



The Valley School of Southern Oregon
857 Valley View Dr. Medford, OR 97504

Regular Meeting of the Board: Minutes
Date and Time: September 17, 2025 - 5.00p
Location: The Valley School

CALL TO ORDER: 5.10p

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Rainy Tilton, Kaitie Warner, Dan Akita, Kim Parkerson, Stacy Fields, Craig Manning, Mike Bowman, Bryan Cohee - Quorum Established

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Amy Maukonen, Alan Cochran, Autumn Doshier

STAFF PRESENT: Kris Von Wald, Executive Director

CONSENT TO AGENDA

Kaitie made a motion to consent to the Agenda; Bryan 2nd; unanimous vote in favor of consent to agenda.

MINUTES TO APPROVE:

August 6, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes - Kim made a motion to approve the minutes; Rainie 2nd; vote is unanimous to approve.

August 20, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes - Kaitie made a motion to approve the minutes; Kim 2nd; vote is unanimous to approve.

September 3, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes - Mike made a motion to approve; Bryan 2nd; vote is unanimous to approve.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No members of the public are in attendance; no public comment received.

INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kris provided a report on the FIG Fair: Very successful event, with many people in attendance and 35 forms received on the night for families to volunteer in various capacities with the school.

Kris also announced the Back to School night - traditionally Sweets N Greetings at TVS - which will take place on September 25.

Kris provided a report on community use of school property to close outstanding action item. No formal restrictions of use for the property for rentals and or community events, so long as they align with our values and do not violate any school policy, state or federal law. This could be an item for a future agenda when we begin to market campus facilities for community use.

OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

1. Kris will add a Board section to the newsletters and ask someone on the Board to write a blurb every month (maybe the secretary). NEED BOARD AUTHOR FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER (10/1/2025) - Stacy agreed to do
2. Response to the school community re: The Town Hall to the TVS community and mail it from the Board account. DONE
3. Kris will create a Board timeline recruitment plan for 2026-27. OPEN ITEM
4. Board Evaluation Committee: OPEN ITEM
5. The Board will add an agenda item to discuss goals set and regular Director reports for family volunteer participation and student attendance. PLACED THIS ON THE JANUARY/FEBRUARY BOARD AGENDA TO ASSESS THE DATA ON THIS YEAR'S VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY.

CONTENT ITEM 1: Enrollment Update

Kris provided an update on the current enrollment situation. Budget is constructed on the basis of 120 students and we are approved for 128. Current enrollment stands at 45-6th grade, 36-7th grade and 31-8th grade for a total of 112. The waiting list is mostly exhausted. Former students not returning to TVS = 17 in 8th grade and 9 in 7th grade.

Discussion centered around possibilities for recruitment this year, as well as creating more coordinated and proactive approach for next year to start ASAP so we can be fully enrolled in the 2026/27 school year. Also discussed which grades to recruit for since our practice has been to not enrol 8th grade students past November 1. Concerns are mostly around financial impacts and not around charter renewal, as there still is a specific niche TVS fills and has been successful doing that throughout the charter period.

CONTENT ITEM 2: Board Annual Work Plan 2025/26

The Board work plan approved last year was presented for review and discussion. Board members discussed what the priorities will be for the year, with a specific focus on the charter renewal, recognizing there is a need for strategic focus so the work plan reflects the work needed to meet the strategic priorities. The item was pushed to the next meeting for more discussion and consideration of performance toward 2024/25 KPI and the ways in which the Board can identify priorities and set KPI for this year.

CONTENT ITEM 3: [Finance Committee Report](#)

Dan presented the Finance committee report, commenting that the school is in a strong financial position at the moment and the future financial position will depend on enrollment for

the full year. More information will be gathered and a full budget review with a potential Supplemental budget should occur in November / December of this year. We are currently following and reporting on the budget approved by the Board and submitted to the District in April/May of 2025.

Kris reported that funding for Fall in the Field (Outdoor Ed) had fallen from about \$7,000 to \$700. The application process is underway, but this needs to be reviewed in the next year budget process to re-affirm this programming is part of our school priorities.

Other budget priorities are to put some kind of wall covering up in Oak to prevent injury from the metal straps on the walls. The quote from Outlier was \$6,700 and Kris will work with Craig to come up with some other alternatives to accomplish the safety measure at a lower cost (ie, volunteers, different solution, etc).

This led to a full discussion of creating a fundraising plan to put more emphasis on necessary funding to supplement State funding as well as to grow and develop the school on a solid foundation for the future (ie, an endowment). This requires setting financial priorities that are aligned with strategic priorities so we can be clear about what we are raising money for. It's important to tell the TVS story in a way that engages community members outside of the family community. Kaitie made a motion to form a Board Fundraising Committee; Dan 2nd; unanimous vote in favor.

Fundraising Committee will bring the 'story' for fundraising to the October Board meeting and Kris will ask teachers for their 'wish list' so the Fundraising Committee can begin to formulate a plan.

CONTENT ITEM 4: Policy Committee Report

Kris to send approved policies to OSBA to update the TVS Policy Book online. Another policy session will need to be scheduled to continue to catch up School policies.

CONTENT ITEM 5: Creating Charter Renewal Process and Plan

The Board discussed the possibility of having a half-day work session to contemplate the current charter and any possible changes to request as part of the process. Will it be a status quo request, or are there other considerations to include. Rainy will talk with Eric Johnson who took the Madrone Trail School through their last renewal process to come to a future Board meeting to talk with us about the process, challenges and opportunities.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: October 15, 2025; 5.00p

ADJOURNMENT at 6:54pm