



Dolores Huerta

"A Dual Language Charter Middle School"

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Regular Governing Council Meeting Minutes Thursday January 9th, 2014

1) ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISH QUORUM

Ms. Bertha Silva, President of the Governing Council called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Bertha Silva, President; Mr. John Vasquez, Vice-President; Ms. Norma Arrieta, Secretary/Treasurer; Mr. Robert del Plain, Member, Mr. Saul Hernandez, Member.

FACULTY/ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Mr. Octavio Casillas, Principal of LADH; Ms. Gina Trujillo, Business Manager of LADH

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

Let the record show that a quorum of Governing Council members is present, that this meeting has been called and that this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

2.) OPEN FORUM-PUBLIC INPUT

No one signed up for public input at this meeting

ACTION ITEMS

3.) APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Silva outlined the (2) consent agenda items requiring approval:

- December 6, 2013 meeting minutes
- December Financial Report

Ms. Arrieta requested to remove the December 6th meeting minutes from consent agenda due to needed approval of revisions.

Motion to approve consent agenda items minus the December 6th minutes was made by Mr. Vasquez. Motion was seconded by Mr. del Plain. Motion was approved in the unanimous.

APPROVAL OF REVISED MINUTES

Ms. Arrieta noted the following revisions to December 6th meeting minutes:

- Re Facilities: addition of “per contract agreement” after \$900,000
- Re Audit/Budget Meeting: change February 2nd to February 4th
- Re spelling of last name: change Twest to Thweat

Motion to approve December 6th meeting minutes with proposed revisions was made by Mr. del Plain. Motion was seconded by Mr. Hernandez.

4) APPROVAL OF QUARTERLY STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARD & CRITERIA

Ms. Silva proposed the implementation of a quarterly student recognition/award to be presented by the governing council. Funds for first award have been received from a community donor.

The council discussed the potential value of award, award requirements, and name for award:

- “Governing Council ATM Aztec Award”
 - \$50 Gift Card/Gift of \$50 value: iTunes/Wal-Mart/Target/Amazon.com/local restaurants
 - Student of all grade levels are eligible recipients
 - Student shows good citizenship (embraces and values of Dolores Huerta, Cesar Chavez, and Martin Luther King, Jr.) during award period.
 - Student demonstrates great effort and/or improvement during award period.
 - Nominations will be provided by LADH Teachers
 - Award will be given on a quarterly basis at the GC monthly meeting in: October, December, March & May

Motion to approve the Governing Council’s ATM Aztec Award with revisions was made by Mr. Hernandez. Motion was seconded by Ms. Arrieta.

5) PRINCIPALS REPORT

Mr. Casillas discussed the following items in regards to the school’s general progress in his principal’s report:

- Current enrollment: 148 total students
- Current staff employment: 20 full-time/part-time (14 teachers/6 support staff)
- Current staff job openings: None
- Athletic Changes
 - LADH purchased \$100 worth of baseball equipment
- Changes to School Days: None
- Upcoming Events
 - January 29th: Performance at Christine Duncan Middle School
 - January 30th: Bilingual Day performance for State Legislature at NM Capitol in Santa Fe
 - February 1st: Winter Program at Onate Performing Arts Center
 - April: Travel to Phoenix, AZ to perform at community event and schools. Students will attend/present at a festival/community event as well as tour ASU campus and Phoenix Collegiate Academy.
- Potential Collaborations
 - NMSU (ENLACE, SFI, ICAN): will be continuing their programs
 - State of NM (FYI): tobacco presentation part II

- Lawyer (Beatrice Ferreira) from LC community to provide information to LADH parents in regards to immigration and family law

Ms. Silva asked Mr. Casillas if there was a formal contract to purchase new facility to review in closed session.

Mr. Casillas explained that there is currently no contract for the new facility-- investor from Massachusetts has backed out of project due to triple net lease clause not included per NM law. Mr. Casillas is currently working on proceeding to negotiate an owner financing option (lease to purchase agreement) with Mr. Shockley (owner of building) which, if approved, would prove a more economically feasible route for LADH. The most difficult years financially will be the 1st and 2nd years.

Mr. Casillas received report back from PSFA which estimates cost to remodel building would run approximately \$300,000. Mr. Casillas is confident remodeling to reach e-occupancy can be done at a much lower rate. By owner financing and using a local contractor for remodel, LADH will have a lower overall mortgage than previous arrangements had stated. Mr. Casillas projected LADH would only have to increase enrollment to (200) students and not (300) students as in previously negotiated arrangements. Mr. Casillas re-iterated this new agreement has not been approved – first has to be approved by lawyer and then sent to PED. Once PED approved – agreement will become an official contract.

Mr. Casillas stated LADH will be able to apply for more grant funding opportunities, which will help pay for the new facility, once it is officially listed as a non-profit organization. LADH is currently recognized as a 501 organization; but not a 501-c3. Mr. Casillas will send incorporation paperwork to governing council members for review. LADH will have to pay a filing fee of \$850. Mr. Casillas asked policy committee for a completed list and file for every policy that has been finalized and approved to be added to the LADH website—this information is needed for incorporation paperwork. Mr. Casillas is also working on beginning a foundation for LADH.

Ms. Silva reiterated the necessity for the governing council to review contract once it is approved by PED.

Ms. Silva noted that e-occupancy must be established prior to LADH moving into new facility if lease to purchase contract is approved. Ms. Trujillo agreed that if LADH enters into a lease agreement for the first two years – LADH cannot encumber any debt, which would include costs of remodel, under a lease agreement. Mr. Casillas concurred that these upgrades to achieve e-occupancy must be attained prior to entering into lease purchase agreement.

Mr. del Plain noted that the budget for next year, which will include new lease payments, needs to be approved by April 2014. He stressed the importance of having e-occupancy established by April. Mr. Casillas stated he was confident new agreement will become a finalized contract and upgrades to attain e-occupancy will be attained by April 2014.

7) ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. del Plain. Motion was seconded by Mr. Vasquez. Motion was approved in the unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.

LA ACADEMIA DOLORES HUERTA
GOVERNING COUNCIL

Bertha Silva, President

Attested by: Norma M. Arrieta, Secretary

Minutes approved on

*Any individual attending a board meeting may sign in to participate in the Public Input section of the Agenda, if any. Such persons may speak on any item after the individual is recognized by the President of the Board and introduces himself/herself at the podium. The Governing Council of La Academia Dolores Huerta will not take action on any item presented under Public Input, until an opportunity to do so is afforded. La Academia Dolores Huerta will provide an interpreter for the Hearing Impaired upon request. Requests should be submitted to the chancellor's office three days prior to the meeting. Simultaneous Spanish translation will be provided at the meeting.