

Larchmont Charter Schools
MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
668 S. Catalina St. Los Angeles, CA 90005
January 11, 2012

OPEN SESSION

- The meeting was called to order at 7:06 P.M. by Danny Corwin, Chair.
- Names with "X" indicates present:

Board of Directors:			
Corwin, Danny (Chair)	X	Lara, Alicia	X
Cade, Carl		Lee, Susan	X
Dragon, Kriste	X	Loeb, Gabi (Treas)	X
Francis, Marya (Sec)	X	Medina, Amber	X
Hutchinson, Rebecca	X	Wright, Richard	
Jaeger, Nicole	X		

Larchmont Schools & ExED Staff:			
Brian C. Johnson (Executive Director)	X	Rick Esquivel (LCS – Head of Middle School)	X
Gene Straub (Executive Director)	X	Myra Salinas (LCS Assistant Principal)	X
Kristin Droege (LCW Principal)		Graham Dye (ExED)	X
Dolores Patton (LCS – Head of Elementary School)	X	Rebecca Bailey (Development)	X

- **Quorum:** Yes

1. Public Comment- there was none.

2. Accept the resignation of Board Member Eugene Straub effective December 12, 2011

- Nicole Jaeger motioned to accept the resignation of Board member Eugene Straub effective December 12, 2011; Alicia Lara seconded. The motion to accept the resignation of Board member Eugene Straub effective December 12, 2011 was unanimously approved.

3. Closed Session to discuss real estate negotiations and personnel matters

- The Board went in to closed session at 6:45pm and returned at 7:55pm, reporting out that the Board had ratified the execution of public employment for Eugene D. Straub as Executive Director of Larchmont Schools.

4. Approve an ad hoc committee of the Board to lead real estate analysis

- Amber Young motioned to approve an ad hoc committee of the Board to lead real estate analysis; Marya seconded. The motioned to approve an ad hoc committee of the Board to lead real estate analysis was unanimous.

5. Approval of the Minutes

- Danny Corwin motioned to approve the November 5, 2011, November 9, 2011, November 20, 2011, November 29, 2011, December 6, 2011 and December 12, 2011 minutes; Rebecca Hutchinson seconded. The November 5, 2011, November 9, 2011, November 20, 2011, November 29, 2011, December 6, 2011 and December 12, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved.

6. Lottery Update

- Dolores noted that the Larchmont Charter School- Elementary lottery update shows that over 60% of the participating students in the lottery for kindergarten seats identify as children of color and that in addition, almost 20% of all prospective students participating in the kindergarten lottery would qualify for a free or reduced price lunch (FRPL).

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- Kristin noted that the Larchmont Charter West Hollywood recruitment update reflects a lower FRPL level than the benchmark, but school outreach to nearby communities is not scheduled until the month of January, which accounts for the dip.
- Brian clarified that approving the LCW Sibling Lottery date for January 16, 2012 would not give families any more certainty about their lottery position than keeping it on the original date.
- Brian noted that Jose Gutierrez of the Innovation and Charter School division of LAUSD recommended against moving the sibling lottery date.
- Marya motioned to approve setting the day for the LCW Sibling lottery for grades 1- 6 on January 16, 2012; Amber seconded. The motion did not carry.
 - Rebecca- nay
 - Nicki- abstain
 - Danny- nay
 - Amber- nay
 - Alicia- nay
 - Marya- nay
 - Kriste- nay
- Alicia motioned to approve setting target enrollment for 9th grade at 50% FRL; Rebecca seconded. The motion to approve setting target enrollment for 9th grade at 50% FRL was unanimous.

7. Finance

- Graham Dye presented the November 2011 financials inclusive of the November 2011 CAO, LCS and LCW Income Statements, Cash Flow Analyses, Balance Sheets, Check Register and Monthly Fundraising Report.
- Gabi motioned to approve the November 2011 financials inclusive of the November 2011 CAO, LCS and LCW Income Statements, Cash Flow Analyses, Balance Sheets, Check Register and Monthly Fundraising Report; Alicia seconded. The November 2011 CAO, LCS and LCW Income Statements, Cash Flow Analyses, Balance Sheets, Check Register and Monthly Fundraising Report were unanimously approved.

8. Student Achievement Update

- Rick stated that LCS Middle added an hour of mathematics intervention for some students that focuses on reviewing the curriculum they've covered in class for understanding and previewing the upcoming lessons so that they are ready to process it in class when presented.
- Brian suggested that Larchmont Charter School Middle to create a permanent intervention budget.
- Rick noted that LCS Middle should make more use of real time data like chapter assessments and quizzes to review 7th and 8th grade student achievement data more quickly and make changes to curriculum more swiftly.
- Rick stated that LCS Middle is also focusing on students on the cusp of assessment scores, so that they have the extra help they need in order to reach a higher achievement level.

9. School Leaders Update

- Rick noted that LCS Middle students have established a Student Council and that the school is looking forward to its' new event, Casino Night.
- Dolores noted that in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, LCS Elementary students discussed the leader and his involvement in the civil rights movement and how that correlates with the mission of the Larchmont Schools.

10. Approve Start day for the 2012 - 2013 year at LCS and LCW the week of September 3, 2013

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- Rebecca Hutchinson motioned to approve start week for the 2012 – 2013 year at LCS and LCW the week of September 3, 2013; Alicia seconded. The motion to approve start week for the 2012 – 2013 year at LCS and LCW the week of September 3, 2013 was unanimously approved.

11. Approval of Board commitment to employees

- Nicki motioned to approval of the Board's commitment to employees; Rebecca seconded. The motion to approval of the Board's commitment to employees was unanimously approved.

12. Nominations to the Board of Directors

- Nicki motioned to approve the nomination of Ena LeVan, Kim Pattillo Brownson, Mark Feuerstein, Nick Grouf and Jane Lipsitz to the Board of Directors; Alicia seconded. The motion to nominate Ena LeVan, Ki Pattillo Brownson, Mark Feuerstein, Nick Grouf and Jane Lipsitz to the Board of Directors was unanimously approved.

13. Approve lease extension at Hollygrove

- Nicki motioned to approve lease extension at Hollygrove; Rebecca seconded. The lease extension at Hollygrove was unanimously approved.

14. Public Comment

- LCW parent Kim Canter expressed the importance of giving LCS and LCW families the chance to learn about the potential high school site.

15. Executive Director Comments

- Brian noted that there will be a Town Hall to review the high school facilities once the initial paperwork is signed and that there will be a second Town Hall before the purchase of the property is final.
- Brian noted the Executive Director transition timeline, stating that he and Gene Straub will both work full time from January 30, 2012 to February 10, 2012 in order to make the transition as smooth as possible. Brian will then work as a student achievement consultant for the Larchmont Schools part time through June 2012.

16. Board Chair Comments- there were none.

17. New Business

- There was no new business.

18. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M.