

La Tierra Community School
Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors Minutes Monday, October 15, 2012
Present: Danny Brown, Jamie Bjune, Chuck Dorsey
Via phone: Dan Boyce, Jordana Dezeeuw Spencer
Staff: Jennifer Ross, Laura Prosseda
Meeting called to order – 4:36pm (Jamie Bjune)

- I. Community Forum – No one present.
- II. Community Celebrations and Presentations – No one present.
- III. Approval of consent agenda
 - a. Motion to approve – Chuck D
 - b. Second – Dan B
 - c. Approved unanimously
- IV. Common Core Training – Presentation by Mike Aylstock: Yavapai County Education Service Agency
- V. Financial Report (Jennifer Roderick)
 - a. Financial Documents were sent to board members for review and comment. Board would like to see a column on the Balance Sheet with the number at which LTCS started the Fiscal Year. Danny B would like to communicate with ADI to clarify what the board would like to see on the financial reports that the board sees. Danny B would like to forward an email to Claudina at ADI communicating these things. He would also like to invite her to call in to our next board meeting so that she can help to clarify some of the questions the board may have about LTCS budgets and expenditures.
 - b. Board also needs to speak with ADI to get a plan in place for paying down the loans that LTCS has.
 - c. There is a gap in the budget due to the fact that LTCS is still being paid for only 46 students. The enrollment cap increase needs to be filed with the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools. Jennifer and Laura are not able to file the proper paperwork because the board will not speak to anyone who is not listed on the LTCS, Inc. Corporate board. The Corporate Board approved an enrollment cap increase, however, it was discovered that Bev Santo, corporate board member, is not listed with the state as a Corporate Board member.
- VI. Director's Report (Jennifer R)
 - a. Student-led conferences went very well, the teachers were very happy with them.
 - b. Progress reports are finished for the first quarter. They will be sent out to parents this week.
 - c. A new phone system was installed over the break. There are now phones in every classroom. Arizona Technology Consortium will be installing hardware to upgrade the wireless connection throughout the building this week.
 - d. Site Monitoring Visits:

- i. Dr. Francis with Arizona Charter School Program will visit LTCS on October 29, 2012 around 9:00am
- ii. CPA Performance Audit will be conducted by an independently contracted CPA firm in Tuscon. Those CPAs will visit LTCS on November 8 and 9, 2012. They will be at the school all day.
- iii. Arizona State Board for Charter Schools will have a representative visiting LTCS on October 30, 2012. She will be observing in each classroom to get an overall sense of what we do here at LTCS.
- e. Staff Development of Community Socials – There is an overall sense that there are not enough opportunities for the entire community to come together to socialize and get to know one another. LTCS will start doing “Muffin Mondays” where the entire community will be invited to the school on the first Monday of every month for a light breakfast and coffee. Students will have the opportunity to sign up to display talent, share books they are reading and writing they have done in class during this time.

VII. Old Business

- a. Discussion of Board By-laws Draft (and possible approval)
 - i. Motion to Approve the Bylaws of the La Tierra Community School Governing Board with suggested revisions – Jamie B
 - ii. Second – Chuck D
 - iii. Approved unanimously
 - iv. Next month’s board meeting will have an election of Board Chairperson
- b. Update and Discussion of Compass Points International, Inc. Merger
 - i. Corporate board did not feel comfortable going forward with the merger. This decision was based upon the demand of urgency and swift action by Compass Points International, Inc. The corporate board did not feel as though it was right for LTCS, Inc. at this time due to the rushed nature of the merger. The corporate board wants LTCS to slowly grow, on its own, into its mission and vision.
 - ii. Board would like to add an executive session to the November Governing Board agenda.
- c. Update on Enrollment Cap
 - i. The board is now informed about what the next steps are to rectify this situation, as per Jennifer R’s director’s report.

VIII. New Business

- a. Update and Discussion on Strategic Planning Process
 - i. Jordana D, Danny B, Jennifer R and Laura P met with Maggie Garvey of the Yavapai County VISTA Project. Jennifer will be sending a letter home to parents to invite around 20 people who are invested in LTCS to a strategic planning session. This session would be scheduled for a Wednesday afternoon, will last around five hours and will involve both Corporate and Governing boards.
 - 1. Dan B is available the Wed after Thanksgiving, but not the first Wed in December.

2. Laura will send out an email to the board outlining the dates and general plan for this session.

IX. General Updates

- a. Congratulations go to Jennifer and Laura for running the school as well as they have with the challenges in place and resources available.
- b. Staff members will be going to a number of Professional Development training opportunities throughout the year in different parts of the country. The training includes Common Core State Standards training and Expeditionary Learning intensives and site seminars.

X. Motion to Adjourn – Chuck D

- a. Second – Danny B
- b. Approved unanimously
- c. Adjourned at 6:22pm