

**La Tierra Community School
Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Director Minutes
Thursday, March 27, 2014**

Present: Brian McVickers, Russ Erickson, Claire Louge, Linde Lisbona, Kari Hull

Staff: Jennifer Roderick, Dawn Klaiber, Beth Cottle

Public: Dr. Mary Ellen Halvorson, YCEF Board Member

Meeting called to order: 4:39 pm

I. Call to Order – Motion: Brian McVickers, Seconded: Russ Erickson,
Approved: 5-0-0.

II. Consent Agenda

1. Claire Louge moved to approve the consent agenda and to approve the Thursday, February 20, 2014 governing board meeting minutes with corrections. Seconded: Russ Erickson
Approved: 5-0-0.

III. Community Celebrations and Presentations:

1. Dawn Klaiber, recipient of Yavapai County Education Foundation \$500 grant for Butterfly Pavilion Supplies and Fieldwork.
 - Miss Klaiber presented information about the First Grade Butterfly Expedition that her class has been working on this semester.
 - The children are learning how butterflies benefit our world.
 - The expedition is connected to state Common Core curriculum standards, and demonstrated how the students are doing Close Reading to gather facts from non-fiction texts. The students are using age-appropriate books and a Field Guide of Arizona Butterflies.
 - The first grade class went to Northpoint Expeditionary Learning Academy and worked with Miss Amy Dolan's high school students.
 - The students have each completed a detailed butterfly drawing.
 - The first grade class will be going to Butterfly Wonderland on April 29, 2014.
2. March Masquerade Art Fundraiser, March 31. All art created for the fundraiser is connected to classroom expeditions.

IV. Financial Report presented by Jennifer Roderick

- ADI just completed a full audit of employee salaries and benefits.
- They have re-reconciled the cash flow.
- A lot of the recent fluctuation is due to moving expenses from M&O to AZCSP grant.
- We have \$39,982 left in our grant to pay back to the state.

- The board expressed that they would rather go in debt to the state, than to cut teacher benefits.
- Salaries and benefits are at 61%. We have cut personnel expenses.
- Look into whether or not ADI sponsor a school program?
- Brian McVickers would like to discuss using a small part of the marketing budget to make some pre-packaged creative pieces. He discussed trying to get media to donate radio time and web space.
- Claire Louge recommended a strong word of mouth campaign.
- Mr. McVickers asked if we feel confident to stay with ADI or to move ahead and look at other accounting options. We should tell ADI that we are happy with the attention we are getting now, but that we are considering our contract with them, "under review".
- LTCS Administrative team should look at other charter schools and review the structure of their administration/business management strategies and personnel.

V. Director's Report-Jennifer Roderick

1. Everyone is excited for the Art Fundraiser at the end of the month.
2. State testing will start April 14. Students in second grade through 6th grade will be testing.
3. The Charter Board will be visiting the campus on April 10.
4. Kindergarten is doing an on-going book drive and fundraiser.
5. A student's parent installed a pathway to our chicken coop.
6. The raised area where the chicken coop is will be transformed into a Native Garden and dinosaurs and volcanoes have appeared in our garden downstairs.

VI. New Business

1. 2014-2015 School Year Calendar
 - Added Parent Meeting Night for teachers to meet with parents at the beginning of each semester.
 - Student Led Conference days will be on Fridays, rather than school days.
 - Seventh grade has a greater hour requirement. We have more flexibility with younger grades.

Kari Hull moved to approve the 2014-2015 School Year Calendar.

Seconded: Russ Erickson. Approved: 5-0-0.

2. Next board meetings April 27, 2014 and May 22, 2014.

VII. General Announcements: None

VIII. Brian McVickers moved to Adjourn.

Seconded: Linde Lisbona. Approved: 5-0-0.

Meeting adjourned 6:06 pm.