

La Tierra Community School

MINUTES

Board of Directors

Meeting Date: July 15, 2013

Date of Approval _____

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Board of Directors, La Tierra Community School, was held at La Tierra Community School, Prescott, AZ on July 15, 2013. The meeting convened at 4:46 pm. Board Member Jamie Bjune presiding. Members of the Board in attendance were Jamie Bjune, Daniel Boyce, Danny Brown, Jordanna DeZeeuw-Spencer.

Staff present: Jennifer Roderick, Director; Beth Cottle, Operations Officer

Guests: Kari Hull, Russell Ericksen, Claire Louge, Linde Lisbona

Motion to approve agenda with June 17, 2013 meeting minutes tabled for revision: Daniel Boyce.
Seconded: Jordana DeZeeuw Spencer. Vote: Approved unanimously 4-0-0

Motion to approve agenda without minutes from the June 17, 2013 Board Meeting: Jamie Bjune

Second: Danny Brown. Vote: Approved unanimously 4-0-0

June 17, 2013 Board of Director Meeting Minutes tabled for revision and will be resubmitted for approval at August 19, 2013 Board of Directors Meeting.

- I. Community Forum/Participation-None
- II. Community Celebrations and Presentations-None
- III. Director's Report (Jennifer Roderick)
 - ASBCS: July 8, 2013 Approval of Charter Amendment expand to 7th and 8th grade and increase enrollment cap to 200
 - Approved by the board unanimously.
 - New 3rd/4th grade teacher hired is Elynn Colaianni. She is formally an Art Teacher and Guidance Counselor at Northpoint Expeditionary Learning Academy. LTCS Special Education teacher Cyndi Reynolds highly recommended Ms. Colaianni. Mr. Lisbona concurred that Ms. Colaianni is a very exceptional and capable person for the job.
 - At the La Tierra Corporate Board meeting on July 10, 2013 it was discussed that it would be important to have some Governing Board members on the Corporate Board and vice versa. This could be an Executive Committee to help make conversations deeper and more connected between the two boards.
 - ADI
 - There is no financial report this month due to closing out the end of the year books in June and starting the new Fiscal Year in July.
 - Jennifer Roderick spoke with Claudina Douglas about our concerns.
 - Jennifer Roderick spoke with Rae, our new account specialist and told her of our

challenges over the last several months. Rae is a seasoned account specialist and feels confident that our problems will be eliminated.

- Jennifer Roderick and Danny Brown discussed the Governing Board's concerns with ADI. Mr. Brown and Mrs. Roderick acknowledged that ADI specialized in charter schools and now is not the time to change. We need to stay on top of the problems. ADI is aware of our concerns.

- E. Red Apple, Investment firm out of Utah.
 - Has helped build 5 Expeditionary Learning schools in the past year.
 - Excited and willing to work with La Tierra to finance building of a new school. 3. Red Apple will assist school administrators with building and contractors.
 - Dan Boyce asked if we can find someone in area with expertise in educational real estate background. Mr. Boyce cautioned us to do legwork on front-end before we get into something. Who will be working with La Tierra Community School as an advocate for our best interests?
 - Dave DenHartog has worked with Red Apple and knows them.
 - Jennifer Roderick recommends that Dan Boyce speak with Red Apple. She will email Dan Boyce their information.
 - Invite Red Apple to next board meeting, telephonically if necessary.
 - Claire Louge wanted to know if we have looked for an existing building.
 - Prescott Unified School District is interested in selling the property where Northpoint Expeditionary Learning Academy is located. Northpoint has one more year on their lease. Do we know when Northpoint will make their decision if they are going to renew their lease? Ms. Louge asked where we would get the funding? Mrs. Roderick stated that we would have to look for investors.

- CSP-Jennifer presented our strategic plan at the CSP Summit Conference. Dr. Francis is extremely impressed with our strategic plan, and that the board members are involved with our school.

- LearnPads and Compass Learning
 - LearnPads are #1 new technology product, come equipped with learning apps, you can go into their library and download for free, all technology needed for PARC testing. Every student will have access to his or her own LearnPad.

- Compass Learning
 - Odyssey program gives students to get one on one instruction.
 - We can use it to create greater learning opportunities
 - Creates live data everyday, will make Galileo obsolete.
 - Fridays we can look at data, to evaluate which skills we can use and move into.

- New Technology
 - Mr. Ericson asked if other teachers at school on board with new technology? Mrs. Roderick has shared information about the programs in conversations over the

summer. She has also created an I-Movie video explaining the benefits of the products/programs.

IV. Old Business –None

V. New Business

A. 2013-2014 7th Grade Class - review enrollment & monetary sustainability of grade level accordingly - Discussion and Possible Approval

- Dan Boyce acknowledged that we have been approved for 7th and 8th grade charter.
- Recognized that there is an extremely low enrollment for 7th grade, with six students enrolled (and two concurrently enrolled in other schools)
- In order to be fiscally sustainable for that position, we need at least nine students.
- Question if children will have a rigorous, collaborative learning environment with such a small class. Jordana stated that when numbers are so low it does a disservice to the student's academic and social learning experience.
- We set today, July 15th, 2013 as the day to make the decision whether or not we will offer a 7th grade class for the 2013-2014 year.
- Mrs. Roderick added that La Tierra Community School assist families with getting students placed in other schools this year should we decide to postpone the implementation of the 7th grade to the next school year.

Motion to delay the implementation of 7th grade to the 2014-2015 school year:
Danny Brown. Second: Jordanna DeZeeuw Spencer. Vote: Approved unanimously 4-0-0.

VI. Resignation of Jordana DeZeeuw-Spencer as of August 1, 2013

Jordanna stated that "It has been an honor and privilege to work with La Tierra Community School. It makes sense to have folks there in the community to be on the board." Motion: Dan Boyce moves that we accept Jordanna DeZeeuw Spencer's resignation with gratitude and regret. Second: Danny Brown (thanked her for all of her hard work in getting the school started.) Vote: Approved unanimously 4-0-0.

VII. Resignation of Chuck Dorsey. Motion: Jamie moves to accept Chuck Dorsey's resignation from Governing Board. Second-Dan Boyce. Vote: Approved unanimously 4-0-0

VIII. New Governing Board Membership – Kari Hull.

Motion: Dan Boyce moves to accept Kari Hull as a member of the La Tierra Community School Governing Board. Second: Jaimie Bjune

Vote: Approved unanimously 4-0-0.

IX New Governing Board Membership - Claire Louge

Danny Brown thinks that Ms. Louge will be a great asset. Jordanna DeZeeuw Spencer also thinks that Ms. Louge will be great serving on the La Tierra Community School Board

Motion: Jamie to approve Claire Louge as a board member. Second: Jordanna DeZeeuw Spencer. Vote: Approved unanimously 4-0-0.

X. General Announcements

Claire Louge will be doing a presentation for the July 25 MATFORCE Lunch 'n Learn on the effects of adverse childhood experience have on adult health. From 11:30 am to 1:00 pm in the County Board of Supervisors Meeting Room on Fair Street.

Dan Boyce requested that the Board Meeting Schedule for next fiscal year be mapped out, beginning in August, to present at the August 19, 2013 Board Meeting. Particular attention needs to be paid to January, February and March due to holiday conflicts.

Next meeting: August 19, 4:30pm.

Call to the Public

Community members who want to address the Board do not need permission in advance, but need to notify the Board that they are present and that they want to speak to the Board. Each person who wants to speak to the Board will be given three (3) minutes to do so. However, the Board may limit the number of persons speaking on each issue to a reasonable number of persons. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38.431.02 (H) the Board can discuss or take action ONLY on matters that are listed on the Agenda. Board action on issues that are not listed on the Agenda is limited to directing staff to study the matter or to schedule the matter for further discussion at a Board meeting.

Adjourn

Motion: There being no further business before the Board, Jamie Bjune moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded: Claire Louge. Vote: Motion carried by unanimous approval. 4-0-0

The meeting ended at 5:48 pm.

