

Valley Inquiry Charter School

July Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2024 | Zoom Meeting, 6:30 PM

Board Members

Board President & Chair	Cammi Menager
Vice Chair	Terry Rohse
Treasurer	Stephen Staten
Secretary	BJ Foster
At-Large	Ed Austin
At-Large	Vacant
At-Large	Vacant
At-Large	Vacant
At-Large	Vacant
Non-Voting Member	Vacant

Meeting Agenda Minutes

6:31pm Call to Order

Cammi called to order.

6:31pm Approve meeting minutes from 6/10/24 and 7/1/24

Terry motion to approve minutes of 6/10/24 and 7/1/24 VICS Governing Board meetings. Ed seconded motion.

Vote: 5 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstain.

6:33pm Public Comment/Discussion

Cammi: Introducing Lacey as new teaching administrator.

Lacey: Come with great excitement, very impressed by VICS already, can't wait to become part of the community and continue the amazing work building the community so all can be involved who want to. As a classroom, STEM and admin bringing passion to new job.

Cammi: For public comment section, please limit comments to 2-3 minutes.

Stephen: Feel free to ask questions in chat if you don't want to speak publicly.

No comments.

6:36pm Staffing Report

Cammi: We have hired six positions, some newer and some more advanced in their career, still looking to hire 1st and 4th grade teacher which Lacey will oversee. Variety of backgrounds, some bigger districts, some smaller schools or non-traditional settings. Expecting that variety will be helpful. Some teachers from outside the area, some from the local area.

6:38pm Treasurer's Report

Stephen: Not much to report currently, still transitioning treasurer duties at this time, will have more to report next month.

BJ: Still resolving back tax issues, hoping to have resolved by next month.

Cammi: Has SOS status been renewed yet?

Stephen: Not yet.

Cammi: Looking at getting a credit card again soon.

6:39pm Teaching Administrator Update

Cammi: Finalizing contract with Lacey. Updating handbook for new employees, since some of it referenced the SKSD union handbook which doesn't apply to our employees. Hoping to finish onboarding Lacey in the next few days.

6:40pm IB Training Information

Terry: Still slogging through it. Had a loss of someone close today which took focus. Strictly virtual presentations for staff is an option. Recommend not just sending one person to in-person training in Florida, expects he will have more details tomorrow.

Cammi: IB training can also happen throughout the year, but hoping to do something prior to start of school.

Terry: Looking at 24-25 catalogue as soon as it comes out.

6:43pm Meeting Technology

Cammi: We need a Zoom subscription or we need to consider another platform. Zoom subscription for up to 13 users and 100 participants is \$13.32 a month. Business account is \$18.32 with 10-200 users and 300 participants.

Terry: Use Teams some.

Stephen: Used Meet sparsely, used Teams, Zoom and Adobe Connect that has best breakout rooms. It's around \$190/yr for 100 people. Teams can be a bit clunky. People seem to connect more easily on Zoom.

Cammi: What about recording in person?

Stephen: Can do hybrid on Zoom.

BJ: Need decent mic setup to capture all audio. Terry, do you have expertise in this from your theater background?

Terry: Can get whole systems for what used to be the price of a microphone. Will look up options and present to the Board.

Cammi: Will move forward with Zoom.

6:51pm

Public Question/Comment

Will there be a meet and greet with the new teaching staff?

Cammi: We will start those conversations with Lacey soon, but we expect a chance to meet the staff to be available.

Reuben Gershin: IB training. There was talk about sending small cadre then doing the rest here. Is that still being considered?

Cammi: Would cost thousands to send one person, might be able to have trainer come here for a fraction of the cost.

BJ: Would have high preference for in-person training over virtual due to richer experience.

Stephen: Agrees that in-person is preferable.

Terry: Reviewing all options, but some things on IB training site not working and having to work with support desk, taking several hours to work through.

Cammi: Appreciate Terry taking that off her plate, was hard to make progress. Any other comments?

No further public comment.

6:55pm

Notice of Executive Session

Per ORS 192.660(2)(E) Deliberations with persons of governing body regarding property transactions. Media welcome but not to report except to state general topic. No decisions made in executive session, will return to general meeting after.

Intent to start Executive Session (encountered technical difficulties). While waiting on breakout room, Stephen asked if anyone did something enjoyable on the 4th. Comments about pets reacting to fireworks and the Court Street Neighborhood which does a parade around 11am focusing on kids and pets.

From chat: Any updates on the parking lot?

Cammi: Did a drive by, things are in motion, has been leveled.

Stephen: Even returning the parking lot to level is a big improvement.

7:00pm

Executive Session

7:48pm General Session Resumes

Cammi: Any more public comments or questions?

None.

Cammi: Any board comments?

None.

7:49pm Meeting Adjourn

Next Board Meeting: Monday, August 5, 2024, at 6:30pm. This meeting will be held virtually, link to be provided on VICS website.