

Minutes of the ACLS Board of Directors

Subject: Special ACLS board meeting on tuition adjustment for school year 2010 – 2011
Present: Dick Calandrella, Hanlan Liu, Yuming Liu, Donghai Ma, Jianying Shi (invited, ACLS Vice Principal), Jianguo Wang, Zeming Wang, and Li Yuan
Notes taker: Yuming Liu
Date/Time: May 1, 2010 (Saturday) 8:00 – 10:00 p.m.
Place: 22 Longmeadow Way, Acton, MA 01720

Meeting minutes:

Acton-Boxborough Community Education (ABCE) decided to adopt the new rate for the rental of school facilities starting from July 31, 2009. With the new rate, the rental for ACLS will increase by ~75%. This imposes a significant unexpected burden to ACLS' budget for the current and future school years.

After extensive communications and negotiations with ABCE, ACLS managed to achieve the following compromises with ABCE: (i) ACLS receives a 20% discount on the rental as a long-term tenant and the new rental rate will be applied starting from July 31, 2010; and (ii) for the current school year 2009 – 2010, ACLS pays the rent at the old rental rate.

With these arrangements, ACLS can maintain its healthy financial balance in operation for the current school year 2009 – 2010. However, the rental in the coming school year 2010 – 2011 is expected to increase by a total of \$8600 per term. In addition, the ACLS admin proposes to increase the base compensation of teachers and admin members by \$2 (i.e. 4~5 %) per week in order to recognize and appreciate the effort and value of these members. The cost for the increased salary is ~\$3200 per term. The combination of these two factors will increase the operation budget in the coming school year by ~\$11800 per term.

The board discussed various sources of raising funds including: (1) a better investment of the long-term fund, (2) raising funds from industries and educational organizations, and (3) further negotiations with ABCE. While these might potentially increase the revenue of ACLS, none of them can provide a steady income to cover the requisite cost increase. Thus, the board considered raising the tuition and fee by \$10 per term for language classes, culture classes, and clubs. This will lead to an increase in revenue of ~\$11600 (i.e. ~\$6500 from language classes, ~\$4500 from culture classes, and ~\$600 from clubs), which approximately covers the increase in cost.

After extensive discussions, the board unanimously approved the proposal of tuition and fee adjustment for the school year of 2010 – 2011. The ACLS board and admin will continue to discuss and pursue negotiations with ABCE in the summer for possible reduction of the rental for ACLS.