

# Valley Inquiry Charter School

## March Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2024/ In Person Meeting 6:30

### Board Members

### Instructors/Staff/Other

Board President & Chair	Cammi Carriere
Vice Chair	Terry Rohse
Treasure	BJ Foster
Secretary	Vacant
At-Large	Stephen Staten
At-Large	Ed Austin
At-Large	Vacant
At-Large	Vacant
At-Large	Vacant
Non-Voting Member	Mr. Gary Etchemendy, Principal (Ill, appeared on Zoom)

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### Meeting Agenda Minutes

#### 6:33 Call to Order/Introductions

Gary via Zoom.

Cammi called meeting to order.

#### 6:35 Review/Approve Board Meeting Minutes

. Asks for motion to approve minutes. Stephen moved, Ed seconded.

#### 6:40 Reports

##### Principal's Report

Gary Etchemendy

Gary talked about program in spring. 5 extension activities. Gary is running kitchen chemistry. Other staff are involved. Classes potentially K-5. Kids are looking forward to it.

##### VICS Enrollment

Ms. Acosta

Mary reported 166 out or 168 another Kinder spot to fill. Probably not the 5<sup>th</sup> grade spot. Cammi asked about new child. Where are they on the list?

IB update

Ms. Colby

Inquiry Club. Some people are asking. Hard at end of day. Also limited by how many. Profiles: Inquire and Thinker. Next assembly in May.

Virtual meeting with evaluators. They do want to meet with governing body. We'll need to figure out when. Times: April 15-16 possible. Virtual. During business day. Board is almost filled again.

Movie afternoon as reward. Will use new popcorn machine. Exhibition night April 25 at 5:30 for 5<sup>th</sup> grade presentations.

Student Council

Student Council Member

Coda reported on Family Game Night. Friendship rocks painted and will be hidden on playground. Earth Day, will be April 4. Student Council tomorrow will discuss Earth Day Cleanup.

Treasurer report

BJ Foster

Payroll majority of expensive. Parking lot cleared up. Children's health expense, \$1104, Great Body Shop, state required. \$773 (?) in Chase account for unexpected expenses. Terry asked if there was information about status of negotiations. Gary thought there were three issues: money, class size, and FTE. Information on district website. Reconvene on 12<sup>th</sup>.

ITEMS To DISCUSS/VOTE

Cammi Carriere

7:15 Budget for classified staff

Cammi asked Gary to give synopsis of contracts. \$5000 bonus, 7% raise this year retroactive, 3.5%, and 4% for next two years. District will cover bonus for district employees. District can't cover charter employees. Money is to be spent or will be lost. Gary was asked for timing of bonus and retroactive pay. Will be voted on tomorrow. Unclear on how/when bonus will be paid. Mary asked if Gary could inquire about timing.

Cammi asked about charter employees about 6% VI CS could match but does not need to. There are 5 or 6 classified here. Gary asked if board had been given the

information. He thought there was just enough money budgeted to cover. Two accounts have the money (account names?).

Stephen asked for estimate on increase. Gary said most around 4%. District was playing with numbers possibly

5 Licensed staff on charter side. 9 total employees @ \$5000. Classified vote to accept offer from district ,97% passed.

Cammi asked why there was such a large discrepancy, budgeted \$60,000, Got more money from SSR than expected. Last year for SSr. SIA will continue. Received \$173,000 from SSR, \$555,000

SIA will move over. Begin submission in May.

BJ could use funds to offer one time bonus, but we would have to be careful.

Stephen spoke on impact on this year's and next year's budget. Mary talked about what has already been given in previous salary raise. Gary mentioned staff feeling if only some received bonus. Bonus has been matched in past. May have tentative agreement.

Appears that base salary raise will have smaller impact than thought.

Cammi asked if the board was comfortable with vote on bonus or would rather wait until figures are set. BJ thought that we should wait for set numbers before coming to agreement. Mary thought we should go ahead since we have enough money to cover bonus.

Cammi thought we could hold a special meeting. Stephen agreed. Gary said he would work on coming up with more information. Cammi suggested a virtual meeting to vote.

Retro pay back to July for classified, January for licensed. BJ spoke about how district and VISC are not the same. Stephan spoke about concern for next year without up-to-date figures.

7:30 Initial budget discussion for 2024/2025

Cammi said we had touched on this already in contract discussion. BJ spoke about looking at previous budgets to see about how to deal with loss of funds.

ADMW-average daily mean weighted, sets how much money you get from state. \$718 more this year. We get 85% of that after district takes some. Takes into consideration poverty, special needs, ELL, etc.

How much are we expecting from reading grant? \$70-80, 000 thought to be ongoing. Need to go through some hoops each year. Looking at reading curriculum. Have confirmation that information has been turned in. BJ expressed concern that a new reading curriculum might not fit in with IB.

Stephan asked for clarification on school activity. Would be before school as it was a late start day.

Gary spoke about emergency operation plan. Must be district approved to make sure it follows state law. On line and also a copy in the office.

Do grants have supplanting clauses?

Title-One schools. We do not have these grants.

Cammi wanted board to have a chance to ask Gary about the letter that was sent home concerning a closed contest. Concern about adults (parents) in building without background checks. Not sufficient staff to monitor halls, bathrooms, etc. Stephen spoke about not having any information when he was asked by parents as to what led to this. Terry spoke about need for board to be informed about what is happening at VISC. Would feel better with more information.

7:45 PUBLIC COMMENT/DISCUSSION

8:00 Meeting Adjourned at 7:54.

Cammi Carriere

\*Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2024, 6:30 Virtual