

Larchmont Charter Schools
MINUTES
Regularly Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting
1265 North Farifax Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90046
November 2, 2010

OPEN SESSION

- The meeting was called to order at 6:19 P.M. by Danny Corwin, Chair.
- Names with “X” indicates present:

Board of Directors:			
Dragon, Kriste		Francis, Marya (Sec)	X
Straub, Gene		Loeb, Gabi (Treas)	X
Boylston, Heather	X	Wright, Richard	X
Cade, Carl	X	Young, Amber	X
Corwin, Danny (chair)	X		

Larchmont Schools & ExED Staff:			
Brian C. Johnson (Executive Director)	X	Kristin Droege (LCW Principal)	X
Dolores Patton (LCS – Head of Elementary School)	X	Rick Esquivel (LCS – Head of Middle School)	X
Joe Meza (ExED)	X	Rebecca Bailey (Deve. Associate)	X
Myra Salinas (Assist Principal)			

- **Quorum:** Yes

1. Approval of the October 5, 2010 Minutes

- Richard Wright motioned to approve the minutes; Gabi Loeb seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Finance

- Joe Meza presented the September 2010, August 2010 and July 2010 CAO Financials to the Board.
- Joe Meza indicated that the state is postponing 69% of some critical state revenue owed to Larchmont Charter School until after the end of the school year.
- Joe Meza proposed that LCS look in to a line of credit for the months of May and June 2011 just in case we need it.
- Brian C. Johnson asked for ADA numbers in future reports.
- Gabi Loeb motioned to approve the September 2010, August 2010 and July 2010 CAO financials; Richard Wright seconded. The financials were approved unanimously.

3. Middle School Update- Rick Esquivel

- Rick Esquivel reviewed the middle school’s philosophy and approach to education.

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- Heather Boylston inquired how students of different social and academic backgrounds were adjusting to the school and its offerings and Rick shared the inclusion was going very well.

4. Diversity & Enrollment

- Brian C. Johnson presented LCS Elementary and Middle School and LCW enrollment figures.
- Brian C. Johnson noted that both schools are much closer to meeting the Board's enrollment targets.
- Brian C. Johnson noted that each school leader has a recruitment plan to continue moving closer to Board enrollment goals.

5. Our Approach to Fundraising

- Brian C. Johnson presented the three types of financial support needed to grow Larchmont Schools.
- Brian C. Johnson listed the foundations with whom we have a relationship, donors we need to research and introduce ourselves to, and how he plans to update each on our status and growth plans.

6. School Updates

A. LCW

- Kristin Droege stated that the main focus at LCW this year is to develop students' notion of community and to work on their signature projects, which students develop throughout the year.
- Kristin Droege mentioned a recent project for Barney's in Beverly Hills in which students painted portraits of their favorite chefs and will sell their paintings at Barney's as a school fundraiser.

B. LCS Elementary School

- Dolores Patton described a few of the elementary school's recent events, including students performing the Thriller dance at Morning Sing, school elections and how a 4th grade math group used Chinese numerals to illustrate place value.

C. LCS Middle School

- Rick Esquivel stated that like LCS Elementary School and LCW, 6th and 7th grade students are focusing on the meaning of community. Students are beginning to explore the concept of self understanding and how they can give back to a community.

7. Update on High School Charter Planning Process

- Brian C. Johnson indicated that Larchmont Schools has hired a charter consultant out of the CAO budget (as approved in the June 2010 Board meeting).

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- Brian C. Johnson shared a timeline of events with the Board outlining what steps of the planning process will occur and when.

8. Approve motion of Richard Wright for Audit Committee

- Carl Cade motioned to approve; Heather Boylston seconded. The Board unanimously approved Richard Wright to the Audit Committee.

9. Public Comment

- An LCW parent asked the Board to strongly consider beginning a high school.
- An LCW parent asked how much the 70% of LAUSD deferred funds worked out to be in dollars.
- Sandra Alamo, 5th grade teacher at LCS, expressed concern about the extent of communication between LCS Elementary teachers and the Board in reference to growth plans.

10. Executive Director Comments

- Brian shared he will work with Dolores and come back to teachers and the Board with a plan to engage LCS Elementary teachers better

11. Board Chair Comments- Danny Corwin stated that last month, the Board discussed ways in which to improve communications. The Board developed two working groups, the Facilities Group, which will discuss potential facilities, and the Nominating Working Group, to develop a sustainability/succession plan to ensure the strength of the Board.

12. New Business – There was none.

13. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 P.M.