

**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**

May 13, 2009

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 6:07.

**B. ROLL CALL**

	Present	Absent
Kristin Collins, Board Chair	__X at 7:44	_____
Dr. Alfonso Bustamante, Vice Chair	__X__	_____

Dr. Kimberly Barraza-Lyons, President	<u>  X  </u>	<u>        </u>
Norman Rogers, Treasurer	<u>  X  </u>	<u>        </u>
Bobbie Kraus, Secretary	<u>  X  </u>	<u>        </u>
Joseph Matthews, Member	<u>  X at 6:12  </u>	<u>        </u>
Narinder S. Mahal, Member	<u>  X  </u>	<u>        </u>
Michelle Navarro, Member	<u>  X  </u>	<u>        </u>
Shannon Freedman, Member	<u>        </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Linda Hardman Greene, Principal	<u>  X  </u>	<u>        </u>

**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.

Cynthia Criollos - Former OCEAA Board Secretary/Founding Parent of OCEAA – References an article “Putting Teachers to the Test.” Notes that OCEAA purchased the current school building all through the hard work of the OCEAA Board. Analogizes current climate to sharks circling the ship. We all need to be working together to get to our final goal. The #1 priority of the Board is student academic achievement. She asks: What is the strategic plan for academic achievement and why isn’t OCEAA meeting it? Who is willing to work for it? Everyone needs to work with the Board to save the ship. Things are not looking good for renewal. Cynthia has to leave the meeting now because she has a tutor coming to her home that she is paying because her son left OCEAA without the needed academic ability.

Steve McDonald – Calif. Teachers Assn: Union Organization – All teachers should be represented. The Charter School Law gives teachers the right to organize a union. EERA, the bargaining law, will be followed once the Union is recognized by PERB. The Union is not in the business of putting charter schools out of business. The Union wants to negotiate a contract that is in accord with the mission of the charter school. Stipends will not go away once OCEAA is unionized. The Union has the same vision as the Board – for the school to be successful. The Union wants a process that is cooperative and collaborative. The Union wants the Board to reconsider re-hiring Krista and Nicole.

Manuel Delgado – teacher (translator)

Lidia Sanchez- teacher; Teachers are part of the Arts Academy Association. The three goals are: 1- sit with Board and revise contract re retention and dismissal – the faculty is concerned re the integrity of jobs and wants Ms. Bagdagulyan and Ms. Thompson reinstated; 2- appropriate compensation for the time put in; 3 – more active voice in the decision making process -- they want to assure competent teachers

Nicole Thompson – Teacher -- She has been let go after 4 years. She was told that she would be happier at another school. She loves OCEAA and has been happy here. She is a strong/competent teacher with a strong relationship with her students and their families. She tutors 2 times a week and teaches summer school. The Principal never expressed concern with her as a teacher. She had no formal evaluation this year. She did have one last year – there were no criticisms of her as a teacher. The teachers told there would be due process for dismissal. Wants to know why she was dismissed and wants her job back.

Krista Bagdagulyan – Teacher -- Teachers have at will contracts. Over the last 4 years the teachers were promised by the administration and Board members that teachers would have due process before being dismissed. She has taught here for 4 years. She was never told what to improve on regarding her teaching practices – no issues or concerns whatsoever were raised. She had no formal evaluation this year. She was told she would teach 1<sup>st</sup> grade next year. Two days later she was told her contract would not be renewed. There was no justice and no due process. What should she tell her students? OCEAA went back on its word.

Alejandra Rodriguez – Parent – She supports Ms. Thompson and all teachers. The relationship with the teachers is important. Ms. Thompson is sweet. Personality, etc., is more important. Ms. Thompson has a passion for her teaching. Her nephew is in Ms. Thompson’s class. Ms. Thompson has worked hard with her nephew and her niece wants Ms. Thompson next year. We need teachers who make a difference in kids’ lives. Keep Ms. Thompson and Ms. Bagdagulyan in school.

## **B. FOR INFORMATION/BOARD**

Budget Committee Update – Kristin Collins for Norm Rodgers

Final numbers have come out and OCEAA went from being \$15,000 in the black to \$215,000 in the hole. After stimulus money of \$132,000, we will still be in hole \$85,000. The numbers are down on revenue side for next year. After paying rent we will have \$159,000 overall to pay for books, teachers, necessities. The next Budget Committee meeting is May 22nd.

## **III. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR INFORMATION**

Principal report – Linda Hardman Greene

Student Achievement

- Strategic Plan for Academic Achievement-still in draft form (presentation)  
Developed with Insight and Arts Advantage Group  
Overview of timeline  
Refined OCEA mission statement  
Insight findings: student achievement below grade level in reading and math, less than 18% of EL below proficient

4 pt. drop between 2007 and 2008; target is 650 for 2009, test scores dropped 2 consecutive years

Did not make AYP in reading/math. The benchmark is raised this year. OCEAA is the only school in SAUSD not to meet AYP (adequate yearly progress)

Must prioritize OCEAA's goals: 1- standards based instruction; 2- charter renewal; 3- arts/technology/language; 4- special education

TOP PRIORITY: charter renewal (next year) and high quality instruction

- Forums: Coffee Chat 5/18 @ 7:30 AM & 5/22 @ 8:30 AM and Open House 5:30 PM in Spanish & 6:30 PM in English

#### Professional Development

- Dual language visitations scheduled this month to observe a nationally recognized program
- May 14 & 15 – Power Standards identified in Math and Language Arts with OCDE staff
- May 22 – Technology Committee to
- May 27 – Arts Advantage to finalize Arts portion of Strategic Plan

#### Special Education

- Bobbie and I met with SAUSD Special Education staff and they have promised to provide us with additional psychological support staff to assist with initial assessments this year. They have also provided us with parent handbook for special education and their “draft” manual.

#### Budget

- Spending freeze for all non-essential items

#### Human Resources

- Handbook updated - General material revisions, Updates to Sexual Harassment, Personnel Records & Volunteers, Employee Classification-changed from classified/certificated to exempt & non-exempt, Updated Overtime to include notifying and getting prior approval-there was not a prior process, Benefits Stipend - benefits provided after 35 hours/week, & Leaves - all full time employees get 5 sick/5 personal days/year instead of "vacation" pay and added all legal leaves (family leave, time off for voting, etc.) missing from document
- Teacher Contracts ready for distribution – no major changes, still term contracts only material revisions were adding termination by employee & nonrenewal or revocation of charter items
- Teacher job descriptions have been updated to better align to the strategic plan for academic achievement

#### Nutritional Services

- Garden Grill passed surprise inspection!

#### Facility

- Still need support getting the cross walk up
- Roof – phases I & II complete, phase III & IV will take place in summer

- Next year we will need 2 additional classrooms, have created long-term plan to accommodate future students plus 3 rooms dedicated to the arts

## Arts Update

- OCEAA was recognized last night at the Orange County Music and Arts Awards 2009 for being one of two school's (and the only charter school ever) to be a part of the Arts Advantage Network. Tania Hernández was also nominated for the Secondary Music Award and Krista Ratnaweera was honored as this year's Dance Elementary Teacher of the Year!

## Donations: March &amp; April 2009

<b>3/3/09</b>	John Fielder	Library	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
	Bruce Nowell/United Way	Library	<b>\$287.16</b>
	Linda Hardman Greene	Outdoor Science School	<b>\$100.00</b>
	Target/	Fieldtrip	<b>\$700.00</b>
	FSO	Aquarium of the Pacific	<b>\$486.00</b>
	FSO	Mission of San Juan	<b>\$495.00</b>
	Reyes - 3rd Grade	Bus Donation	<b>\$291.63</b>
<b>3/17/09</b>	Martinez - 1st Grade	Bus Donation	<b>\$129.00</b>
	Delgado	School Site Fundraiser/Recycling	<b>\$61.53</b>
	Dowd - 6th Grade	Bus Donation	<b>\$14.00</b>
	Delgado	Bus Donation	<b>\$14.00</b>
	Hernandez	Bus Donation	<b>\$46.00</b>
<b>3/26/09</b>	Guzman/Armendariz 5th Grade	Donation for Ocean Institute	<b>\$745.00</b>
<b>4/06/09</b>	Prado/Le 7th Grade	Bus Donation	<b>\$67.00</b>
	Zamora 2nd Grade	Bus Donation	<b>\$10.00</b>
	Guzman/Armendariz 5th Grade	Donation for Ocean Institute	<b>\$745.00</b>
<b>4/21/09</b>	8th, 5th, & 3rd Grade	Orange County Museum Of Art	<b>\$500.00</b>
<b>4/29/09</b>	2nd, 4th, & 5th Grade	Orange County Museum Of Art	<b>\$300.00</b>

## FSO report – Berene Lindbeck

Staff appreciation week is next week. The week after is the book fair. We need parent volunteers to assist. FSO elections will be held at Open House. May 30 is library workday. We hope it is the last one for cataloguing and getting it completed. June 5<sup>th</sup> is end of year extravaganza.

We are tracking data – parents are required to volunteer three hours per semester. There was 25% compliance in the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester. 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester was up by 14% (to 39%). There will be no room parents next year but grade level parents for consistency. They allocated \$24,000 for field trips and should be able to cover. This is Berene's last year as FSO president. She has been impressed with the school's progress this year. A vast amount of thought and research goes into what is done. She trusts the judgment and commitment to OCEAA.

Arts video presentation – Arts Committee – Krista - Elementary arts educator in dance

Overview of arts accomplishments: Arts advantage strategic plan, Lesley University connection; International Festival; Barnes and Noble family night w/ puppet lady; Art awards; OCMA field trips; dance and theater curriculum; arts kits; had 3 PDs for the teachers; arranged PDs for teachers over summer; in April went to Sacramento California Arts leadership; our sound crew is taking sound classes; we presented at charter conference.

#### **IV. FOR BOARD DISCUSSION**

A. Facilities Plan – We need 2 classrooms next year; can be either 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. The initial plan is to look at options; just got numbers in to go through the Budget Committee. The proposed plan would allow 3 rooms for arts. \$324,000 for construction, \$29,000 for electrical; and \$55,000 HVAC for everything. Trying to plan for the future needs. The minimum for next year is 2 classrooms. The proposed project can be broken up into phases. There is money at County and some bond money left (don't know how much) and some money is reimbursable. We could afford about \$125,000 just to do the two classrooms.

B. Staff Handbook— tabled

C. 2009/10 Academic Calendar: Ms. Rush looking into 5 full days for possible childcare during the school day for those days there is no school. Also, talked to Parks & Recreation to see if they could help alleviate the stress on the parents re 5 full Wednesdays off during school year.

Elizabeth Bausman – Founding Parent – She is disappointed people are saying there is no cooperation or collaboration. She supports additional professional development days, especially since the staff is getting compensated. She is not thrilled with 5 full Wednesdays off, but supports it because something needs to change. She notes that it is hard to get a babysitter on random days and suggests that the 5 days be lumped together for full week. She will support whatever decision is made, including full day Wednesday, but would like that to be looked at. She has worked on the reporting/data system and it is a joy to work with Linda. The Union had nothing to do with the 2 teachers not coming back. She supports an at-will contract. She knows why the decision was made so not a total shock. Others don't know all that goes on. She has been to every Board meeting and has seen no teachers and few parents at the meetings.

D. Mission Statement Revision – Proposed mission statement presented during Principal Report.

- E. Strategic Plan for Academic Achievement – Will be presented at the Coffee Chat and Open House. It was presented in the Newsletter. It is still being worked on before presenting to SAUSD. The OC Department of Education is coming out tomorrow to work on power standards and will support us in getting to next level – great resource for us.

**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.

- A. Approve Power School University for training on changes in state reporting (Aug. 2009) – \$6,000

It is recommended that the Board approve Consent Agenda Items: A	Motion: bk Action: Yes Second: ab Vote: 8-0
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**VI. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION**

- A. Approve Staff Handbook - tabled

It is recommended that the Board approve Agenda Item A.	Motion: ___ Action: _____ Second: ___ Vote: _____
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- B. Approve 2009/10 Academic Calendar

It is recommended that the Board approve Agenda Item B.	Motion: ab Action: Yes Second: nr Vote: 8-0
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- C. Approve Mission Statement Revision

It is recommended that the Board approve Agenda Item C.	Motion: jm Action: Yes Second: kbl Vote: 8-0
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- D. Approve Draft Strategic Plan for Academic Achievement

It is recommended that the Board approve Agenda Item D.	Motion: ab Action: Yes Second: jm Vote: 8-0
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- E. Approve Board Minutes from 3/11/09 Meeting

It is recommended that the Board approve Agenda Item E.
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Motion: bk Action: Yes Second: jm Vote: 8-0
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**VII. CLOSED SESSION**

None

**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 8:15p.m.

Next regularly scheduled meeting Wed., June 10, 2009, at 6:00 PM