



Opportunity Youth Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

August 27, 2018

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Present: Elizabeth Alvarez, Mary Ann Dewan, Joe Herrity, Robert Menicocci, Phil Morales, Steve Olmos, Laurie Pianka, Summer Reeves

Recorder: Mike Ramer

Location: Morgan Hill Room

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Steve welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions followed. Steve wants to bring attendance back up within the Advisory Committee.

2. Progress Report – 2018-19 – Enrollment, Attendance & Budget

- **Enrollment** - OYA Enrollment is at 266 with 77% attendance in Month 2. In Month 1, enrollment was at 259 with 63% attendance.
- **Budget** – The OYA budget is \$3.3M, which requires a General Fund contribution of \$533K. The Title I budget is \$308K. (The \$3.3M is a combination of the base grant, S&C, the charge to districts and the general fund contribution.) The Superintendent and the County Board of Education committed to the OYA program. OYA plans to become self-sustaining. The 2018-19 OYA Budget was built on having 155 students. OYA already exceeds this with the goal of eliminating the GF Contribution. OYA reaches out to students who don't come to school in an effort to bring up the ADA. As OYA continues to grow, so will the costs and revenue.

3. LCAP Update

Last year's LCAP was approved by CDE. OYA is already looking at this year's LCAP. Phil is reviewing the Renaissance Star and will develop growth reports for each student. OYA will test every six weeks. The first group was already tested in August 2018. OYA will survey to collect input from students, staff and community members.

4. Material Revision Update

OYA has submitted a Material Revision for SCC Board of Education approval. Some of the changes were to comply with changes in the law/Ed Code. Updates include:

- Safety Plan
- Expulsion/Suspension
- New Snell Site

The Material Revision should go to the SCC Board on September 5th for approval. In anticipation of a favorable vote, General Services is preparing the Snell site for an opening in October 2018.

The Governance Structure, planned to expand the Board from 1 to 5, is with legal now. Dr. Dewan explained that most matters will remain with the County Superintendent, not with the OYA Board. She is committed to expanding the Board. The proposal is to proceed with the updates and come back with the Bylaws and expanded board authority. Everyone in attendance is in favor of this.

The Hub is going to be relocated, including the OYA classroom. The County is not sure of the timeline or the new address yet. OYA feels that as long as they remain in the district, things should be fine to move. A property on Parkmoor near the Sobrato Center for Non-Profits is being seriously considered. Robert M said he will include SCCOE staff in the planning and details of the move.

The County is also renovating a property in Gilroy on Wren Av. Dr. Dewan wants to partner with the County on space in South County with the hope of locating a SCCOE annex there.

SiaTech is noted as a workforce partner and educational agency. Work2Future is a partner in this. Phil will check on this.

The Snell site already has approximately 7 students enrolled, although the site hasn't yet opened. The goal is to have 30 students enrolled at this site.

5. OYA Board Meetings

Meetings are set for September 17 and December 10, 2018 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm.

6. Student Referrals & Placements

Referrals are coming from San Jose Unified and South County. Many would be more appropriate for Alternative Education but their only community school is Sunol in San Jose. An OYA referral would be free to the districts where AED placements are almost \$11K for the year. SCCOE will start meeting with the districts to address this situation.

There are 266 students with 80 students holding an IEP. This has been a difficulty for OYA. This is a result of direct referrals from the districts. They are also referring NPS students to OYA. For reference, below are the charges by department/agency:

- OYA - \$0 cost to districts
- Alternative Ed - \$12K
- Special Ed – starts at \$55K
- NPS – starts around \$100K

Dr. Dewan asked for an analysis of data to develop discussions with the districts on the appropriateness of their referrals. Job Corps may have appropriate placements available. OYA students will not be turned away because of funding. SCCOE will help find the best placement for each student.

There is a big influx of freshmen that were turned away because they are younger than 16. Many of these students are going home to wait to turn 16. Bobby asked about changing the minimum age to 15. Dr. Dewan asked that a small group examine this proposal and bring back to the Advisory Committee. Research defines “disengaged youth” as being 16-24 years old. OYA would need to research the effects of lowering the age to 15. ADA is built into Ed Code. Legacy Academy targets middle school students. Training and consistent communication is needed among sites.

7. Site Expansion Workgroup

The Site Expansion Workgroup will meet again to discuss expansion into South County, but also in to North County/Sunnyvale. There are currently 15 students who live in that area. OYA needs to develop a rubric for determining new sites. OYA wants to open 4 new sites in the next couple of years. Workgroups tend to help maintain participation numbers. Adult Ed is really growing and offering more opportunities.

OYA needs to be seen as unique and special. A workgroup is needed to develop a plan on how to reach community partners and investors. OYA needs to find a way to be written into the strategic plans of other agencies.

It was recommended that OYA develop a cheat sheet that lists and describes other schools to determine the best fit for all students, even if that means sending them to a different school.

There is advocacy for increasing the Special Education rate. Costs far outweigh reimbursement.

Partners seem to have backed off. The Hub and SiaTech are still with OYA. Missing agencies include health, mental health, and child care. The Hub provides a lot of services due to their location within the County’s program/building. Instead of asking where the partner agencies have gone, OYA should work to re-engage former partners and to develop new ones. Joe suggested designing a process to bring services to students. Services are available but maybe OYA just isn’t taking advantage or promoting them. OYA structural issues may have contributed to this but Phil is working to resolve them.