

VICS Meeting notes: 1/12/2026

Garrick Meeting Minutes:

Call To Order: 6:35

Roll Call:

In Person: Cammi, Lacey

Virtual: Garrick, Ed, Carol

Approving Meeting Minutes:

Cammi: Approve Meeting Minutes December 8th?

Carol: approve minutes

Ed: Second

Vote: 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstain

6:37 Principal

PYP Report

Mrs. Ogalvy: Leading the learning workshop. Working with others around the globe to fit into our program. Looking into a new transdisciplinary unit on organizing ourselves.

For student support some students are working towards graduation from check in and check out process. How best to regulate their own emotions. Looking into another form of rewards for effort even if not hitting the goal. What can we offer to them so they feel like their time and effort was meaningful and worth it. Working on new systems for breaks. Many kids come in to ask questions about the breaks and how best to use them. Starting Feb teaching social emotional learning 2 a month for 3-5th grade. How to maintain healthy relationships, newsletters coming out to students around that time.

Mrs. Peppler: trekking along in 3rd grade by connecting them into teach session. Who we are and how we organize ourselves. Working vision boards, getting into the mindset of goals. What do they envision for this year. Connect everything with systems. How do we create systems in the school to make it a better place. Connecting to how we do systems at home.

MYP Report

Mr. Schmitt: January, not quite back in the building. Redesigned the schedule for the month of January, 3 in person retreats (learning) 2 days each. 6 days of in person learning. Going well. Had another one in december, helping kids getting acclimated to school. Helping to build relationships as we get back into person learning. Cancelled enrichment time for January. Teachers getting together to figure out how to transition to in person learning. What does the logistics of multiple building and such look like. How do we transition. Working on policies to work with MYP or the whole school to make it easier. In person has been really good thus far. Question in the chat: When does school get out: 3:30pm (Lacey). Retooled what the in person learning will look like without having students on the screen all day.

Lacey: In person schedules will be given to students as we get closer to in person.

Mr. Schmitt: There are 7 periods with lunch after 3rd period most likely. All of that is solidified.

Ms. L: Fun year getting to know students and staff. Coming back has been good for everyone including vision boards, escape rooms. Engineering challenges building structures with weights

Lacey: teachers are good to go. Thank you for your input

Principal report:

Lacey: Photos from the latest retreats: labor and industry buildings for teachers to get together and collaborate. Picture Mrs. L to test a foil boat and what it can carry via an engineering test. Were able to do a state capital tour. Students were very well behaved and were able to go around the capital and learn about the different functions that go on there. Even got a response back from the tour team about how well the students did and the questions they asked.

Grasp soccer team 4/5th coached by Mr. Ponse won their tournament.

Spotlight on special education and intervention: Introducing Karon 'Connell reading intervention teacher, has taught k-5 and upper elementary and was a tutoring company. New LRC teacher Shawna Berard, comes with 20 years experience in special education in charter schools when children with difficult behaviors.

Aine Jones K-5 literacy SPED support IA. Targeted for elementary students with practical experience and as a DSP among other support roles
Terry Crabtree k-5 IA terry comes with passion to support students Terry has several years of experience as a classroom PED IA

Rachel Phillips 6-8 SPED IA, has done a masterful job working with middle school learners as they navigate online.hybrid learning. Help students feel supported and heard.

Karen literacy grant Shawna Ainia funded for IA growth this year, Terry funded through district as well as Rachel.. All being funded through different grants

Student council fundraiser: Hot cocoa before winter break and brought in almost \$350 for beautification projects. Had 2 days of no school and missed some of that fundraiser, already planning another one for Feb

Jog-a-thon results. Raised over \$10k in November with partnership with PTC. using for field trips and experiences in the classroom.

Carol: The 10K how is it divided amongst the classrooms, does each grade get a certain amount?

Lacey: We will see half that amount splitting with the PTC. PTC will cover the admission and the school will cover the busing. Did not do a specified amount for each class, and we were able to make it work out with different discounts. Just make sure every class got to go on a very memorable field trip. Some Teachers have brought up ideas already. Does money get split with MYP?: These are earmarked for the PYP, working on a MYP fundraiser option to help bring in money for the MYP group.

Upcoming events: no school day January 19th MLK Jr day. PTC next week Jan 20th at 6pm. School jan 28-29th for K-8 will be school days. No School Jan 30th though for teacher In-service.

Totals: 162 for PYP total and 64 MYP total

Treasury report:

Steve was not available and did not do a treasury report.

Lacey. Passthrough funding has been coming through, and might see some extra money coming through due to higher enrollment. Just submitted a req for construction payorders. Some reimbursement going through. MYP curriculum is

being submitted for \$\$\$. Things are looking good and working normally. No glaring issues

Construction update:

Cammi: over the holiday break helping move the portables, but the rain caused the concrete to push back till the first week of January. Crane is now rescheduled to come in on January 20th. Scheduling with weather has been good this year and concrete is moving along and setting up well thus far. Still looking like once portables moved into place, then interior work, building ramps. Looking around the middle of Feb. Helping us to move in as soon as they deem safe. Wet weather change order is still being tracked to see if we are going over or under, will see change order come through most likely later. Nothing like what we saw a couple months ago.

Chat questions: Will there be additional MYP retreat days before they are able to be in person learning.

Lacey: Some delays, but working on how that will fit and if we can setup some more in person days. Will let people know when we get those days figured out.

Question: How are you planning to mitigate distractions during construction

Lacey: Looking over the construction schedule and having meetings to see what it looks like each week. Depending on the project, thinking through opps to extend learning when those things are happening. When Crane is here, using that as a way to inquire about it. Working with teachers about how to make learning successful, in conjunction with IA and SPED to make sure students can be worked with during those times.

Concerns about vibration and noise and what happened last time digging was happening.

Lacey: will specifically ask around what this will look like and what they expect for certain parts of the project.

Carol: What timeframe are we looking at the disruption? 1 hour, 8 hours, 2days 1 day?

Cammi: moving the portables will take roughly 2 days, but will ask to be sure. Instead of moving the Trust, it would require more wet weather change. Using the Mat method because it is quieter and more secure. Crane could potentially be loud, but will qualify that.

Reuben: It was shaking that was the distraction not noise

Cammie:

Lacey: We will meet with construction and see what they say then from there, if a plan is needed then we will work through what that looks like. Don't have the answers at this moment.

Cammie: Any other questions?

Ed: Notes received, someone brought up the condition of the portables, did someone do an inspection because they have been out there so long.

Cammie: someone is in the process of looking through them, if we open them up too soon and there is a lot of rain that could cause problems, but there are not any concerns currently.

Will ask in the construction meeting about delaying construction to a weekend if the distraction will be too much.

Public comment section:

Rueben: Question about announcing the meeting. Concerns about how early we are communicating, how has the policy on communication changed.

Cammie: We have been using parentsquare to update on construction and board meetings. It is not happening every week, but as far as communication, we feel like board communication on a fairly consistent basis.

Lacey: The website was updated the week before. We have updated there, and we can do a better job to get out even earlier. Board news updates are looking good but could be more consistent.

Reuben getting agitated around policies and procedures. Believes that communication on what the board is doing and letting the community hold them accountable is the minimum.

Cammie: Our policy is getting the board meeting information out 1 week before on the website and we do our best effort to get parentsquare. We rely on the website as the way for the community to get the information. We do not have access to these tools to get these things out, we rely on staff to do this for us. Board news is

something Cammie is doing on her own, and gets those out as information that is pertinent presents itself.

Carol: Parentsquare is something separate from the school website correct?

Cammie: yes

Carol: As a board member, the website is how I get my information. Reuben, what you're saying is that parentsquare is for parents.

Reuben: Wants to see a policy to have accountability around communication so they must meet it. Making it their responsibility.

Garrick: What are you looking for in accountability? A punishment?

Reuben: When a parent asks something you wait too long. Only hear accountability when we want to. Thinks that getting together for policies and procedures could fix the issues. When changes that would hold the board accountable, the board balked at the prices but not that of change orders in construction.

Carol: At a loss, seeing discouragement from the community around things. I don't really know what to say.

Reuben: Approve those policies and a procedure that holds the board publicly accountable.

Cammie: We absolutely need to look at our policies, and we are looking to make this work and we have to have something in place by the end of the school year. Until then we are using the ones from SKPS. We are starting that process this evening. Items are on the agenda tonight. Can be difficult when the board must do everything in the public session and only get together once a month. As far as formal policy for board training, we were caught off guard as it was more than we expected. We need to set up time because it is important. The board is excited to get into board training to take advantage of what's there. For the cost around change orders, in the bond process we planned for overages and changes like the wet weather change order, so that money was already allocated for these instances in the event that they came up. Training and workshops come from a general budget which is not tied to the bond in any way, so the board training that was discussed at the last meeting was higher than we expected.

Question: Dropping off

Lacey: We want to have time between PYP and MYP start times. Looking into a possible solution to help parents who need to drop off students at the same time. Working through what that would look like but no answers currently

Grievance Policy

Cammi: What are your thoughts about the grievance policy? Would require a memorandum for SKPS, would not affect our charter agreement. It is like a new document. Could not use OSBA and do it ourselves with cooperation from our lawyer. Could be as simple as accepting the SKPS grievance policy. The way the policy works now, if someone has a grievance with the school they would fill out a form and give it to SKPS. Sometimes that response will be back to the VICS board and then discussed through the board. Right now we want to change it so it goes through the board.

Lacey: Unless it is breaking the charter it will come back to the board.

Carol: If we can take out the middle man of SKPS, it seems like it would be a better move and more simpler and less complicated to handle these things ourselves.

Cammi: Question is working through OSBA or through a lawyer?

Carol: Lawyers cost something, what would cost less?

Cammi: OSBA can bill SKPS then SKPS can bill us. We can't get the costs, but OSBA has other options for charter schools that can help us in other ways outside of the memorandum.

Carol: can we reach out to the other charter school that is using OSBA to see how they are using it?

Cammi: OSBA offers many options like training and such with more resources for us in many different ways. Our lawyer has been pushing us to OSBA for a while now. We can wordsmith SKPS policies, but if we wanted to get the benefits of OSBA and some of their offerings. Do want us to start doing policy work every month as the end of the school year will come fast.

It's something we can figure out tonight. We have a few different ways to do this, can work with the lawyer, can put the grievance policy into something larger with OSBA and build a policy committee this evening.

Carol: I would like to see us move cautiously but quickly. We need to make a decision sooner rather than later. Feels better that policies are in place so we know where things stand as a board member.

Ed: SKPS board would have to approve our memorandum of understanding?

Lacey: Worried that there will be a delay for the memorandum to get it approved. Feels counterintuitive to loop them in since they want us to move to our own policies. Could be a good opportunity to work together on these.

Carol: this is what I was trying to convey

Cammi: SKPS is one of 3 districts not using OSBA:

Garrick: OSBA works with us on our policies or only memorandum?

Cammi: will work with us on creating our own. Pricing on training was pretty reasonable.

Carol: would like to get Steve and BJ input on this.

Cammi: can table this.

Carol: Can we call a meeting before calling a meeting?

Cammi: We have a working session on the 26th. We can put this on the agenda.

Question: Other charters with policies we could look at?

Cammi: I have reached out but not had much luck getting those that are applicable to us. We believe that Howard Street works with OSBA.

Formal Parent Complaint in December:

Cammi: Addressing that tonight. "Board is out of compliance with handling grievances"

"read the written follow up the the grievance"

Acknowledged the complaint and met the

Garrick: responds to complaints and hopes that we can be better and create place that is better

Lacy: John Mickleson is helping us transition, development of our own policies is where we want to get to, but understand it takes time and at this time we will use SKPS until that time that we can have our own policies and become more independent.

Cammi, Board working session: Wants us to be in person, haven't heard from everyone yet.

Garrick/Ed/Carol: 6pm for the time of the session on the 26th

Cammi: doing a self assessment, then working with Beth Waiten. Tentatively 6pm until we hear from the remaining board members. We want to do this in person. The community is welcome to join the online option. Though there are no comments from the community during that time.

Any other things tonight? Happy New year

The next board meeting is Monday Feb 9th at 6:30pm Virtual and in person. January 26th will be the working session.

Board meeting adjourned 8:08pm

Zoom Chat Transcripts:

Conversations

Details

2026-01-12 18:35:13 From Beth's iPhone to Everyone:

Hello everyone, good evening!

2026-01-12 18:35:31 From Jayme Peppler to Everyone:

Hello, Good Evening!

2026-01-12 18:45:07 From David McQuaw to Everyone:

MYP Question:

What will the schedule look like when middle school students come on-site? I know other middle schools in Salem and Keizer have varying end times (Leslie at 3:30pm, Whiteaker at 4pm), is there any plan to align with those schedules and increase critical instruction time?

2026-01-12 18:52:14 From Beth's iPhone to Everyone:

It was fun to see the kids on their tour in the news too!

Lacey McNay: ❤️

2026-01-12 18:56:41 From Beth's iPhone to Everyone:
So great about filling out the SPED team!

2026-01-12 19:00:36 From Ashley to Everyone:
Does money get split with myp as well?

2026-01-12 19:04:08 From Beth's iPhone to Everyone:
Thank you for all the updates!

2026-01-12 19:07:06 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
How are you planning to mitigate the distractions produced by having heavy equipment working that close to classrooms with active learning happening?

2026-01-12 19:08:38 From Rebekah Benham to Everyone:
Will there be additional in-person learning days/retreats for MYP into Feb. until they are able to be fully in person?

2026-01-12 19:10:05 From Rebekah Benham to Everyone:
Great! Thanks. My daughter is LOVING it, and it's such a great way to help them transition into full-time in person.
Lacey McNay: ❤️

2026-01-12 19:11:44 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
That doesn't give me confidence. That is EXACTLY what was said before the last phase. That was when the building was shaking so much that a pencil on my desk fell off several times in a hour long meeting

2026-01-12 19:12:50 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
Lets play hypothetical, if they say it will be loud..what happens then

2026-01-12 19:13:09 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
If they say it will shake the building, what is the plan

2026-01-12 19:16:13 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
It wasn't volume last time...It was SHAKING the entire building

2026-01-12 19:16:58 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
I haven't heard a PLAN....what happens when you get the information

2026-01-12 19:17:41 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
So, delaying construction is possible...or are we pushing forward regardless....our top priority as a school should be learning

2026-01-12 19:17:52 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
Delay to weekend or non contact time

2026-01-12 19:20:28 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
I have a question

2026-01-12 19:21:34 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
Not really

2026-01-12 19:22:18 From Wanja Kiraguri to Everyone:
Can we drop off middle schoolers same time as elementary in the morning and can elementary siblings participate in after school program for the one hour so that they are all picked up at the same time?

2026-01-12 19:22:44 From Beth's iPhone to Everyone:
Closer to the date, I'm wondering if there will be an opportunity for staff, families or students to come together and help get the portables ready for the learning community? I'm offering to help out! 😊
Rebekah Benham, Jayme Pepler, Lacey McNay: ❤️

2026-01-12 19:23:02 From Rebekah Benham to Everyone:
Replying to "Can we drop off middle schoolers same time as elem...":
Oooh, yes! I was wondering about this, too. A one-hour Cheetah Care option would be so helpful!

2026-01-12 19:23:39 From Beth's iPhone to Everyone:
Replying to "Can we drop off middle schoolers same time as elem...":
Me too! I'd love to learn more about this.

2026-01-12 19:25:28 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
There is no accountability there

2026-01-12 19:25:45 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
Passive ≠ accountable

2026-01-12 19:26:11 From Ashley to Everyone:
If you wanted more parent engagement why not go a little above and beyond and put it on ParentSquare anyways

2026-01-12 19:26:36 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:
Because its not about engagement, its about meeting the bare minimum....it's what I hear

2026-01-12 19:27:30 From Rebekah Benham to Everyone:

We can help out with this, too, as parents. I try to always share in our class of 2032 FB group when a board meeting is coming out.

iPhone (155), Kassy Selby, Wanja Kiraguri, Beth's iPhone: ❤️

2026-01-12 19:27:54 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:

As do I, but its not our responsibility...its the boards

2026-01-12 19:28:04 From Kassy Selby to Everyone:

Replying to "We can help out with this, too, as parents. I try ...":

Yes you have! I seen it in the group and it helped me remember

2026-01-12 19:28:18 From Ashley to Everyone:

Lacey I just wanted to say thank you for taking concerns into consideration regarding activities planned with classes

Reuben Gershin, Lacey McNay, Jayme Pepler, Wanja Kiraguri: ❤️

2026-01-12 19:30:16 From Ashley to Everyone:

I think Anna used to have it auto scheduled for late starts and meetings

2026-01-12 19:30:21 From Kassy Selby to Everyone:

Replying to "As do I, but its not our responsibility...its the bo...":

You do?

2026-01-12 19:30:32 From Lacey McNay to Everyone:

Replying to "Closer to the date, I'm wondering if there will be...":

Beth- Yes- as the time draws near and we know more firm details- we will share this opportunity with our MYP community!

Beth's iPhone: ❤️

Rebekah Benham: 👍

2026-01-12 19:32:17 From Lacey McNay to Everyone:

Replying to "Can we drop off middle schoolers same time as elem...":

Wanja- We are exploring what this could look like for families who have PYP & MYP students. When it is finalized- we will share this out. We do want to provide something like this to accommodate our families!

Rebekah Benham, Beth's iPhone, Wanja Kiraguri: ❤️

2026-01-12 19:33:17 From Wanja Kiraguri to Everyone:

Replying to "Can we drop off middle schoolers same time as elem...":

Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Lacey McNay: ❤️

2026-01-12 19:38:47 From Reuben Gershin to Everyone:

Sounds like a plan

2026-01-12 19:51:48 From Beth's iPhone to Everyone:

Reworking something already created will be helpful for moving things forward quicker and for less money.

Ashley: ❤️

2026-01-12 19:58:23 From Beth's iPhone to Everyone:

Wondering if there are comparable charter schools who have board policies in place who would share with the VICS board?

Ashley: ❤️

2026-01-12 20:07:52 From Jayme Pepler to Everyone:

Thank you admin and board, I know the decisions you all make require significant time, care, and consideration. Thank you for supporting students, staff and families and for making space for meaningful dialogue.

Lacey McNay, Kassy Selby, Beth's iPhone: ❤️

2026-01-12 20:08:17 From Beth's iPhone to Everyone:

I'm looking forward to the Board Work Session too!

I'd like to wish the board a Happy School Board Recognition Month and say a big thank you for volunteering your time, passion and service to VICS!

Lacey McNay: ❤️

2026-01-12 20:09:03 From Beth's iPhone to Everyone:

Good night all!

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