

Adelante Charter School

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

Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes for February 2, 2015

BOD Present:

Jonathan Lang

Jack Rivas

Dominic Paszkeicz

Mayra Ramos

Brianna Aguilar

Dan La Berge

Ed Heron

Nancy Dow

Juanita Hernandez

Minutes taken by Mayra Ramos

1. Call to order: 5:34pm
2. Adelante Charter School Mission Statement read by Jonathan Lang.
3. Consent agenda: 1/12/15 Minutes approved with no changes.
4. Review agenda: no removals.
5. Public Comment:
 - a. No public comment.
6. Reports & Updates
 - a. PTSO Planning: (Juanita Hernandez for Juan Manzo)
 - i. Jog-A-Thon planning has begun.
 - b. Curriculum Council: (Juanita Hernandez)
 - i. CELDT Scores are in and the Curriculum Council will be reviewing the criteria for re-classification from the District. We'll review the district's assessments and then develop ours.
 - ii. Dream Box – context for learning software that will be explored to see if the school would like to use it as complement to our math curriculum.
 - iii. Curriculum Council will meet next week.
 - c. Teachers' Council: (Elizabeth Silva)
 - i. Elizabeth Silva reviewed the highlights of each grade's work, including FOSS Science units, Writer's Workshops, math units, and field trips.
 - d. Celebration of Teaching (Leah Hendrickson/2nd grade)
 - i. 2nd Grade teacher Dolores Meraz sends her regrets for not joining us today.
 - ii. Leah Hendrickson thanks the Board & Juanita Hernandez for the support in helping make her year successful so far.

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- iii. Leah Hendrickson shared that she has faced many challenges this year but has been able to connect with her students around science, rocks at the moment, and writing.
 - e. Update On Retreat
 - i. Various board members, teachers, and others shared positive feedback about being able to connect in this way, to share dreams and discuss Adelante's longer term goals as well as challenges.
 - f. Community Outreach Update (Dominic Paszkeicz)
 - i. Dominic Paszkeicz is working on a proactive PR campaign. He and Holly Gil met and came up with a basis for a document that has been sent to Dave Fortson who will put it in a PowerPoint. After it is translated, Board can review it.
 - g. Update on Fundraising Tool
 - i. Same as Community Outreach Update
- 7. Principal's Report (Juanita Hernandez)
 - a. MOU/FUA/Facilities Update
 - i. Next MOU/FAU meeting is set for Tuesday, February 3rd at 2:30pm. Jonathan Lang will be attending this meeting with Juanita Hernandez.
 - b. Juanita Hernandez summarized the Principal's report.
 - i. 45 kinder students have applied for admission next fall; we have 15 siblings who will be entering. The wrong date was presented last month. Enrollment lottery will take place Saturday, February 21st at 10am.
 - ii. Students are going to the State Street ballet for Alice in Wonderful
 - iii. April 23rd at Chase Palm Park will be the *iCAN* art show. They are thinking of having the 6th graders as the docents.
 - iv. Mayra Ramos asked if there was further follow-up with Restorative Justice. Juanita Hernandez has read a book on it but unfortunately doesn't have a staff member who can work with students on this. She does have conversations with the students that are sent to her office, she tries to have a holistic approach when talking to them.
- 8. Board Business
 - a. Strategic Plan
 - i. Chelsea Guillermo-Wann gave Jonathan Lang the Strategic Plan. He'll plan to update this in the summer with the Board.
 - b. Board Membership
 - i. Chelsea Guillermo-Wann is now a part of the Superintendent's Cabinet and felt that she was unable to fulfill her duties and will be submitting her letter of resignation. She will be missed.
 - ii. We have one parent, Spanish-speaking, who is interested in joining the board.
 - iii. We have one community member who is interested in joining the board, Jack Rivas has met with her and Jonathan Lang will be meeting with her soon. She possesses skills the current board does not have.
 - c. Review Draft of 2nd Interim Report (Nancy Dow)

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- i. Nancy Dow shared that things with the report are very similar.
 - ii. Could we lower the \$5,000 outreach program funds to \$2,500? We allocated \$5,000 last year and didn't use it.
 - iii. Jonathan Lang prefers that we don't change it since we don't know what the cost is for grant writers or others who are helping with outreach.
 - iv. By May we'll have a report on the fundraising that the families have done. Currently we asked them to fundraise \$25,000.
 - v. The Budget Committee will be meeting next month before the regular board meeting.
 - vi. March 15th is when the budget report is due.
 - vii. Jonathan Lang thanked Nancy Dow for all of her hard work.
- d. Plan for Increase in Enrollment (Jonathan Lang)
- i. Jonathan Lang shared that short term; we need another building for next year's students' number. We need to figure out if our enrollment numbers are flexible with the district.
 - ii. Jonathan Lang shared that we should still accept 40 students to the kinder class. We can accommodate students whether it's to use the family room as a classroom or do a half-day for both kinder classes to use the same classroom. We'll just be on the cusp of 260 by bringing in the 40.
- e. Special Education Services
- i. Nancy Dow shared four options
 1. Stay with SBUSD – keep encroachment growing. This means nothing changes, we simply keep paying.
 2. Negotiate other options with SBUSD. It could be 'pay as go' since we only have 10 students.
 3. Join a charter school SELPA or "CHELPA". El Dorado County Charter is the most used in our area. Downside is that the services are far, a speech specialist could be coming from LA or San Luis Obispo.
 4. Become our own LEA; an autonomous program on our own. Santa Barbara Charter School tried this and has been in its second year. They haven't had any problems, Nancy Dow checks in with them regularly.
 - a. Nancy Dow knows of 3 administrators who may be interested in working at 20% FTE as a coordinators for a "CHELPA".
 - b. Juanita Hernandez shared that Santa Barbara Charter finds they have-better services with their own program than with the District. By hiring our own staff we may have better access to bilingual staff to work with our students.
 - ii. Nancy Dow reviewed budget and actual under current plan:
 1. 13/14 Year; \$210,000 Budget/ \$279,000 actual

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2. 14/15 Year; \$315,000 Budget/ \$? actual (18% of our operating budget)
 3. 15/16 Year; \$340,000 Budget/ \$? actual (minimum 3% increase)
 - iii. Nancy Dow reviewed the process for changing our plan. By February 15th we have to submit our letter of intent to the district if we are interested in pursuing our own CHELPA. By March 1st we would need to notify Santa Barbara County that we're planning to run our own special education. We would need to pay a part-time administrator, part time staffing. We would first need to offer jobs to the Santa Barbara District employees and then go out to the community. We would need to buy our own materials. There's a regional program that if a student is unable to attend our school we would spend a minimum of \$30,000 to send them to the regional school. There has been one case where a school district needed to pay out-of state schooling for a child.
 - iv. Jonathan Lang commented that now is not the time to make a decision. With 21 days to decide, it is not clear if this is in the best interest of the school. It should be one of the items we add to what we work on. We need to continue learning what the four different options are.
 - v. Ed Heron shared that Special Education is a California issue.
9. Next meeting date and agenda items:
- i. March 2nd at 5:30pm.
 - ii. Look at Community Outreach & Fundraising Materials
 - iii. Options for Special Education
 - iv. Staffing for Next Year – Principal's Report
 - v. Lottery Update – Principal's Report
 - vi. MOU/FOU update – Principal's Report
 - vii. Board Membership – Action Item
 - viii. 2nd Interim Report – Action Item
 - ix. Officer Election
- a. Meeting adjourned 7:22pm.

Minutes Approved:-

4/13/15
