Valley Inquiry Charter School

February Meeting Minutes

*February 13th, 2022 |In-Person Meeting, 6:30pm*

**Board Members Instructors/Staff/Other:**

Board President & Chair Ken Slough Mrs. Sandra Acosta- School Staff

Vice Chair BJ Foster Mrs. Mary Campos- School Staff

Treasurer James Carter *2 Parents*

Secretary Kyle McSmith

At-Large Terry Rohse

At-Large Cammi Menager

At-Large Vacant

At-Large Vacant

Non-Voting Member Craig Harlow, Principal



Meeting Agenda Item Minutes

**6:31pm Call to Order/Introductions-**

- Ken called to order and started the meeting. He welcomed everyone that could make it to the meeting.

**6:32pm Review/Approve Board Meeting Minutes-**

- Ken brought up the three Board Meeting Minutes we have had over the last month. He said we need to move to accept the minutes.

- 01/09 Regular Board Meeting Minutes- James motion to accept the minutes as written. Terry Second. Vote: 7 Yes/ 0 No, unanimous.

- 01/23 Special Board Meeting Minutes- Cammi motion to accept the minutes as written. James Second. Vote: 7 Yes/ 0 No, unanimous.

- 01/23 Special Board Meeting Minutes- B.J. motion to accept the new revised minutes as written. Matthew second this motion. Vote: 6 yes/ 0 No/ 1 Abstain.

**6:35pm Treasurer/ Financial Report-**

- James showed the financial report on the monitor. He said not much has changed. The only expenses showing is $5000.00 for the down payment for outdoor school. James asked Mrs. Colby if this year it will be overnight. Mrs. Colby said that is the plan and prefers this. She said she needs to double check as they had staffing issues and that the YMCA Silver Creek cabins are not insulated, so it can get cold at night. A different cabin setup then the previous location at Opal Creek. James then said the next expense is the MYP expansion Architect payment. B.J. asked James if he knew how much more we owe. James said we would have to double check with Mary, but thinks we are very close to having this done. James said the next expense is the laptop replacement purchases. B.J. mentioned he helped Mrs. Mary provide more verbiage to the laptop use student contract. Mrs. Colby said this has been written and in place with the students/ parents. James said we do have some ESSER grant money coming in. Otherwise, the financials look normal.

**6:42pm Principal Report-**

- Craig mentioned he appreciates B.J and the board for providing that very nice message about the MYP expansion direction and what we are looking to do with the school moving forward. Craig then mentioned attendance is at 216. As we already know, we are down in the 6th and 7th grades. He said K-5 is full with this being 137 students in EYP. B.J. asked about feedback on the class sizes for each grade level. Mrs. Colby said it is easier to show the students projects as there is more space in the classrooms. As well as it is easier to give individual attention to the students needing this extra help. Teaching is much easier with a smaller class size and she feels better behavior from the students. B.J. appreciated the feedback. Kyle asked Craig about the attendance for next year. If we have a full class for kinder next year and if we need to fill in other classes, we have enough per class that are on waiting lists to come join our school. Craig said from what he has heard from Mrs. Acosta, we are good with the students count for next year. He then said they had the open house last week and he said it was a great turn out of students. He said he heard a lot of kindergarten excitement for next year.

- A parent asked if the board would consider bringing the middle school back. We let them know that we would like to bring back the middle school at some point, but this will take time and we will need to be more methodical when we launch the MYP program for VICS.

- Craig mentioned the I.B. Report for Mrs. Taylor. He said she is in the middle of PYP training for the staff. He said Mrs. Taylor is putting together a self study for the whole I.B. school. This includes students, staff, parents and board members. He said all I.B. schools go through this study.

- Craig brought up the bathroom expansion. Craig said he asked Joel at the S/K school district. He said moving forward with the restroom expansion would trigger the whole project to start. Craig said the total in which to break the contract with the modular building company would be $19,980.00. Then this piece would be done.

- Craig then mentioned a foreshadow in March with a S/K integrated application report. He said it is a report to help show our school’s standards and that they align with the district. He said this is coming from ODE. He said he is working with Mrs. Taylor and other staff members for this report. Once they have this report built they will share it with the rest of the staff.

- James asked about the audit report Craig sent the board via email last week. Craig recapped the report and let us know we were out of compliance. He said he is working with the audit staff to find out the issue and he said he should have this fixed by the end of the week. He said once we have this fixed the 2021-2022 audit report will be complete and correct. He said he will meet with the auditor for help with the 2022-2023 audit, so we can avoid this in the future. He said the district is providing extra help and training for this. James said he could attend and Craig said it would be appreciated if he could attend.

**7:08pm Executive Session- Start**

**7:52pm Executive Session- Stop**

**7:53pm Board Announcements-**

- Ken, Matthew and James all have announced. They will be stepping down from their positions and leaving the VICS governing board at the end of the school year.

**7:54pm Public Comments-**

- A parent asked the board if there will be a 5th grade graduation ceremony this year. Craig said this is a great idea and in the past has been a parent/ staff collaboration. B.J. then asked about a 6th/ 7th grade ceremony, as they will be leaving the school. Craig said he will think about this and maybe have a field day for this group. A parent asked about volunteering and involvement in the school. We all agreed this is very important and the board is not opposed to parent involvement in the school. The board expressed this is how this school has successfully been able to stay alive and striving to provide the best education in the district. A parent then asked about the play structure improvements. Craig said this has been scheduled and should be completed by the end of spring break. A PTC parent asked whether the funds not used in the MYP expansion will now be allocated for EYP school improvements. We described what these funds came from and what they were already used for. Due to this financial burden is a part of why we were not able to move forward with the MYP expansion.

**8:25pm Meeting Adjourn-**

March Board Meeting: Monday, March 13th, 2022 @ 6:30pm. Held Virtually.