

Kids Unlimited Academy, A Public Charter School

Board Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2016

12pm - 1pm

Board Members Present: Pedro Cabrera, Tom Cole, Linda Evans, Carol Fischer, Martha Ibarra & Jeri Olson

Board Members Absent: Sister Mary Pat Naumes, Frank Phillips, & Carolyn Hayes

Staff Present: Lynn Eccleston, Lisa Hutchins, & Jared Ware

Staff Absent:

Next meeting: TBD

I. Review and Acceptance of the Minutes

Pedro Cabrera called the meeting to order and asked the board to approve the minutes. Linda Evans moved to approve the minutes, Jeri Olson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

II. Scheduling of Upcoming Board Meetings

The board discussed potential new board times considering that the Medford Rotary Club was changing its meeting time to Wednesday as 12pm. The board agreed to have the next meeting on Tuesday at 7:30 AM. It was decided that at the next board meeting the board would decide on an ongoing basis between Tuesday or Thursday at 7:30 AM or Friday at 12pm.

III. Budget & Financial Report

Jared Ware presented the board with the June financial. He described that the latest projection was that the end of the year would be very close to net neutral, but that we wouldn't know definitively until we had closed out June and done final review of the accruals, deferrals, and end of year expenses. Jared noted that the budget was revised considering the possibility that KUA might not receive the charter grant if the federal government does not approve the waiver, that is still pending on that grant.

Jared presented the board with the revised budget and reviewed it with the board line by line. The board asked questions about different areas within the revenue and expenses. Linda Evans moved to approve the revised version of the budget, and Jeri Olson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Jared reviewed the new charter contract with the Medford School District, noting that areas connected with school performance had been changed to be more reflective of how the Medford School District works with the other non-charter schools within the district, with regards to performance evaluation. He added that this took away a bit of the more serious language about school performance having to outperform other schools within the district in order to maintain the charter. He noted that the charter also called for increased Special Education staffing.

IV. School Report

Lynn Eccleston discussed KUA summer school with the board and talked about that program, which is run by Kids Unlimited. She noted that several parents were volunteering with the program to receive a better scholarship. Jeri Olson asked if the summer school program was remedial or enrichment. Lynn responded that it served both purposes. She added that the school had been proactive in trying to target certain students who really needed the program for remedial purposes, but added that enrichment was integrated into the day, and noted that about 40 of the close to 80 students who participate take a bus over to Jackson or Roosevelt to attend the other Kids Unlimited camps in the afternoon, getting opportunities for field trips and other fun activities. Lynn also added that there is another cohort of students who were attending the Migrant Education program with the district, noting that was an additional group of students receiving academic support over the summer.

Lynn noted that all the teachers were hired for the upcoming school year. She noted that we were bringing some of our mental health supports in house, rather than using outside contractors, funded by grants that Kids Unlimited has with Oregon Community Foundation.

Jeri asked if any teachers had resigned or been terminated. Lynn noted that Melissa Olmstead was taking a year off to teach in Bolivia, that Whitney Adderson who was returning from a year off was going to take her position. Lynn added that Kindergarten teacher Brenda Benson was moving to Portland, and that Mozhdeh Zahedi was taking a year off to teach in Iran. Lynn noted that we had hired replacements for both of those roles. Lynn explained that Alexandria Warnke-Crary was moving from PE to 5th Grade and that we had hired another PE teacher to replace her role. She also added that our other new 5th Grade teacher, who was not a replacement, but a new hire, was coming to us from Santa Rosa, California.

Lynn noted that there was very low mobility out of the school at the end of the year, that only a couple of students were moving out of the area, and possibly one student would be moving within district to Oak Grove.

V. Report from Tom Cole

Tom Cole discussed that one of the areas the organization would be working on in the next couple months in connection with legal counsel and the board members to further define the segregation that exists between the two organizations. Tom discussed some of the potential changes that might occur in order to further define areas of segregation. Both Tom and Jared noted that these changes would not greatly change the way that the two boards operated, but that there might be some policy changes to organizational documents. Jared and Tom noted that two changes might be that KUA board members were given the authority to select their own board members and adopt changes to their own bylaws without the consent of the Kids Unlimited board.

The board reviewed a prospective board member for the Kids Unlimited Academy board, and Tom suggested that if the board was interested in potentially bringing him on as a board member that he would bring him to the next Kids Unlimited Academy board meeting.

Tom shared with the board that the capital campaign kick-off at the Cota-Singler Auction was tremendously successful and that he was now confident that Kids Unlimited had the resources to subsidize all of the construction for the middle school building for Kids Unlimited Academy.

Tom discussed with the board the modifications that were being made for the fall in order to accommodate 6th grade, as well as those that would begin soon after in order to finish out the capital project prior to the fall of 2017. He added that some of this construction would include a new addition in the front of the 821 N Riverside building. He noted that this would include the Mindfulness center, some reception area for Kids Unlimited after school programs, parent rooms, and conference space, and some student and family service areas. Tom noted that things were moving forward with La Clinica to get a health clinic in place at some point next school year, which should have a strong positive impact on attendance and on supporting our children and families.