

## Our Community School

Board of Directors Meeting – December 10, 2009

**In attendance:** Scott Miller, Jana Harper, Heather Ashton, Susan Friedman, Irina Castillo, Carolina Goodman, Bill Maxwell, Hilary Anderson, Scott Spooner, David Marsh, Bill Powers, and Ricardo Accorsi,

**Non-voting members in attendance:** Chris Ferris (principal), Beth Wolfsbauer (assistant principal), Rich Vasquez (ExEd). **Absent:** Victoria Camacho (PTSA president)

6:03pm – Meeting called to order.

David/Carolina moved to add Capacity meeting to agenda.

### No Community Speakers

Consent Agenda: Scott/David moved to approve.  
Scott/Susan moved to accept minutes as corrected.

Capacity Hearing meeting will be 12.17.09 at 10:30am. We submitted early to have bargaining power. 1) LAUSD might approve charter, but not expansion. 2) We could appeal to LAUSD board. 3) We could put forth expansion next year.

Parker Hudnut, head of charter school office, is in favor of us going forward without all board members present. We have the support of the superintendent. We would have a quorum. Chris made a one-page overview for board members to prepare; she also printed two pages of more information.

### Discussion/Action Items

- Board Recruitment strategies – need expert in fundraising (especially capital campaign); Donna Smith is interested (past principal of Chatsworth and just retired from working with Laurentzen); anyone in the Devonshire School area; entertainment industry; public relations; technology; middle school person; contractor. Jana chairing; Susan and Irina will also be on the Nominating Committee.
- Recruit parent volunteers – marketing, grant writing, moving/project management, technology, OCS parent coffees for Devonshire neighbors
- Open House at Devonshire for neighbors in the spring; information in the Chatsworth Monthly. Connect with Rotary and Kiwanis to do a presentation.
- October financials - \$50,000 better YTD (\$40,000 income; \$2,000 spending less), getting faster payments = \$21,000. Down in federal \$. State adjustment of \$6000. Collected \$11,000 more than we had in the past (most from after-care collections), October fundraising \$22,000 more than budget. \$12,000 in fundraising cost (scrip); expecting \$15,000 more. Expenses – doing a good job, expect to spend less this year. Above the 5% cushion. Heather/David moved to approve financials
- Audit – strong, clean, unqualified opinion, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph present fairly the financial position of the school. Cash positive. Total net assets positive. Net income greater than

expenses. No deficiencies. OCS complied. No findings noted. No prior year findings. Scott S/Hilary move to approve the audit.

- Development Committee – Annual Support campaign - \$5,751.25. February 27 at Knollwood Country Club on Balboa. OCS Community Champion is Donna Smith. OCS Alumnus honoree is Katherine Geeslin. \$45 for OCS community by January 22. OCS table \$400 for 10 by January 22. Give away spots to Devonshire area people. Amazon.com shopping 10%
- Facilities – 11/4 OCS community meeting where Ricardo walked families through. Families were able to provide input, e.g. water feature. Over the politics; M & O are preparing to work; December 16 LAUSD will approve \$2-3 million. Chatsworth Neighborhood Council announcement that Devonshire will be opening as a charter school. January 12 is the LAUSD full vote. We wonder what the contract will look at. Community Day School and LAUSD professional development will share the site. Put portables on the site for the Community Day School? Now . . . design a task list for different community committees, e.g. teachers pack and set up (compensation?), marketing/branding, identify what belongs to OCS (already have an annual inventory). Next Friday, all teachers and staff meet at the site. Then to Bill Powers house for a party.
- Program – Benchmark Assessments (see report) – what about subgroup populations? Americorps volunteer has been working, and we will have another volunteer start soon. February 24-26. WASC. Charter School comprehensive review – Scott S/Carolina moved: David, Heather, and Hilary will craft a board response.
- Strategy session to identify and prioritize:

<b>objectives</b>	<b>actions</b>	<b>Community Committees</b>
Devonshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move</li> <li>• Program changes</li> <li>• Marketing</li> <li>• Student recruiting</li> <li>• Contract negotiations</li> <li>• Compensation</li> </ul>	Facilities Committees Development Committees Finance Committee
Achieve WASC accreditation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit report</li> <li>• Prepare for WASC visitation.</li> </ul>	Program Committee All committees
Charter Renewal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charter approval</li> <li>• Respond to changes</li> <li>• Attend hearing</li> </ul>	Program Committee Board input
Fundraising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board member recruitment</li> <li>• Board development</li> </ul>	Development Committee
Capital Campaign		
Middle school concept		
Proactive response to budget		Emergency response team
Program maintenance and improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation strategies</li> </ul>	

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolina Goodman, Secretary  
OCS Board of Directors