

# *Adelante Charter School*

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

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Minutes for 9-8-14

BOD Present:

Jack Rivas  
Sheila Cullen  
Dominic Paszkeicz  
Annette Cordero  
Mayra Alcala  
Brianna Aguilar  
(Dan La Berge)

Ed Heron  
Nancy Dow  
Juanita Hernandez

Minutes taken by Sheila Cullen

1. Call to order, attendance 5:42pm.
2. Consent Agenda: Approve 8/11/14 and 8/19/14 minutes: BOTH APPROVED with changes indicated by Juanita.
3. Review agenda: must add "Teacher's Council Report" to section 5.
4. Public Comment:
  - a. Parent Dan La Berge commented that he had been listening to some parents, especially kindergarten, which were uncertain about how their children were doing in class.
5. Reports
  - a. Juan Manzo: Back to School BBQ will be Friday September 19. There will be games, cake walk, raffle, etc. Some children performing 5-8pm.
  - b. Site Council: Wednesday will be first meeting.
  - c. Teacher's Council: (Elizabeth Silva). Students are off to a strong start. Already there are field trips planned.
6. Principal's Report
  - a. We serve 15 SPED students, 6 of them receive speech only.
  - b. Tomorrow night is Back to School night. Art supplies will be raffled off from the iCAN art room. There will also be a computer distribution for qualifying families by Computers for Families.
  - c. Parent advocate, Edsel Velasco, is here on Fridays. Very responsive, kind.
  - d. Padres Adelante will start in 2 weeks.
  - e. Gauchos will be here again.
  - f. APRENDA: Results are being shared between teachers to be able to see growth or decline. Looks like we have some strong positive movement, although we need to continue to improve our vocabulary. Students continue to need to improve test-taking skills.

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- g. Juanita, Jonathan, and Nancy Dow met with Emilio Handel to discuss items on the FUA and MOU.
7. Action Items:
- a. Approve Unaudited Actuals
    - i. Our fund balance for 2013-2014 is approx. \$220K. Very good position.
    - ii. We didn't change enrollment number until we did final paperwork, which helped to add to our surplus due to increased ADA. Also, there was excess funding from LCFF. At the same time, our spending was below budget.
    - iii. The LCFF is one-time money, so Nancy recommends maintaining the funds in the reserve until the November audit is complete and the budget committee meets to develop recommendations to the Board.
    - iv. Question regarding sustainability. Nancy explains that change in funding model (LCFF) resulted in a one-time distribution of extra funds to schools in higher property tax areas.
    - v. Jack moved to approve, Mayra seconded, Budget vs. Unaudited Actuals Report for 2013/2014 unanimously approved.
  - b. Approve district fees.
    - i. There has been a huge increase in fees. Special Ed went up from \$209K in 12/13 to \$279K in 13/14.
    - ii. Juanita calculates cost to us is \$20K per student.
    - iii. Nancy reminds us that having the district special ed takes out the risk for us, in that if a student came through the door and needed 1:1, or had other expensive needs, the services would be provided for qualifying students.
    - iv. The other increase was facilities (\$68K to \$83K).
    - v. Jack moved to approve, Brianna seconded, unanimously approved district fees.
  - c. Nomination and election of new board member: Dan La Berge.
    - i. Jack recommended and nominated Dan La Berge.
    - ii. Dan was asked why family chose Adelante. Dan: there were limited opportunities to go elsewhere besides Franklin. Biggest deciding factor was what bilingualism can do for their children cognitively.
    - iii. Board expressed concern that among us there are 3 white males – we need more Latino representation, especially among parents. Also recommends parent have a year or two at the school, before helping although happy to have Dan help.
    - iv. Board member reiterated our concern that we need to recruit dominant Spanish speaker. Question about whether or not we are a safe place for a Spanish-speaking parent. It was felt that we need to do more education of parents to help them understand the importance and role of a board at Adelante. The Parent

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Engagement team and the Board Recruitment Team should work together on this.

- v. Jack made motion to approve Dan La Berge as new board member, Mayra seconded, membership unanimously approved.
- vi. Dan is welcomed to the Board.

## 8. Board Business

a. Strategic plan committee reports: tabled until next month.

b. Long Range planning (Dominic):

- i. If we continue toward two classes per grade, next year we'll need two extra classrooms total.
- ii. Next year there would be two classes in each level including two in fourth and two in fifth, and one in sixth, so one extra classroom needed next year and an additional one the following.
- iii. Future options include exchanging fire station on Modoc for the property that sits as an empty lot near Adelante. Theoretically we could tear down portables and build two stories. Will look into putting extra portable where 3-5 grades are.
- iv. Our upper grades will stay small numbers just like lower grades, and that will be expensive.
- v. There was a concern we be thoughtful about the space that we're in and how we will continue to deliver the programs that we offer; too many children in a crowded space can compromise our quality.
- vi. Juanita will ask Nancy to start estimate additional costs. There are many other hidden costs to adding students, such as administration and support.

c. Next meeting date will be 10/6/14 @ 5:30pm.

9. Meeting adjourned 7:08pm.

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ 10/6/14 \_\_\_\_\_