



Minutes – Approved
Ocean Charter School Board Meeting
May 1, 2008

Ocean Charter School
12606 Culver Blvd., Los Angeles 90066

Called to Order 6:05 pm by Joan Wicks, Board Chairman

Present: Lori Andrade, Jeannie Elmstrom, Jason Haas, Liz Koravos, Dean Kubani, Beth Rendeiro, Peter Samaranayake, Cissy Stanford, Wendy Teeter, Leo Trujillo-Cox, Joan Wicks, and Julie Yarnall.

A quorum was present.

Closed Session

The Board convened into closed session at 6:06pm pursuant to Brown Act sections 54957.6 (Labor Negotiations), 54957 (Personnel-Discipline/Dismissal/Release), and 54956.8 (Real Property Negotiations). Julie Yarnall recused herself. Director Peter Samaranayake, Assistant Principal Kristy Mack-Fett, Office Manager Valentina Vega and parent Todd Mobley were in attendance. The Board discussed Labor Negotiations.

Beth Rendeiro and Assistant Principal/Resource Specialist Michelle Hedge joined the meeting at 6:17pm.

Beth Rendeiro and parent Todd Mobley left the meeting at 6:50pm. The Board met with the employee in question to discuss Personnel-Discipline/Dismissal/Release. Julie Yarnall rejoined the meeting at 7:04pm. The employee in question left the meeting at 7:35pm.

MOTION: Dean Kubani motioned that the employee in question be renewed under the following conditions:

- 1) They will retain their probationary status for one year under the OCTA agreement, and**
- 2) Compulsory attendance of a Non-Violent Communication workshop.**

Liz Koravos seconded the motion. Lori Andrade, Jeannie Elmstrom, Liz Koravos, Dean Kubani, Cissy Stanford, Wendy Teeter, Leo Trujillo-Cox, and Joan Wicks voted in favor. Jason Haas abstained. None opposed. Motion passed.

The Board discussed Real Property Negotiations.



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MOTION: Liz Koravos motioned to approve the two letters regarding the Proposition 39 Request. Dean Kubani seconded the motion. Lori Andrade, Jeannie Elmstrom, Jason Haas, Liz Koravos, Dean Kubani, Cissy Stanford, Wendy Teeter, Leo Trujillo-Cox, and Joan Wicks voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.

The Board reconvened to open session at 8:39pm.

Lori Andrade reported out the two motions made during closed session.

Real Property Negotiations

Joan Wicks discussed the costs that LAUSD is charging OCS per the Proposition 39 Co-Location Agreement for Walgrove Elementary. It is approximately double what was charged last year for only two additional classrooms. Director Peter Samaranayake will fax in the two letters regarding the Proposition 39 Request to meet our midnight deadline.

MOTION: Leo Trujillo-Cox motioned to approve signing the Proposition 39 Co-Location Agreement. Joan Wicks seconded the motion. Jason Haas amended the motion by adding “without Exhibit C”. Lori Andrade, Jeannie Elmstrom, Jason Haas, Liz Koravos, Dean Kubani, Cissy Stanford, Wendy Teeter, Leo Trujillo-Cox, and Joan Wicks voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.

Joan Wicks reviewed the new, five-year lease with Marina Christian Fellowship, with a 5% increase in rent per year and no First Right of Refusal. Joan thanked Valentina Vega for her assistance with the lease negotiations.

MOTION: Joan Wicks motioned to approve the Lease Agreement between Marina Christian Fellowship and OCS dated May 1, 2008. Leo Trujillo-Cox seconded the motion. Lori Andrade, Jeannie Elmstrom, Jason Haas, Liz Koravos, Dean Kubani, Cissy Stanford, Wendy Teeter, Leo Trujillo-Cox, and Joan Wicks voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.

Approval of Prior Board Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Lori Andrade moved to approve the Board Meeting minutes from March 6, 2008. Jeannie Elmstrom seconded the motion. Lori Andrade, Jeannie Elmstrom, Jason Haas, Liz Koravos, Dean Kubani, Beth Rendeiro, Cissy Stanford, Wendy Teeter, and Leo Trujillo-Cox voted in favor. Joan Wicks abstained. None opposed. Motion passed.



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Open Forum (Opportunity for Public Comments)

Teacher Karen Fenswick expressed her frustration with Open Forum being scheduled at the end of the agenda. Liz Koravos recommended that Open Forum take place now. Karen Fenswick spoke in support of our current Assistant Principals and recommended that the Board retain them. Teacher Jamie Gazzaniga questioned the Board disputing the faculty's election of Charlene Haney, OCTA President, to replace Stacey Lisker as Faculty Board member. Lori Andrade clarified that the Board received notification of Charlene Haney's election before receiving Stacey Lisker's resignation. Dean Kubani suggested that a non-voting Faculty Board member was no different than a member of the audience, except that they could participate in Board discussions. Jason Haas spoke to the conflict of interest between duty of care as Union President and Faculty Board member, even if that Faculty Board member does not vote. Leo Trujillo-Cox stated that though LAUSD cannot deny teacher membership, it could put Charter Renewal at risk if that teacher was the Union President. Cissy Stanford stated that the Board would welcome Charlene Haney as Faculty Board member, if she chose to resign as Union President. Joan will ask the General Counsel of LAUSD to submit reasoning in writing.

OCS Core Values

Kristy Mack-Fett described the success of the Core Values workshop and immediate daily use of the skills and processes demonstrated. Dean Kubani offered to gather a group consisting of Board members, Administration, Faculty and parents to meet and discuss ways to incorporate Core Values into our decision-making processes.

Directors Report and Discussion

Director Peter Samaranayake reiterated his recommendation to relocate next year's 4th grade to the North Campus on Walgrove Elementary, and to establish the North Campus as OCS's main site. He announced his support of the Kindergarten Faculty's firm policy regarding our June 1st cut-off for First Grade entry. Kindergarten students with birthdays from June 1st to December 2nd would attend two years of Kindergarten; no exceptions. The Board discussed when South Campus faculty evaluations would be completed and by whom. Wendy Teeter requested that the back-pay issue be resolved.

ACTION ITEM: Joan Wicks will agendize a report of South Campus Faculty evaluations.

Finance



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Tammy Stanton of Excellent Education reviewed the OCS 2008-2009 OCS Budget Draft submitted by the Finance Committee. Fran Montano stated that the Board would need to consider substantial recommendations to balance the budget, such as increasing class size, hiring an expert to Fundraise, increasing the number of classes, or cutting some Specialty programs. Kristy Mack-Fett reiterated our strategic plan to be on one site and to have a sustainable model of programs. Valentina Vega suggested creating a visual three to five-year plan to map out how certain programs may be cut now but be added back in later years.

MOTION: Dean Kubani moved that the 2008-2009 4th Grade would move to the North Campus on Walgrove Elementary. Liz Koravos seconded the motion. Lori Andrade, Jeannie Elmstrom, Jason Haas, Liz Koravos, Dean Kubani, Beth Rendeiro, Cissy Stanford, Wendy Teeter, Leo Trujillo-Cox, and Joan Wicks voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.

ACTION ITEM: Kristy Mack-Fett will send an email to the OCS Families yahoo group regarding the 4th grade announcement.

OCS Executive Search / OCS Administrative Structure

Mary Hunter Ellegood and Andrea Reibsam reported that the job posting was complete and that they will review the resumes received to date while continuing to assess the best administrative structure for OCS. Joan Wicks reminded those in attendance that our Charter clearly commits to a certain administrative structure. The Board and committee members discussed next steps and how to balance the time it takes to properly assess the candidates with the need to ideally have someone new in place by July 1, 2008. Julie Jbara stated that the OCS Executive Search and Administrative Structure Committee will meet next Monday and vet the resumes. Beth Rendeiro received confirmation from Board members that they support the idea of an Interim Team, but only if a Director candidate cannot be hired by July 1, 2008.

MOTION: Dean Kubani moved that Liz Koravos and Dean Kubani will form an Interim Team task force and work with the Executive Search Committee to discuss alternatives for Interim Team and Administrative Structure and return a recommendation to the Board. Liz Koravos seconded the motion. Lori Andrade, Jeannie Elmstrom, Jason Haas, Liz Koravos, Dean Kubani, Beth Rendeiro, Cissy Stanford, Wendy Teeter, Leo Trujillo-Cox, and Joan Wicks voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.



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All Community Group

Cissy Stanford reviewed the agenda for the May 8, 2008 ACG meeting, which includes a Kindergarten team presentation, state testing and the state of OCS finances.

Board and Community Development

Dean Kubani presented the OCS Board and All Community Group elections schedule as follows:

Nominations week:	5/19-5/23
Candidate Statements due:	5/30
Candidate Presentations:	First week of June (date TBD)
Election days:	June 10-11

OCS Charter Renewal

Our Charter Renewal hearing date has been postponed until June 5, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 12:27am.

Respectfully submitted by
Lori Andrade, Secretary
OCS Board of Trustees