

Orange County Educational Arts Academy

A California Public Charter School
825 N. BROADWAY, SANTA ANA, CA 92701
714/ 558-ARTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

General Meeting

Wednesday –March 12, 2008

6:00 pm

OCEAA Public Comment Policy

The OCEAA School Board of Directors (Board) welcomes your participation at the School’s Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board is to conduct the affairs of the school in public. We are pleased that you are in attendance and hope that you will visit these meetings often. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our School. To assist you in the ease of speaking/participating in our meetings, the following guidelines are provided:

1. Agendas are available to all audience members at the door to the meeting.
2. “Request to Speak” forms are available to all audience members who wish to speak on any agenda item(s) or under the general category of “Oral Communications.” Any person may address the Board on agenda or non-agenda items. To be recognized by the Chairman, an individual must write their name and the agenda item(s) on the cards provided and submit this to the Chairman or Secretary. The Chairman will then announce the person’s name at the appropriate time during the meeting. Each person will be granted up to three minutes to make his or her presentation. If requested, the Chairman may grant additional time to individuals, circumstances permitting.
3. “Oral Communications” is set aside for members of the audience to raise issues that are not specifically on the agenda. However, due to public meeting laws, the Board can only listen to your issue, not respond or take action. These presentations are limited to three (3 minutes) each and total time allotted to non-agenda items will not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. The Board may give direction to staff to responds to your concern or you may be offered the option of returning with a citizen-requested item.
4. With regard to the items that are on the agenda, you may specify that agenda item on your request form and you will be given an opportunity to speak for up to three (3 minutes) when the board discusses that item. Following a presentation on an agenda item by staff, committees or the public to the Board, the Chairman will recognize members of the public who have submitted on that agenda item. This period precedes Board discussion and deliberation.
5. Formal presentations to the Board by members of the public may be scheduled in advance by notifying the secretary no later than 10:00 a.m., two weeks, (fourteen days), prior to the Board meeting to coincide with the agenda timeline. Scheduled formal presentations shall not exceed 15 minutes in duration.

In addition to the above, any Board member may ask a member of the public to answer brief questions or make comments on an agenda item under discussion in order to gather information before deliberating on a decision.

I. PRELIMINARY

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by the Board Chair at 6:12 PM

B. ROLL CALL

| | Present | Absent |
|---------------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Kristin Collins, Board Chair | X_____ | _____ |
| Dr. Kimberly Barraza-Lyons, President | X_____ | _____ |
| Cynthia Criollos, Secretary | X_____ | _____ |
| Norman Rogers, Treasurer | X_____ | _____ |
| Joseph Matthews, Member | X_____ | _____ |
| Narinder S. Mahal, Member | X_____ | _____ |
| Dr. Alfonso Bustamante, Member | X_____ | _____ |
| Linda Hardman Greene, Principal | X_____ | _____ |

C. FLAG SALUTE

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:** Non-agenda items: no individual presentation shall be for more than three (3) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed (15) minutes. Ordinarily, Board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken. However, the Board may give direction to staff following a presentation.

Elizabeth Bausman – Our retention has improved (declined) to .21%, Labor Day , 2007 to February, 2008.

B. **FOR INFORMATION/BOARD**

Charter Renewal /Extension Update

Dr. Kimberly Barraza-Lyons and Dr. Al Bustamante discussed meeting they had with SAUSD School Board Trustee Dr. Noji February 29, 2008, 2:00 at district. Summary of the meeting was discussed background information on OCEAA charter and Santa Ana charter schools in general; looking for support, guidance, due to confusion and surprise pertaining to five year renewal process becoming 2 year extension. Reiterated there was not thorough data (2 years only) regarding academic achievement to establish any trends or to make standard educational assumptions. Discussed enrollment percentages and demographics of OCEAA. Discussed unclear and vague direction from SAUSD staff. Confused as to why OCEAA can still not get on the agenda of SAUSD. Dr. Barraza-Lyons followed up with an email to thank Dr. Noji for the meeting and extended invitation to visit OCEAA some time in the future.

Dr. Barraza-Lyons called SAUSD school board clerk on March 3rd and requested that OCEAA be placed on SAUSD agenda for Tuesday, March 11, 2008. Clerk informed Dr. Barraza-Lyons that she was within the timeline to do so. Mavis Mitchell, Charter Schools Financial Coordinator called Dr. Barraza-Lyons and instructed her that OCEAA could not call to get on the agenda for March 11, 2008, and that she would let us know a confirmed date. To date, March 12, 2008, OCEAA has not heard a confirmed date on this issue.

Dr. Barraza-Lyons and Dr. Bustamante had scheduled a meeting with SAUSD School Board Rob Richardson for Monday, Mach 17, 2008.

III. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR INFORMATION

Principal report – Linda Hardman Greene

Professional Development

- ❖ CST Testing Strategies using the release questions (parent) & Thinking Maps (OCEAA staff)
- ❖ Students with learning differences (parent)

Student Achievement

- ❖ Need to compile CELDT data
- ❖ 4th & 7th grade just took the STAR writing test 3/04
- ❖ APRENDA – April 2nd – 9th

- ❖ CSTs – April 22nd – 29th
- ❖ PE Test – by May 31st

After School Art/Literacy Classes

- ❖ Anti-bullying curriculum (Don't Laugh at Me) pilot with middle school and select students

Child Nutrition

- ❖ Audit next week – Chef Sean & his team are working extremely hard to make sure the audit goes smoothly

Student Leadership

- ❖ Spirit Week & Skate Night
- ❖ Student forum to voice concerns & suggestions for improving school

Grants

- ❖ Library Grant – Robin Romain wrote a grant 3 years ago. A match was made between our school and Tarbut V'Torah Community Day School in Irvine. March 30th murals painted & books labeled. They are donating 10,000 gently used & new books!! She also secured book shelves for all of the books. Floral Park Neighborhood Association provided \$1,000.00 for library bookshelves.
- ❖ Technology/Library Grant – Jake, the library comm. & our volunteer grant writer, Lisa Matthews, worked on a \$500,000 grant application for our library to transform it into a media Mecca. We will find out in the summer if we are awarded the grant.

Facilities

- ❖ Doors repaired, light fixtures replaced, utility door secured
- ❖ Want to paint side wall "School Parking Only"

HR

- ❖ Sylvia has been working with our Charter School mentors to increase her HR knowledge & make sure we are meeting all legal requirements
- ❖ Our IA for Ms. Abramson's class quit, we need to fill position
- ❖ Ms. Lawler has submitted to take leave for the remainder of the school year – last day March 30th. Margarita Chávez will be her long-term sub

Special Education

- ❖ \$178,730.51 was deposited into our County account on 2/14/08
- ❖ Tara now has another RSP teacher working with her from 8 – 11:30 am. She is helping with testing students & filled in when Tara was out due to her appendix

State/Federal Requirements

- ❖ 2nd Interim Budget report just turned in on Monday
CDE Audit Tues. 3/18 regarding charter start up grant
 - Charter School Renewal/Extension
Principal Linda Hardman Greene had the "2 year extension" documents hand delivered March 3, 2008, to Mavis Mitchell, including cover letter, material revision (change in law since January) one page comparative data analysis, letter from Sandro Lanni, Charter School Management Corporation for OCEAA and financial documents.

Principal Hardman-Greene emailed Mavis Mitchell on March 5, 2008, to confirm that the district had received the charter extension documentation and requested that OCEAA be placed on district agenda for March 11, 2008 or April 8, 2008.

On March 6, 2008, Mavis Mitchell replied to Principal Linda Hardman Greene that SAUSD did receive the extension request documents on March 3, 2008. Ms. Mitchell indicated, "I will have to get back to you regarding the specific date for the matter to be on the board agenda." To date, March 12, 2008, OCEAA has not heard any more from Ms. Mitchell on this issue.

Concurrently, on March 6, 2008, Ms. Mitchell generated another separate email to Principal Hardman Greene. Subject: OCEAA – Response to inquiry re: Proposition 39 Facilities Request, in which Ms. Mitchell was responding to an earlier OCEAA inquiry regarding when OCEAA would expect to receive the documentation submitted on September 28, 2007 to discuss Prop 39, to which Mavis Mitchell responded that she was requesting an extension in time on behalf of SAUSD.

Donations:

\$124.91 Target – for Arts

\$21.00 iGive – for Arts

FSO report – Berene Lindbeck – See Attached

Budget Update – Norm Rogers/Kimberly Barraza-Lyons. No changes since last meeting other than we received the reimbursement check for SPED from SAUSD on February 14, 2008 (per the August, 2007 agreement).

IV. FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

Cynthia Criollos expressed confusion regarding what happened from going from working on a 5 year charter renewal for the prior eight months to a 2 year extension within a matter of the recent weeks. Reiterated that she felt OCEAA was bullied by SAUSD in the conference call of February 4, 2008, and found it extremely disappointing that all the work OCEAA staff and volunteers had spent since August, 2007, including the amount of monies spent on attorney fees that we were no closer to getting anywhere with the 5 year charter renewal compared to when we started in August, 2007.

Ms. Criollos also reminded everyone she and Dr. Barraza-Lyons had met with Caribou Industries/Michael Harrah regarding OCEAA's lease agreement which expires on May 31, 2008, as usual business. Ms. Criollos recognized that our landlord had been supportive of us these past three years and found it "concerning" and "embarrassing" that we still cannot provide him a concrete answer regarding renewal of the lease. Thankfully Mr. Harrah remains supportive of OCEAA and understands that we are trying our best to get a definitive answer. Mr. Harrah reiterated that he would love to have OCEAA remain at our current site.

Ms. Criollos, as the secretary of record, offered to organize a timeline of activities to date pertaining to 5 year charter renewal/extension/Prop 39.

V. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

All matters listed under the consent agenda are considered by the Board to be routine and will be approved/enacted by the Board in one motion in the form listed below. Unless specifically requested by a Board member for further discussion or removal from the agenda, there will be no discussion of these items prior to the Board votes on them. The Chair recommends approval of all consent agenda items.

VI. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION

- A. Approve Minutes from February 13, 2008 - Tabled

| | |
|--|---|
| It is recommended that the Board approve Agenda Item A. | Motion:____ Action:____ Second:____ Vote: ____ |
|--|---|

The meeting will now convene to closed session to discuss the following matters described in Section VI.

VII. CLOSED SESSION

54956.8. Real estate negotiations
Personnel

VIII. PUBLIC SESSION

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION: The meeting was reconvened to open session at ___.

PUBLIC REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION (includes the vote or abstention of every member present).

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at _____.
Next regularly scheduled meeting Wed., April 9, 2008, 6:00 PM