

**La Tierra Community School
Regular Monthly Meeting of the Governing Board
Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 3:30pm**

Members Present: Russell Erickson; Julie Baker; Sierra Wilson

Absent: Brian McVickers

Staff Present: Anna Barnum, Beth Cottle, David McNelly, Sunshine Wiesner

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order: Russell Erickson at 3:37pm
- II. Consent Agenda:
 1. Approve Regular Sep. meeting minutes and Special session minutes from Oct. 15th (with corrections) . [Regular Sep Meeting Minutes](#) and [Special Governing Board Session](#) and [AFR](#).
 2. Discussion: Copies will be distributed for possible future discussion.
- III. Community Forum/Public Participation:
 1. Ms. Wiesner presented 5th/6th grade proposal for out of state travel & fieldwork. Students will be traveling to Mexico in the spring for fieldwork. Students will be staying at an orphanage and also shadowing local students at school. Transportation will likely be parent drivers and/or rented vehicles. A parent chaperone has volunteered to shop for, prepare and be in charge of meals. Students will be participating in multiple fundraising efforts to raise money for their trip. Students will also need to secure documents such as parent letters, ID cards, finger prints, etc. in order to attend.
 2. A letter will be sent home with families proposing the initial trip itinerary and also to get a sense of how many students will likely be able to participate.
- IV. Action Items:
 1. Sierra Moves to approve the initial itinerary and Mexico fieldwork proposal and sending the letter. Second: Julie Baker all approved
- V. October Financial Report: [Sep. Financial Docs](#) (Russell Erickson)
 1. Discussion on possible course of action for adjusting the budget due to current enrollment.
 - a. Adjust student purchased services in accounting sheets
 - b. Revisit insurance, the largest cost and see if we can save with a different company and/or plan.

- c. Focus on retaining and recruiting students.
- d. Get a volunteer to look into acquiring turf for the playground (visual appeal).

VI. [Director's Report](#) (see embedded document)

VII. Volunteer Update: (Julie Baker)

1. Volunteering efforts are very low. To let parents know how much they are behind in their required hours, we are sending a quarterly statement to each family to let parents know where they are on their volunteer efforts. Each family is expected to volunteer a minimum of 30 hours per school year. This is about 8 hours per quarter and less than one hour per week. We are the lowest funded when it comes to education and we rely on volunteers. It is vital that we get our volunteers to participate in order to maintain the integrity and foundation of La Tierra Community School.

VIII. Old Business:

1. Transportation update: (Sierra Wilson)
Drivers do not need a CDL in order to drive a 15 passenger van. This can aid in acquiring rented transportation for fieldwork. Prescott Transit Authority will rent a 15 passenger for \$100 plus mileage and fuel. We can also obtain a corporate account with Enterprise to receive a discount on vehicle rentals \$169 per day. Purchasing a van is out of our budget at this point and we will continue to use parent drivers for now and continue efforts to look for vehicle donations.
2. Open Meeting Law and Governing Board By-Laws [Governing Board By Laws](#)
The Arizona open meeting laws will be distributed to all board members for review.

IX. New Business/Future Agenda Items:

1. Tabled the discussion of how to proceed with updating the Strategic Plan [Action Plan Doc](#) due to time constraints.
2. We will send a draft of a parent survey to board members for input. Survey will be sent out to La Tierra Community School families and results will be collected before the next board meeting.
3. We need to begin looking for one or two more active board members. Our board is getting a little 'fish-bowled' with so many parent members.

X. Adjourn 5:24pm