



The Valley School of Southern Oregon

857 Valley View Dr. Medford, OR 97504

Minutes of the Board

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

Call to Order at 5:01 by Katie

In attendance: Kaitie Warner, Dan Akita, Amy Maukonen, Kim Parkerson, Craig Manning, Mike Bowman, Bryan Cohee, Alan Cochran, Absent: Rainy Tilton, Stacy Fields

Consent to Agenda:

Amy motions. Katie seconds. Vote: unanimous. Agenda approved

Approve Minutes from 4/16/2025:

Bryan motions to approve; Kim seconds. vote: unanimous. Minutes approved

Information and Announcements:

Kris went over the schedule of upcoming events to include the RenFaire, 8th grade trip, and graduation.

The facilities are being used by a church group for a 6-month trial basis in exchange for volunteering service. Kris confirmed liability insurance and processes are in place. She was contacted by someone to request use of the kitchen over the weekends. The commercial license is kept by the operator (not the school if the school is not selling anything to the public). The health dept will likely come to do an inspection. Kris will bring a vote to the Board if a proposal is made. The cost to keep the kitchen cleaned is about \$200/mo.

The Board asked Kris to research our obligation/rights and constraints on offering the space to outside community groups.

Kris and Lily met with Madrone Trail's interim ED to discuss a stronger collaboration with TVS. She said they are moving to a 2-Director model.

Lily updated the Board on racist incident reported today. Lily reported a social science teacher was hired this week. A student teacher from SOU will start in the Fall. Todd Bloomquest announced as interim Assistant Superintendent.

Correspondence Received:

None

Public Comment:

None

Open Action Items:

1. Board Evaluation Committee: To be discussed during Executive Session tonight
2. Town Hall: Everyone agrees that improvement is needed to improve school-to-home communication. Kris and Lily have this as a top priority for addressing and improving. The Board wants to be in better communication with the parent FIG group. Bryan suggests a Board member attend and represent the monthly FIG meetings. The Board would like to get a regular, monthly update from the Director on Community Volunteer hours, as well as family attendance & participation at school events. The Board will write a public response, thanking the TVS community for attending and speaking up. The Board will hold bi-annual town hall meetings and listening sessions.

Board Recruitment Plan

All Board members whose terms expire June 30, 2025, are seeking reappointment for a new two-year term. In addition, one expression of interest has been received for the remaining Board vacancy.

The Board is asked to agree the recruitment plan for Board members for the 25-26 school year and consider:

1. Sending a 'Call for Candidates' to all current and incoming parents
2. Targeting recruitment of candidates who offer the skills or expertise currently missing on our current Board
3. In the event all vacancies are filled and more people want to be involved, identifying possible Board advisory committee(s) who participate with the Board in an ex-officio capacity
4. Being prepared to appoint Board of Directors for 25-26 in June with terms to begin July 1 and run through June 30, 2027.

Policy Adoption:

Katie made a motion that we schedule a policy adoption meeting Tuesday, June 24th via zoom at 5pm. Mike seconds. Vote: Unanimous. Motion passes

Finance Committee Report

Dan reported for the Finance Committee related to the budget for 2025/26. The most substantial item of new information is that the health insurance premiums for the next school year have gone up by a minimum of 26%. Corporate insurance also increased. This substantially increases the amount of the possible unassigned fund balance TVS has included in the budget. Kris said she was waiting for alternative quotes and will present any alternatives along with the actual impact for the 25/26 budget to the FinCom to

review and make a recommendation to be approved by the Board at the next full meeting.

Executive Session:

Executive Director evaluation and 2025/26 contract - ORS 192.660 2(a) and 2(i)

Return to Public Meeting:

Adjournment:

Katie motions to adjourn. Dan seconds. Vote: unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: June 18, 2025; 5.00p to 6.30p

Action Items:

- The Board will add an agenda item for June to discuss goals set and regular Director reports for family volunteer participation and student attendance. Lily will research and report back to the Board restrictions and rights of the school for ways to enforce or have consequences for volunteer participation.
- Kris will add a Board section to the newsletters and ask someone on the Board to write a blurb every month (maybe the secretary).
- Amy will write a response to the school community re: The Town Hall to the TVS community and mail it from the Board account.
- Kris will create a Board timeline recruitment plan for 2025-26. Next month a vote will be on the agenda.
- Kris will create agenda and zoom link and public notice of special mtg on 6/24 to read and adopt policy updates.
- Kris will share the year-long calendar that the Board adopted so the Board can take more responsibility for creating agendas that include the important year-long Board responsibilities.

Minutes Approved: June 18, 2025