



Watts Learning Center

"Distinguished through Excellence"

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – MEETING MINUTES

Friday, March 9, 2018

Meeting Location: 8800 South San Pedro Street – Los Angeles, CA 90003 – Room 2-107

The meeting was called at 3:37 pm by Eugene Fisher at the Watts Learning Center Charter Middle School in Room 2-107.

- **Roll Call and Recognition of Guest**

- Board Members: G. Fisher, D. Schregardus, D. Mora, G. Polson, J. Sanders
- WLC Staff & Regular Guests: S. Fisher, J. Lancer, K. Baptiste, F. Collins
- Absent: R. Yalamanchili, O. Knox, T. Howard, D. Rice, D. Hubbard
- Special Guest: Caline Smith (Consultant), WLCCMS Advisory Council Parent Doris Rosburgh, Dana Morris (WLC Parent Council Secretary), Delverine Burns (WLC Parent Council President), Ms. Parsee (WLC Math Teacher), F. Lopez (Parent Council Secretary – WLCCMS), S. Trijatas (Parent Council – WLCCMS)

Public Comment: There was no public comment at this Board Meeting.

President's Report: Eugene Fisher

1. **Mural Proposal:** We are currently seeking ways to beautify the ES campus. Looking at the possibility of having a mural painted. Mr. Fisher has meet with Patrick Henry Johnson and has also reviewed some of his work. Other painters have submitted work and will soon make a decision to try to get the mural painted before the ribbon cutting ceremony. Mr. Fisher has also received a suggestion from Mr. Rice about a potential mural at the MS. Since we don't own the MS school property, Mr. Rice's suggestion was to have mobile mural that can be moved to different locations on campus as needed.
2. **Capital Investment:** We have capital in the bank that is not drawing any interest. We are exploring ways to get at least 2-3% interest in the capital available. Mr. Fisher will have conversations with bankers in the near future and will hopefully make a decision that's best for our needs.
3. **Resources for Academic Improvement:** At the last Board Meeting in January we had great discussion about overall academic improvement. We are still looking for resources available to improve our student performance. The need for improvement is urgent for the perseverance of our students.
4. **Outreach Efforts:** We have been approached to have our 4th grade class appear on ESPN to speak talk about the Lakers. Journalist Sam Alipour wants to talk to fourth graders because they are less resistant about opening up as compared to other grades that are either too young or perhaps less willing to open up. He did a program with 4th graders in the Bay Area about the Warriors and now he is looking at our school. One our 4th grade teachers played basketball in college at the University of Hawaii and he is preparing the students for the opportunity. He is also trying to tie in math and reading with basketball. As per Mr. Polson who knows Mr. Alipour, they will show the name of the school. Justin Sanders

would like to know if production would be willing to showcase how production works as well for those students interested in Sports and Media.

5. **Building Permit:** The WLC is close to finishing the building phase of the construction. It's amazing to see how surprised everyone is at the work that was completed. The last thing that needs to be completed is the driveway on Colden Ave., once that's completed we will have a final inspection and then we should receive the certificate of occupancy.
 6. **Academic Improvement:** We had a good discussion at the last meeting about academic improvement. We are looking for whatever resources that are available to improve overall student performance.
- **WLC Parent Council – D. Burns:** The WLC recently participated in **the Rally for Reading**. Overall the challenge went well, and you can see the difference in student performance already. Recently took a trip to Magic Mountain and we combined the trip with ways to improve reading. Everything we do is combined with reading. Our goal now is to include more parents in our goals for improvement. Some parents are now doing small groups, On March 2nd, we participated in Read Across America. Some parents came out to support and participate in the days activities. We have also started the Family Reading Challenge to see how many parents read with their student. Ms. Johnson helped her daughter who was struggling and is now an Honor Roll Student. Still work to be done but we have a great start and overall a great school to be apart of. Would like to seek a way to have counseling on campus for students who have or had trauma in their life which could affect their grades and behavior at school. The PC would also like to request that additional aides be provided in classrooms like they had been in the past which was helpful for overall success of students and staff.
 - **WLCCMS Parent Council – D. Rosborough:** The WLCCMS PC presented the Board Approval from for fundraising for the Board to approval. We would like to have more sports on campus which would be both an academic achievement incentive for students with academic and behavior.
 - **Financial Report – Ryan Griffin of ExED**
 - Elementary & Middle School
 - a. December 2017 and January 2018 Financials – High ADA at MS which means whatever we are doing it makes the students want to come to school an we need to keep that up because as we approach Spring Break and the end of the school year our ADA decreases. We are continuing to focus on a positive environment for students and try to sustain our ADA. We a currently forecasting to end the year at 573K. Being under-enrolled hurts our funding. We have received one time funds not budgeted. There was some savings in expense because of some positions that were unstaffed this year. Encourages Directors to come up with exciting program to benefit students.
ES- Forecasting 442K at WLC 145K higher than budgeted, the enrollment is higher by 45 more than budgeted which generates more income. We budgeted for 360 students but currently have 405.
Reviewed Check Register for transparency for both schools.
APPROVED: MORA/SANDERS
YES VOTE: SCHREGARDUS, FISHER, SANDERS, MORA, POLSON
 - b. FY 17/18 LAUSD 2nd Interim Reports: The Board was provided with the January 2018 financials which are to serve at the 2nd Interim Report.

APPROVED: SCHREGARDUS/SANDERS

YES VOTE: SCHREGARDUS, FISHER, SANDERS, MORA, POLSON

- c. Winter Consolidated Applications: Presented to the Board for review.
FY 17/18 Independent Audit Firm Selection: The Board has selected Varinek, Trine and Day (VTD)

APPROVED: SCHREGARDUS/SANDERS

YES VOTE: SCHREGARDUS, FISHER, SANDERS, MORA, POLSON

- d. 16/17 Oversight Visit Discussion: We need clarity on which meeting we discussed the findings of the LAUSD from both Oversight Visit's last year. Both Director's believe it was in May 2017, Felicia will search and turn minutes over to Ryan for submission before the next Oversight Visit.

- **SCHOOL/STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - Dr. Jared Lancer – Executive Director**

- 1. **Monitoring student progress and performance**

- a. Short Term Strategic Plan to Improve Performance – Based on MAP score this is the best place we've been to continue momentum to reach school year goals. See Attached info for report. Board was provided with reports for review prior to the meeting.

- 2. **Updates**

- a. LAUSD Oversight Visits at WLC & WLCCMS: Preparing for Oversight Visits at both schools. Dr. Lancer has met with both schools to go over preparation guide and start the binder processes. Will review and finalize next week.
- b. Suicide Prevention Policy: We have reviewed and are in compliance with the policy set forth by the LAUSD.
- c. Update from UCLA by C. Smith: Continuous improvement in student and teacher performance through the assistance of the UCLA program. We are making adjusts as we go to help with academic improvement as much as possible.
- d. Compliance Monitoring: The final portion of the compliance monitoring is due next Friday. We completed the first section and need Board approval and the President's sign off to send to LAUSD along with the minutes of today's meeting.

APPROVED: SCHREGARDUS/SANDERS

YES VOTE: SCHREGARDUS, FISHER, SANDERS, MORA, POLSON

The meeting was closed at 6:18pm.

APPROVED: SCHREGARDUS/SANDERS

YES VOTE: SCHREGARDUS, FISHER, SANDERS, MORA, POLSON