Adelante Charter School

Minutes for 12-08-14

BOD Present:
Jonathan Lang
Jack Rivas
Sheila Cullen
Dominic Paszkeicz
Annette Cordero
Brianna Aguilar
Chelsea Guillermo-Wann
Dan LaBerge
Ed Heron
Nancy Dow
Juanita Hernandez

Minutes taken by Sheila Cullen

1. Call to order: 5:34
2. Request to move Celebration of Teaching – moved to #5a.
3. Consent Agenda: Approved minutes from 11/10/14: APPROVED with changes discussed.
5. Reports & Updates
   a. Celebration of Teaching: Kindergarten students sang, “Elena la Ballena”.
   b. PTSO Update (Juan Manzo). Día de los Muertos: great turnout, new faces. $15,759 total revenue. We have outgrown Casa de la Guerra. Investigating use of De la Guerra plaza. $2200 for Casa de la Guerra next year; plaza might be $500 for non-profit, but we’ll have to provide restrooms, garbage; but perhaps we can get Marborg to donate. Parade was last Friday, we hope to come in first again. Next PTSO meeting will be 12/16 @ 5:30.
   c. Curriculum committee (Holly Gil not present; Juanita Hernandez reporting). Next meeting on Wed @ 3:30, room 113. Representative from Dreambox online math program will come to show teachers. It is meant to be complimentary to Context for Learning and is now in Spanish. We will be considering integrating it into our curriculum.
   d. Teachers’ Council Update (Elizabeth Silva): Highlights of progress and events in every grade were reviewed. First grade is collecting towels and blankets for animals in shelters. Fourth graders planning trip to Lotusland and sixth graders went to CIMI. Photos on FB page.
6. Principal’s Report (Juanita Hernandez). See attached. Highlights:
a. Facilities Request: (see letter from district). Juanita Hernandez contacted our attorney and she recommended we move ahead. Juanita Hernandez will find out how much it will cost to lease a building out of our own budget. If this doesn’t happen we need to have a discussion about what we can do next year. Last option: we can do morning K and afternoon K and share the room.

b. David Hetyonk will be coming 12/15 @ 9:15am for a general walk-through; Emilio Handel 12/9 @ 10 for look at Programmatic Audit.
   i. Jonathan Lang: iCAN is asking for some repairs in Art Room.
   ii. Juanita Hernandez: roof leaks are scheduled to be fixed. There’s some lights that need changing but very difficult to access bulbs.
   iii. Also we’ve asked district to alarm all the rooms and district said they haven’t had time to address it.

c. Today we let staff know they would be getting bonus and they were very happy and thankful.

d. Juanita Hernandez and Michael Macioce laid out expenditure plan for technology including 28 more iPADS, wireless keyboards using the carry over money from last year.

e. Kinder teacher going to Kinderpalooza workshops.

f. Update on Mrs. Kannoglou: her return date is in March.

7. Board Business:
   a. Strategic Plan: (Chelsea Guillermo-Wann)
      i. Updated strategic plan distributed today.
      ii. We have agreed to update annually.
      iii. This plan is largely aimed at Charter Renewal, so it is a good time to think about moving forward.
      iv. Chelsea Guillermo-Wann gave a high-level review of the current plan. Please refer to full Plan for details.
      v. Chelsea Guillermo-Wann and Jonathan Lang will create master document for us all to share with all our contact information, dates of our terms, and contribution to SP Objectives.
      vi. Chelsea Guillermo-Wann asks that we each read and offer comments for next meeting.
      vii. This summer we will create a new plan for a new interval – perhaps a 5 year interval.

b. Annual Board and Principal Evaluations
   i. Jonathan Lang will initiate process of both evaluations. Responses to be sent to him.
   ii. Jonathan Lang reiterated that we should be meeting with our Teacher-Board buddies. Please reflect on this, use teacher buddy feedback when you do your self-eval. Jack Rivas will reach out to Laura Ramirez.
   iii. Jonathan Lang will personally speak with all teachers to get a verbal evaluation of Juanita Hernandez to supplement the written.
c. Information re: Prop 2 (Nancy Dow)
   i. Prop 2 would put limitations on what schools have in their reserves. Triggered by cuts that were threatened and then didn’t happen, so schools had extra money. Our current reserves are 25-30%. Most school districts run at around 11%. There is a lot of clean-up language to happen before Prop 2 would take effect.

d. Big Picture financial planning and strategizing for current savings and long-term financial planning
   i. Interest expressed in investigating higher-yield options for our reserve money. Return on county fund is very low.
   ii. Nancy Dow will investigate and report next meeting.

e. Mid-year Board-Staff Retreat:
   i. Jonathan Lang and Juanita Hernandez will ask Holly Gil the favor of offering her home as a site, as in years past. Potential date: January 22nd, 2-5pm.

f. Potential Teacher incentives or stipends (discussed below).

8. Action Items
   a. Approve Anti-bullying and Anti-Harassment Policies
      i. We need to identify student restrooms as “students only” with signage.
      ii. Board suggests additional language for gender-neutral restroom: “A gender neutral restroom will be made available upon request.”
      iii. Jack Rivas moved that Juanita Hernandez work with district policy to create ACS board policy and bring to next meeting for approval.
      iv. Annette Cordero seconded, approved unanimously 8-0.

   b. Approve First Interim Budget (see handouts) (Nancy Dow)
      i. Nancy Dow provided overview of changes.
      ii. Teacher incentives – the $8K is actually no longer there. But there is potentially a 3% raise that will offset it.
      iii. Report shows that we will be able to meet our financial obligations.
      iv. LCFF is now flat projection for next year.
      v. Retirement account contributions are going up steeply.
      vi. Special Ed is estimated at $315K for 14/15.
      vii. 3% salary increase should be for 14/15 only.
      viii. Parcel tax sunsets in 16/17, not 15/16.
      ix. 2017-2018 should consider targeted grant writing for music, science and technology programs since Parcel Tax, which pays for these, will run out 16/17.
      x. These expenditures reduced our reserves from 34% to 28%.
      xi. Jack Rivas made a motion to approve the First Interim Budget with revisions discussed (re: salary increases for 14/15 and Parcel Tax sunset date); Annette Cordero seconded; approved unanimously 8-0.
9. Next meeting: 1/12/15 @ 5:30.
   a. Meeting adjourned 7:44pm.

Minutes Approved:_________________1/12/15_________________________________________________