

Adelante Charter School

1102 Yanonali Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93103, Phone (805) 966-7392, Fax (805) 966-7243

Minutes for 10/6/14

BOD Present:

Jack Rivas

Dominic Paszkeicz

Annette Cordero

Mayra Alcala

Dan La Berge

Chelsea Guillermo-Wann

Jonathan Lang

Ed Heron

Nancy Dow

Juanita Hernandez

Minutes taken by Mayra Alcala

1. Call to order, attendance 5:34pm.
2. Consent Agenda: Approve 9/8/14 minutes: approved with changes indicated by Jonathan Lang.
3. Public Comment:
 - a. Parent Beach Day Field Trip; children were given direction not to play in the water. Four students claimed they asked the Principal for permission to get their feet wet and she said yes. The students were then suspended for a day. The parents are concerned that the suspension will follow their record; they feel they could have been punished in a different way.
 - b. Jonathan Lang suggested we put something on the agenda so that we as a board can discuss this in a closed session. He encouraged the parents to talk to the principal about their thoughts with the punishment. He also thought we should take this feedback since we do have a number of parent can't be there.
4. Reports
 - a. PTSO: Lauren Macioce, Coordinator of Día de los Muertos. Various prizes secured. \$1,000 grand prize for the raffle. Kids can win great prizes, Disney tickets, iPad mini. Goal of raising \$18,000.00. If all students sell their tickets, a donor will donate \$2,000 extra. Event starts at 11am. Several donations from banks being sought out. Letters to the general community will go out asking for any support possible. Donations for the event or may buy 50% from El Zarape for tacos. Still looking for entertainment; Mayra Alcala will contact UCSB student folklorico and Jack Rivas will contact UCSB student Mariachi group to see if they are able to perform. Jack Rivas will connect with his Fraternity & Sorority to

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have them help volunteer and sell tickets. At PTSO meeting tomorrow, Lauren Macioce will seek volunteers.

- b. Site/Curriculum Council (Holly Gil): Budget adjusted for Common Core. April 16, 2015 Family Math & Science Night. This year they will put on a different type of science event where the 6th graders take on an open-ended project. They'll design their own projects (per what our charter suggested). We plan to highlight one core value of Cesar Chavez a month. We are talking about using Dream Box, an online math program. This recently was released in Spanish. Other schools are using it and they are planning to do more research. Great science scores came in which means our model is working. Safety plan and goals for the year include community crime, vandalism. We talked about creating a sanctuary in our school so that it leads out in to the community.
 - c. Teacher's Council: (Elizabeth Silva). Students are engaged and working on various curriculums such as dissecting seeds and writing their own personal narratives.
5. Principal's Report
- a. Attended interviews for Site Director for A-Ok.
 - b. Busy with conduct.
 - c. Chelsea Guillermo-Wann asked if we have thought about Restorative Approaches.
 - d. Juanita has read about it and sees where the work with TRIBES is similar. Whenever the principal talks to students, it's a whole-hearted conversation with the students. Jack Rivas and Annette Cordero have experience with the Restorative Approach and are happy to help bring this to Adelante if we're interested.
 - e. Annette Cordero would love to see students not suspended anymore but rather using Restorative Justice to repair the harm.
 - f. Chelsea Guillermo-Wann will be reaching out to the principal about Restorative Approach.
 - g. 4th grade teacher received additional support in the classroom.
 - h. Teachers completing reading assessments.
 - i. Students enjoyed having the Gauchos on campus.
 - j. CELDT testing started today.
 - k. Art for kindergarten begins on Friday.
 - l. Two teachers registered to attend the Science Conference in Long Beach.
 - m. \$2700 worth of books sold at the Scholastic Book Fair; last year we used awarded points for books that were given to students at the end of the year.
 - n. Peabody Charter School has invited Helen Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education to their meeting on October 9th to discuss the rising Special Education costs and the financial impact on charter schools.
 - o. Combo class is settling in; many of the questions parents had were answered at Back to School Night.

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- p. Using the same template as last year for Charter School Programmatic Audit. Usually due by the 1st of November and will be discussed at special meeting.
- 6. Action Items:
 - a. Curriculum Council met to make some changes for the Common Core budget; some of the things they would like to do are; have \$1400 allocated for substitute teachers. Put in \$6000 for salaries; pay teachers to come to work for 2 Saturdays. \$8000 for materials \$5000 for tech \$4136 contracts & professional development. \$24,5360 new budget.
 - b. Dominic Paszkeicz moves to approve the Common Core Budget with revision, Jack Rivas seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
 - c. Dan LaBerge asked why the school uses Apple products suggesting that it would be beneficial to teach students to use the PC platform.
- 7. Board Business
 - a. No update from Strategic Plan Committee Reports
 - b. Discussion about recruiting Latino and Spanish speaking parents to the Board
 - i. Mayra Alcalá shared that we should connect with our teacher buddies, try to spend one afternoon a month or quarter in the classroom so that we may meet parents after school and share who we are and what we do as Board Members.
 - ii. Jack Rivas shared we should try to attend Padres Adelante & PTSO meeting. Alternating nights so that Board Members can get exposure to families that way.
 - iii. Holly Gil shared that Sal & Linda Güereña are doing great work and we should reach out to their group so that we hear what they're doing. They work with Padres Adelante.
 - iv. Annette Cordero shared that we should look to change our meeting culture. Have one meeting where we offer food & childcare to introduce families to our meeting structure. Let's think about meeting on a Tuesday so that Linda Güereña can bring the parents in the Parent Project training.
 - v. Chelsea Guillermo-Wann shared that meetings used to be in Spanish and we had English translators to help those that didn't speak Spanish.
 - vi. Jack Rivas shared that the structure is cumbersome because of the Brown Act and it presents a challenge to have our parents understand how we follow it.
 - vii. Annette Cordero recalled when she was a Liaison for the District with DLAC – many Spanish speaking parents attended because child care was provided (games & snacks), there was a social component where food was brought and shared. The environment was much less formal and more inviting.
 - viii. Jonathan Lang is happy to make the structure of the meeting much less formal, within reason. He shared that they use to have a

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- table that everyone sat around. We can start with setting up a circle at our next meeting instead of usual meeting set up. We can also start by explaining how our meetings run.
- ix. Parent Project meetings are 6-7:30pm meeting on Tuesdays and they have 20-30 people in their group.
 - x. Dominic Paszkeicz was sharing that we should be using Parent Square to reach out to families about our meetings.
 - xi. Name tags would be a good idea for the group (Board Members and guests)
 - xii. We should have a parent night; where we go over easier topics.
 - xiii. Advertise what other grades are doing in the Teacher's Report.
 - xiv. Parent Project meets every Wednesday up through Thanksgiving.
 - xv. PTSO usually meets the day after the Board Meeting.
- c. Long Range planning (Dominic Paszkeicz):
- i. It costs about \$83-88,000 for a new teacher.
 - ii. A classroom lease is \$6,000 plus \$1,000 for furniture.
 - iii. \$7,000 per student received that comes in, with 20 students the money that comes in would wash out the cost of the teacher and classroom.
 - iv. Financially it's feasible but we're limited in space.
 - v. In order to have 2 classes per grade we need three more classrooms.
 - vi. If we had the MOU at 300 we could cover our needs. We can settle with having a cap of 280.
 - vii. MOU is negotiated every 5 years but we could ask to meet sooner.
 - viii. Peabody has a cap of 750 students.
 - ix. Jonathan Lang asked if once the auditorium is built, could we do music there and use the meeting room as a classroom? The principal doesn't believe so. In room 105 we have A-OK, the Family Advocate, testing, professional development, materials and our Board Meetings.
 - x. Jim Armstrong, from the school board left and we don't have information on the land swap between the Fire Station and the School District.
 - xi. Franklin has 573 students.
 - xii. Could we do two story portables?
 - xiii. Does expanding have a serious negative effect on our students? Students are currently staggered for lunch and recess, where we have an issue is with PE. We don't have the space to have PE as well as recess and Lauren Macioce must offer PE while other classes are at recess.
 - xiv. If we admit 40 students next year we need at least one more classroom to be able to accommodate our students. We need a classroom and where it goes is another conversation.

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- d. Table discussion on options, costs, and risks for providing Special Education services independently from the district after principal & Nancy Dow attend the meeting at Peabody Charter School.
 - i. If we are interested in pursuing our own Special Education we need to do it very carefully, a high needs case could be financially detrimental to the school.
 - e. Next meeting date will be 11/10/14 @ 5:30pm.
8. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes Approved: _____ 11/10/14 _____