

Our Community School  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
February 28, 2008

**Board members present:** Chris Ferris, Al Erdynast, Mark Youngs, John Foley, Katherine Geeslin, Scott Miller, Louis Pugliese, Danielle Quinto, John Foley, Ken Rickerman

**Board members absent:** Carolina Goodman, Kellie Jackson

**Notetaker:** Beth Wolfsbauer

The meeting was called to order at 5:36pm by Board Member Scott Miller. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

### **Strategic Planning**

Consultant Scott Spooner led Board Members as they begin this process. The key questions under consideration are: How do we plan for growth? If we decide to move, where would that be? What are the financial implications? The Board considered the following aspects: demographics, government/political climate, economic climate, competitive forces, technology, and available space.

### **Finance Committee**

Laura, from ExEd, OCS's back office provider, presented. Alma is participating with ExEd for a quality check. As we expected, due to the State's practice of funding schools "in arrears", our cash flow is down. We had prepared in advance to access a bank loan. The money that the State gives to schools is dependent on attendance; illness has caused a high absentee rate in January and February. This is OCS's last year to benefit from the Implementation Grant. We have one more year before our revolving loan is paid off. We are \$17k up in fundraising at our last meeting. At this meeting we are up \$19,293k. We need to reserve money to buy scrip in advance. We are currently \$3521 behind in scrip. Due to the timing of differences in payment, for this year only we will pay 13 months of rent in 12 months. For expenses, we are under budget by 31,512. We will be working with a new auditor next year; one who will produce higher quality work and file tax returns. We need to file back taxes due to our 501c# status. Next year, cash will be tighter because of the Governor's 6% budget cut for schools; Chris is working with ExEd to cut next year's budget by 3%.

### **Development Committee**

We need to find ways to raise more funds. Annual Giving has raised about \$8000 to date, representing participation from 100% of the Board, 60% of the faculty/staff, and 34% of our families. Big Night Out was a success, bringing in about \$6000 and providing a fun evening for the OCS community and their friends. The video made by two parents captured the essence of Our Community School. There is good energy around the upcoming Spring Faire. The Mid-Valley 5K Walk/Run is scheduled for October 4; committee members are working with the city and neighborhood council to ensure the success of this event, which is expected to draw wide participation.

### **Governance Committee**

The work of this committee has been around strategic planning and a formal evaluation of OCS's principal. John moves to approve Chris' 06-07 evaluation. Ken seconds. Chris receives overwhelming support. She has written goals for 07/08 as the basis for her evaluation this year. (see attached) Danielle moves to approve the goals as a basis for Chris's 07-08 evaluation. Katherine seconds. The motion carries.

### **Facilities Committee**

LAUSD denied our application for portables. Louis attended an LAUSD board meeting to alert the district of the unfairness of the selection process. LAUSD was unwilling to change for this year, but will revise their eligibility guidelines for June. Chris asked the question if it is wise to invest money in expansion when there is a significant budget cut next year. We will spend this year on the permit process, site plans, and ask the church if we can rent more classroom space. Questions to ask: How long? What rooms? Security issues? Can this be a win-win situation for both the church and the school by September?

### **New Business**

- \* The Board needs to fill out a form indicating they are not making a profit from running the school.
- \* Mark Youngs has resigned from the OCS Board of Directors.
- \* Nikki Maxwell is working on a grant for P.E. It is a collaboration with other charter schools.
- \* Jose Parada is organizing a before-school P.E. program, run by parent volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolina Goodman, Board Secretary