by congratulating Will for getting into St. Augustine. All of our students who applied for admission to private schools got in to their choice schools. Jon spoke about the the student walk out on March 14th. The Principal's Advisory Committee met and discussed the upcoming spirit day on April 13th, which will be "Disney day". The students had a presentation from a represented Top Notch Catering (who supplies our school lunches), and the students were able to give feedback on items they liked/disliked. The talent show is coming up, and a team of students will assist Ms. King and Ms. Schlose. We have tentative dates, but are still finalizing the venue. There is still a lot of work to be done on the talent show.
- h. **High School Advisory Panel Update:** No new update this month.
- i. **Real Estate Advisory Panel Update:** James Gartland mentioned that there is no new update this month. The charter school facilities committee didn't meet this month, but he will follow up on their future meetings.
- j. **Safety Advisory Panel Update –** No new update this month.
- k. **OTA Board Election Advisory Update –** Bob Hamm reported that we had the election last week. Bob thanked Mark Burgess for all of his help with the online elections. Matt Johnson was elected to the board. He could not be in attendance due to a gala meeting, but he sent a message encouraging all parents to get their tickets to the gala. He said that the online teacher experiences will be available for bidding from April 26 – May 3. Matt will be at the April meeting. Ken mentioned that one open elected seat on the Board remains.
- l. **OTA Parent Foundation Update –** Monika Hanft got Board input on the potential butterfly garden mural. She mentioned that the Foundation has funded a number of things, including the turf (at around \$44,000), and requests by the Student Academic Support Group (totaling \$16,400 for the next school year) for professional development as requested for all staff in regard to differentiation, as well as GATE certification training for 4 teachers in the next school year. She encouraged all parents and supporters of the school to buy their tickets to the Gala! The middle school dance was a big hit. The Foundation has their elections in May, so come to the April meeting to hear more. She updated the Board on the native plantings garden, funded by a generous donation from a (current) third grader's relative. OTA will be a native butterfly waystation.

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

a. Action Item: Approve 2/19/18 to 3/16/18 Check Register listing.

Motion: Cathie Berlin moved to approve the check register (distributed in advance of the meeting).

Second: Chris Cole seconded the motion.

Board Member	Yes	No	Abstain	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		
Kym Tobias		X		
Michael Taulbee		X		

7. Public Comments on Closed Session Items

No comments.

8. Closed Session – With Possible Action to be Taken

The Board entered closed session at 7:15 p.m. regarding the following:

- a. Conference with Principal on student IEP issue
- b. Conference with Principal on personnel issues, evaluations, salaries and related matters

9. Report on Closed Session

The Board came out of closed session at 8:07 p.m., with nothing to report.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.