



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

Final Minutes of the Meeting of the Board

Date and Time: December 17, 2025

Location: In person at The Valley School or virtually by Google Meet

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING: Rainy Tilton, Dan Akita, Kim Parkerson (virtually), Stacy Fields, Craig Manning, Mike Bowman, Bryan Cohee, Alan Cochran,

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Kaitie Warner (currently on leave of absence), Autumn Doshier

A quorum was established.

STAFF ATTENDING: Kris Von Wald, Executive Director

NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

CONSENT TO AGENDA

Mike made a motion to consent to the agenda; Dan seconded; the vote was unanimous to consent to the agenda.

MINUTES TO APPROVE:

Mike made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2025, Regular Meeting; Bryan seconded; the vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

Bryan made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2025, Board Work Session; Craig seconded; the vote was unanimous to approve the minutes

PUBLIC COMMENT

No member of the public requested time for public comment.

INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The date for the annual fundraising event is set for April 11, 2026. It was pointed out that this date conflicts with the Pear Blossom Festival. Kris will take that information back to FIG to see if a date change is warranted. As soon as it is confirmed, a Save the Date will be sent to the school community.

Bryan agreed to author a note on behalf of the Board for the January Newsletter

The [Executive Director Report](#) was reviewed, with no additional questions or comments.

OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- 1. Board Recruitment Plan for 2026-27 (see below)**
- 2. Board Annual Work Plan and review of 2024/25 KPI (see below)**
- 3. Board member response to communications protocol/practice (see below)**
- 4. Special Meeting December 10 to discuss Intent to Renew Charter - COMPLETE**
- 5. Kris to check OSBA for log-in information for current board members and to get a quote for board training.- OPEN ITEM**
- 6. Board Evaluation Committee: to review Board and Head of School performance - OPEN ITEM - to be discussed at January meeting**

CONTENT ITEM 1: [Charter School Renewal Process](#)

The Board quickly reviewed the process and followed up from the work session then items they wished to include in the intent to renew letter. Extensive discussions about what is likely and what is not, especially given the funding considerations being handed down from the state. The feeling that this is the time to assert the school's independence as a charter school while celebrating the achievements over 10 years of operations seems most important. Additionally, it was discussed and agreed that enrollment must be a focus for the coming year so the school does get the benefit of all the funding we budget for.

It was agreed the school would ask for an average enrollment of 128 per year, the option to request a reconfiguration of grade levels (ie, include 5th grade) during the term of the renewal, independence in choosing diagnostics or the district to pay for them, an increase in funding from 80% to 95%. It was also agreed that the school will ask for legal review of the charter agreement to ensure we are getting all the benefit from the agreement that we are due.

CONTENT ITEM 2: Board Member Response to Communications Protocol/Practice

The Board discussed the need to restate the process and protocol for Board member response to communications received. When correspondence is addressed to the entire Board, it is appropriate to have an intentional response on behalf of the Board. An officer of the Board should acknowledge receipt, and then ensure that the item is included in public comment and/or added to the agenda at the next regular meeting of the Board. If the comment requires more immediate response, the Executive Officers of the Board and or the entire Board will be convened to determine how to respond. An individual Board member should refrain from responding to the correspondence as it may imply that the response is on behalf of the Board.

This item was turned over to the Policy Committee for consideration as a new policy or process document to include in the public Board policy manual.

CONTENT ITEM 3: [Board Recruitment Plan for 2026-27](#)

The Board recruitment plan was discussed and agreed as appropriate. Process to begin in January.

CONTENT ITEM 4: Appointment of Board Secretary

Member of the Board suggested a request be made of Tracy or Alex to take minutes and arrange distribution of Board documents until a new Board secretary can be appointed. Kris said she would do that.

CONTENT ITEM 5: [Finance Committee Report](#)

The financial reports for November were presented and discussed, along with information about the meeting held with the District's business office around the future of funding by ODE and MSD.

CONTENT ITEM 6: Report on 2024/25 KPI and [Board Annual Work Plan 2025/26](#)

The Board discussed the desire to have more community connection with the Board, and also recognized the difficulty of having a 'town hall' type format. In January, the Board will discuss how to ensure the community's voice is included in the governance of the school.

The Board also discussed the desire to have a staff / Board gathering and suggested a date in February would be good. Kris will follow-up with staff to determine a good date for that to happen and then the Board can issue an invitation to staff.

Additional Action Items from this meeting:

- Policy Committee to consider policy or process for Board response to correspondence received from the public.
- Kris to ask Tracy or Alex to act as Secretary until a Board appointment can be made.
- Kris to find out from staff a good day for gathering with Board. Board to then issue invitation.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: January 21, 2026; 5.00p to 6.30p

ADJOURNMENT