

**Public Works
Learning Works Charter School
MEETING MINUTES
October 16, 2015
2790 E. Walnut St., Pasadena, CA 91107**

- I. Call to Order (4:10pm)**
 - a. Roll Call.** Present: Dave Banis, Kathy Lesley, Eddie Newman, Nicole Jacquemin, Ty Gaffney, Peter Laarman, and Juliana Serrano. Staff present: Sherry Oliver, Mike Araujo, and Tomoko Patrick. Absent: Phyllis Hudecki and Mikala Rahn

- II. Review and Approval of Agenda** – Nicole Jacquemin moved and Dave Banis seconded to approve the agenda as amended. 7-0 vote to approve.

- III. Public Comment** – No public comment

- IV. Approval of Board Minutes from June 19th and September 29th Meetings** – Dave Banis moved and Eddie Newman seconded to approve the Board minutes. 7-0 vote to approve.

- V. Information Items**

In Mikala Rahn’s absence, she provided the Board with an Executive Director Report covering the following information items:

 - a.** Review of Powerpoint given to staff on August 27 – Board provided with PowerPoint presentation. If there are any questions, the Board was encouraged to email or have coffee with Mikala.
 - b.** Overview of Public Works Financials – Board provided with 2015 and 2016 Contract Charts along with the list of 44 District Partnerships that make up the CaMSP local evaluation work. These partnerships are separated into three separate Cohorts - Cohort 10, 11 and 12.
 - c.** Update on Downey & LAEP work – no handout. Michael Butler’s departure caused Public Works to do some restructuring in terms of work load, but overall it has been a relatively nondescript transition considering his position with the organization. The Board did express their disappointment in his actions.
 - d.** Overview of Learning Works Charter School Financials – Board provided with 2015-16 school year budget. There are no changes to the budget since it was presented at the June meeting. Enrollment is typically low this time of year, but since the transition counselor has not started yet and the previous counselor, Cindy Vasquez went to LACOE, there’s been a savings in salaries.
 - e.** Update on Mortgage – Board provided with copy of mortgage spreadsheet outlining the options discussed at the September 29th meeting. Application is being reviewed.
 - f.** Update on Facilities – Board provided with a copy of the letter to Mayor Eric Garcetti and Councilmember Jose Huizar. All facilities projects at 90 N. Daisy building are complete, including the new Hope Works shower. The facilities project at Homeboy, however, has stalled and we are trying to get a waiver or

alternate funding to cover the cost of the interior renovations. A friend to the Mayor suggested that Congressman Becerra be our next target, however, Peter Laarman was not optimistic in Becerra's power to do anything because it is HUD money.

- g. Update on Teacher/Chaser Incentives 2015-2016 – Board provided with the incentive chart for the 2014-15 school year. Since CAHSEE has been suspended and can no longer be considered an indicator, there was discussion as to possible alternative indicators to incentivize. Mike Araujo proposed incentivizing teachers and Chasers to get students to take the Smarter Balance test. It was pointed out that students are not vested in taking this test since it has no bearing on whether they graduate or not. Dave Banis questioned whether it was worth incentivizing students to take the test given there are no known funding implications. LW is going through WASC this year, and since PW is an evaluation and research organization, not having test results is just poor practice. Given this discussion, as long as we don't spend too much time and effort, then Dave was fine with it. The question of what other charter schools are doing was raised and we will look into this and report out at the next meeting. Another challenge of the incentive program is providing incentives based on utilization especially when considering teachers who are not operating with a full load of students. A more equitable incentive could be built around exceeding annual ADA number. If we are under budget because of reduced ADA numbers, and the targeted budget is not being met then incentives should not be paid out. The Teacher/Chaser incentive will be an action item at the next meeting.
- h. Update on CAHSEE – Board provided with the article *UPDATED: California Students Who Failed Exit Exam Since 2004 Can Graduate Anyway* as well as the *2015 Test Results for English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics* showing no scores.
- i. Invest in a Dropout – Board provided with Invest in a Dropout invitation. Discussion on updated event planning and number of tickets sold (120 and counting!).

VI. Adjournment (4:53pm) Dave Banis motioned and Eddie Newman seconded to adjourn the meeting. Approved 7-0.