

Adelante Charter School

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

Minutes for August 5, 2013

BOD Members present:

Mary Docter, Chair

Jonathan Lang, Vice-Chair

Chelsea Guillermo-Wann, Parliamentarian

Sheila Cullen

Juanita Hernandez, Principal

Kate Parker, SBUSD Liason

Minutes taken by Sheila Cullen

1. Call to Order, attendance: 6:20pm
 - a. Announcement: Kate leaving, Ed will replace. Everyone expressed gratitude for Kate's participation.
2. Consent agenda: Approve minutes of June 3, 26, July 25
 - a. We have no June 3 minutes
 - b. June 26th, July 25th approved.
3. Public comment: none
4. Principal's Report
 - a. Update on fall semester
 - i. We're doing well on enrollment. 251 total now. We're hoping for 24:1 class size. Chelsea asked if we still have wait list – no. We added a second grader today. Our new kindergarten teacher has twin third graders who have been in dual immersion so they will be added to 3rd.
 - ii. Tardiness has been a problem – in kindergarten last year we had around 1000. It is an issue at all of our grade levels. Suggestions: whatever happens first thing in the morning has to be something the kids don't want to miss, and there must be consequences. We have developed a policy which we will discuss with parents. Consequences: warnings (2), then loss of recess, (4-6) then loss of recess + meeting with parent, then (7th) suspension. Juanita asks: is it too harsh? Kate says in the regular school, suspension would result in loss of transfer privilege. Charter could revoke their enrollment. Kate: how about in-school suspension with parent required to remain at school with parent. Chelsea: what about parents who cannot get time off work? Jonathan, Chelsea, Mary all are concerned about too few warnings; suggest adding another warning. Jonathan concerned about removing of PE because kids need the physical exercise. Chelsea: can we consider positive incentive for attendance? Juanita: Thursday assembly where kids are recognized. Chelsea suggests it be at the class level.

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- b. Art Program:
 - i. Juanita met with Laura Denny, who put together mural at front of school. She's taught at SBCS. She's not bilingual, but very organized and creative. Children's Creative Project at County Ed Office would pay her through agreement with us. She is only interested in half year's work. We would pay through our own budget but she hasn't specified her hourly wage. Mary asks: what kind of assistance would we be able to provide? Juanita: maybe we can get some Westmont students. Must determine since she is not credentialed if teachers need to stay in room with her. Have we looked at references yet? Not yet. Great that we have someone potentially in place. Jonathan: you mentioned we wanted the art to be tied to science. What does that mean? Juanita: we're trying to keep science at the forefront, so that kids are other subjects are tied to science. Reading will also involve many science materials. Kids might write a book and illustrate it with her. We want to maintain culturally focused projects as well, which is a tradition in the school.
- c. Music program: we will also work through CCN.
- d. Professional Development: Common Core Standards for Spanish has been part of professional development along with many other trainings.
- e. Parent Involvement:
 - i. Kinder registrations on Wed August 14 so parents get to know each other
 - ii. New Family Advocate is Susana Gutierrez; will be shared with preschool.
- f. SIG – will end on Sept. 30. Juanita will be working with Nancy to get final money spent and directed.
- g. Finances:
 - i. Prop 39 Clean Energy Jobs Act application has been submitted. It is used to improve the way we use and conserve energy.
 - ii. We will receive funding to implement common core. Plan will be developed. We know kids will need more literature and informational texts.
- h. Charter renewal:
 - i. Juanita needs to know what will be the role of the board. Review of the charter and MOU would be very helpful. Juanita will meet with Dr. Cash and ask him about his concerns, highlights.
 - ii. Kate will get DVDs for Peabody's renewal for Juanita so she can see what the process looked like.
 - iii. Nancy has the name of an attorney who can help usher the process through.
 - iv. Jonathan: do we have a timeline? Juanita is working on that now and plans to be done by end of November, so that we have December to change things.

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- v. Kate: SB Charter up for renewal this fall. Will be interesting to hear that process and listen to each of the SB Board members responses and concerns. Ours is January.
 - i. Telephones are working!
 - j. Kate asks if everything is on schedule for bathrooms. Juanita will check.
5. Action items
- a. Approve 6th grade field trip to Catalina:
 - i. Overnight trip, kids would leave Monday-Friday, Oct 28-Nov 1. We'll ask parents to contribute \$45/month, as well as do a bit of fundraising.
 - ii. Concern about dates, fundraising.
 - iii. Michael had suggested that earlier trip is good for bond-making; but difficult to get the money together by then.
 - iv. Does the camp do something special for Halloween?
 - v. Cost for each family \$425; Outdoor School was \$225. We could use Title 1 funding for some of this. Jonathan asks: are there any grants for stuff like this? When third grade goes to aquarium, they get a target grant.
 - b. Santa Barbara Dance Institute Contract:
 - i. SBDI will work with two 3rd and a 5th grade class. Paid for by the kids (same as last year).
 - ii. Jonathan makes motion to approve; Chelsea seconds, unanimously approved 4-0.
 - c. Wellness: Healthy Snacks Policy
 - i. Juanita proposes healthy food policy. It is directed to classroom celebrations and snacks, but not lunch.
 - ii. Jonathan wishes to change lunch behavior, especially when parents bring fast food to their kids on campus. There is a policy in place already, but it has not been enforced.
 - iii. Discussion about what is in handbook, and what is emphasized verbally.
 - iv. Jonathan suggests we prohibit sodas, gatorade, at least during the school day. Maybe we can make exceptions for night time events, fundraisers. Jonathan suggests the Mexican sodas, because they have sugar instead of high fructose corn syrup.
 - v. Jonathan: if we have things in the parent handbook, we must enforce them. Otherwise it is a constant battle at home.
6. Board business & Strategic planning
- a. Approve board calendar:
 - i. Board usually meets Mondays at 6:15. Can we revisit that time? We will reconsider this.
 - ii. Next meeting date: Wednesday Sept 5th @ 6pm.
 - b. Election of officers
 - i. Juanita will be the face of the organization.
 - ii. We need new chair. Mary: we could have co-chairs.

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- iii. We will table this until next meeting because we have so few present.
 - c. Approve final board evaluation tool (action item)
 - i. Jonathan makes a motion we approve, Chelsea seconds, all approve 4-0.
 - ii. Board chair responsible for distribution
 - d. Pending items & things to consider from outgoing chair: Mary distributed notes (see attached).
 - i. School Effectiveness Survey:
 - 1. Did not go out last year
 - 2. Suggested we do it during first parent conferences in November for last year and again in spring for current year.
 - ii. Art Program: must still respond to their memo of May 31.
 - iii. Board Recruitment: Juanita has hopeful new kinder parent in mind
 - iv. Alumni Tracking and Amigos de Adelante:
 - 1. Kate says we can come to district and ask for data on our former students
 - 2. Amigos: suggestion to begin with outgoing 6th grade families. Let's get contacts from Michael.
 - 3. Sheila suggests we create a yearly school directory for family use and for purpose of future alumni tracking.
 - v. Fundraising: it was suggested a template be created that can be used to thank donors.
 - vi. WE ALL THANK MARY FOR HER YEARS OF INCREDIBLE SERVICE TO ADELANTE!
 - e. Next meeting date & agenda items
 - i. Next meeting: Thursday Sept 5th @ 6:15pm.
7. Meeting adjourned 8:05pm.

Minutes Approved: 11/4/13