

LIVE OAK CHARTER SCHOOL
100 Gness Concourse Petaluma, CA 94952 • (707) 762-9020

**Minutes for the Special Meeting/Study Session of the Board of Directors of Live Oak Charter
School
Handwork Room
September 28, 2022
6:00pm**

Access to Board Materials: A copy of the written materials which will be submitted to the Board may be reviewed by any interested persons on the Live Oak Charter School's website along with the agenda following the posting of the agenda at least 24 hours in advance of this meeting.

Disability Access: Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations to participate in this public meeting should be made 24 hours prior to the meeting by emailing kim.anderson@liveoakcharter.org. All efforts will be made for reasonable accommodations. The agenda and public documents can be modified upon request as required by Section 202 of the ADA

Mission & Program

To ensure the humanity and potential of its students through an education resonant with their unfolding awareness and capacities, and supportive of the full and integrated development of body, heart, and mind. LOCS provides a K-8 program inspired by Waldorf education to children and families of Petaluma and surrounding communities. Waldorf inspired education is a developmental approach to learning that cultivates the innate capacities of each child through age appropriate curriculum. Live Oak educates the whole child – head, heart, and hands, through an education that integrates each child's creative, intellectual, emotional, physical and social domains. Live Oak offers an interdisciplinary liberal arts program where art, music, and movement are integrated with core academic instruction. Exploration of the natural world, human culture, language and mathematics enlivens curiosity which is the foundation of intellectual growth, conceptual flexibility, empathy and sense of connectedness.

Live Oak Charter Board Norms

- *We work in the interest of ALL of Live Oak's students.*
- *We are prepared for board meetings by asking questions ahead of time.*
- *We follow the "No Surprise Rule;" we are committed to avoiding hidden agendas.*
- *We focus on an agenda item until it is resolved or until a specified time has been reached to resume the resolution process.*
- *Our success depends on our participation – we share ideas, ask questions, draw others out.*
- *We give our full listening attention.*
- *We raise our hand and speak when called upon..*
- *We strive to be brief and respectful to others.*
- *We refrain from deriding other individuals' ideas and strive to value all opinions.*
- *We own our mistakes.*
- *We are open to challenging our own beliefs and ideas; we stay open to new ways of doing things.*
- *We celebrate success by taking time to recognize small steps or progress toward goals.*
- *We express gratitude and appreciation.*

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PRESENT

Jessica Umphress, Board Chair
Robert Bunce, Board Treasurer
Kristin Walter, Board Director
Stacy Ito, Board Director & Designated Secretary for 9/28/22

Justin Tomola, Executive Director

Jennifer Okonsky, Board Chair of Live Oak Foundation
Karna Dawson, Former Board Director
Matthew Morgan, Former Executive Director

ABSENT

Chris Fox, Board Director
Sam Shepperd, Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Identify a time-keeper for the meeting

6:12pm

APPROVE THE AGENDA

KW moves to approve the agenda, RB 2nd, Aye: JU, KW, RB, SI

A. Public Comment on non-agenda items

- a. None

B. Consent agenda

SI moves to approve the consent agenda, KW 2nd, Aye: KW, JU, RB, SI

All matters listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine, and all will be enacted by one motion and vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member requests items to be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate action.

1. Plan to hold regular October 2022 board meeting in hybrid model, consisting of in-person attendance for Board members and school staff, limited seating available for the general public, and online attendance for public participation using Zoom platform per AB 361

C. Special study session topic: Long Term Facilities

1. Discussion of long term facilities topics in collaboration with Live Oak Foundation
 - a. Goals for the meeting:
 - i. Create a common knowledge and language for the school board, Foundation board and administration regarding Live Oak's facilities,

opportunities, funding, both historically and looking into the near and long term future.

1. Discussion of Prop 39
 - a. This law helps charter schools to find facilities for the percentage of in-district students.
 - i. Pros: possible school site provided by district
 - ii. Cons: MANY strings attached. Only required to provide facilities for PCS students at Live Oak, only required to provide facilities for classroom teaching (not specialty), possibly steep increase to administrative costs that PCS bills to LOCS (going from 1% to 3% = going from ~\$40k to ~\$120k)
 - b. LOCS waived Prop 39 rights as part of MOU for Measure E funds for approx. 8 years, until 23/24 school year. Those 8 years are almost up and it's time to reconsider if LOCS wants to apply to have those rights met.
2. Discussion of Measure E
 - a. LOCS helped to fund the ballot initiative and was included in the ballot, with a promise of \$1.8 million in funding
 - i. Funding came in 3 trenches, LOCS was supposed to receive funds in 2nd trench, but waived to receive funds in 3rd trench
 - ii. Due to a miscommunication/misunderstanding, PCS thought that LOCS did not want funding, and began to make plans to spend it.
 - iii. Justin Tomola and Jessica Umphress have met with PCS to clarify situation
 1. PCS and LOCS must adhere to the MOU agreed to for the Measure E funds
 2. LOCS needs to have a plan to use funds by Dec 2022/Jan 2023
 3. Funds must be spent by Aug 2025
3. BE BOLD
 - a. Be courageous and prepared to act on opportunities
 - b. Rebuild Live Oak community's strength by re-envisioning:
 - i. Leaflet/Newsletter
 - ii. Forum for alumni
 - iii. Making LOCS visible in the greater Petaluma community
 - c. Pursue all opportunities for LOCS future facilities, simultaneously
- ii. Discuss how to meet the demands/opportunities of the moment
 1. Oct 24 City Council meeting; City of Petaluma will discuss and decide the direction of the lease with the Fairgrounds
- iii. Strategize how to engage the Live Oak Community
 1. Organize soft ways to engage
 - a. Establish a weekly coffee cart with Foundation and School

- Board members
- b. Board members could drop into Class Parent Meetings
- 2. Schedule a Town Hall to get all community members involved and up to date on their knowledge of LOCS facility future.
 - a. Possible dates OCT 18 or 19, TBD

D. ADJOURNMENT