

Our Community School
Board of Directors Meeting
June 18, 2009

In attendance: Scott Miller, Carolina Goodman, Susan Friedman, Bill Maxwell, John Foley, Katherine Geeslin, Jana Harper, Heather Ashton; **absent:** David Marsh

Non-voting members: Chris Ferris, Shelly Silveri (Ex Ed)

Prospective board members: Hilary Anderson, Ricardo Accorsi, Irina Castillo, Darrell Specter, and Kitty Youngs.

5:45 – Meeting called to order; there were no community speakers.

Consent Agenda:

- Approve minutes of the last Board meeting 5-21-09.
- Approve Board calendar for 2009-1010.
- Create a Task Force to address a smooth transition for added enrollment to be chaired by Susan.
- Create an Honorary Board, which would require a \$3,000 contribution or gifts in kind, renewable annually.
- Approve ExED contract.

Carolina moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the correction of the name of the task force. The correct name is “Task Force for Growth”. The motion was seconded by Katherine. The motion passed unanimously.

Jana moved to approve the nomination of Hilary Anderson. (Vanessa Murcia will be the official substitute if Hilary would need to miss a board meeting.) The motion was seconded by Bill. The motion passed unanimously.

Finance Report:

Shelly (ExED) reported good news:

- OCS is ahead of budget.
- Our cash flow is higher that last month.
- Our line of credit will be paid off.
- We are projected to end the year with \$130,000 in cash. (5% would be a better amount)
- Our private loan will be paid by July 1.

Other financial news:

- OCS made a cut to the '08-09 budget; then needed to make a second cut after special election; the total cut was equal to rates in 2001, about \$700/student less than we planned one year ago. We have been told that there may be three more cuts next year (beginning – middle – and end of year).

- Our total revenue for the school year was \$1,524,396, which represents \$184,640 below budget.
- The board reviewed the school's check register.
- There was a question about the details of the school's credit card statement. It was reported that the school rarely uses the credit card, and the credit card statement is reviewed by three people at ExED.

Jana moved to accept the financial report. The motion was seconded by Bill. The motion passed unanimously.

Consolidated Application (federal funding for low socio-economic enrollment) Carolina moved to approve the Consolidated Application. The motion was seconded by Jana. The motion passed unanimously.

- Jana moved to change our Title I designation from "Targeted Assistance" to "School-Wide Assistance". The motion was seconded by Bill. The motion passed unanimously.
- OCS will create a plan for how Title I funds will be used.

Budget (see attached)

- OCS is making a conservative projection of 268 students.
- Many changes have been made, because of changes in funding amounts; more changes are expected for future changes in funding.
- Tutoring and summer school (Supplemental Hours Program) will receive 80% of the amount received in 07-08.
- Federal government stimulus package is filling the gap made by the State.
- Class size reduction will receive 80% of the amount received in 07-08.
- It is possible that the CCSA categorical block may be able to give us another \$13,000.
- We expect to bring in more revenue from fundraising than we placed in the budget.
- In 2010-11, we will be in a better position because some loans will be paid off.
- Jana moved to approve the budget with the recommendation that the Finance Committee make recommendations for cuts at three tiers (\$25,000 increments) in order to anticipate State cuts.
- Ask teachers for input about budget, but not about specific decisions about personnel cuts.

SELPA letter for 2010 (see attached)

- Jana moved to approve the letter to be sent to LAUSD. The motion was seconded by Scott. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Chris mentioned other SELPA possibilities:
 - El Dorado has an "insurance" option
 - Charter-only SELPA?
 - Burbank School District?

OCS Communication with parents

- There was a question about letting parents know about changing the start of school to an earlier date. Parents received this information last fall, but were not reminded again until just recently.
- Should there be a survey about pupil-free days? Aftercare can only be provided if it is contiguous with a school day. A Calendar Committee consisting of faculty and staff members, creates the calendar. Next year, invite PTSA president to participate on the Calendar Committee. Could the Weekly Packet include a box that would highlight important information? Could OCS institute a Parent pledge that would clarify personal responsibility to read the information that the school disseminates. Scott notes that this whole discussion was inappropriate in that the Board must not participate in micromanaging.

Board recruitment update:

- Scott moved to approve the nomination of Scott Spooner, past president of Kiwanis, who led OCS board strategic planning. The motion was seconded by Hilary. The motion carried unanimously.
- Ricardo Accorsi, Irina Castillo, Kitty Youngs, Daryl Specter observed the Board meeting as potential board members.

Facilities Task Force:

- Bill will chair.
- Members of this task force will consist of specialist who won't necessarily attend Facilities Committee meetings.

Discussions tabled for the next board meeting:

- Reflections on '08-09 board accomplishments.
- charter renewal

Announcements:

- Scott may have to step down in November. Scott moved to name Jana as Co-Chair. The motion was seconded by Carolina. The motion passed unanimously.
- Carolina will continue as secretary.
- Katherine will be leaving the Board; will work on developing an Alumni Association; the Board needs a new Treasurer.
- Heather will now be chairing the Wellness Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolina Goodman
Board Secretary