

# Valley Inquiry Charter School

## December Meeting Minutes

December 9, 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	Lacey McNay

## Meeting Agenda Minutes

### 6:30pm Call to Order

### 6:31pm Approving Meeting Minutes

November minutes: Terry moves to accept as written; Stephen seconds motion.  
Vote: 4 yes / 0 no / 1 abstain

### 6:32pm Public Comment

No comments.

### 6:\_\_pm Principal's Report

Lacey:

- Inquiry Clubs starting in January, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday from 1:45-2:15pm. Winter Session (ahead of Spring Break), and Spring Session.
- Food Drive: collecting cans 12/5-12/19. Partnering with PTC to promote boxtops for education (now on an app).
- ESSER/SIA Grant: Don't have full report, but we have begun receiving some reimbursements from SKPS. Working with ODE on the final

documentaiton for 23-24 and making sure our 24-25 reports look good for this year.

- Progress Reports / Report Cards: Teachers had a grading day last Friday, report cards entered and sent for printing, will be mailed along with IB progress report.
- Oregon School Law Conference: Last Wednesday-Friday, Lacey attended to gain key insights into current, new and upcoming legislation that affects schools. Among the many enlightening sessions attended, the one on Generative AI felt especially timely and important.

BJ: Are we seeing ChatGPT created materials at the grade school level?

Lacey: Not yet, but something to be aware of and to discuss integrating and detecting with the teachers.

**6:43pm**

### **IB Report**

Stacy Boost:

- Toddle: A tech platform developed by teachers for IB teachers. It is designed to connect IB teachers from all over the world to plan collaboratively, assess authentically, and foster student agency. Our school would create our Plans of Inquiry, Units of Inquiry, and provide a clear pathway to Middle and High School with this technology.
- Met with teachers, gave them a chance to play with it. Uses AI. Closed-loop system where all personally identifiable information is encrypted and not used for training the large language model.
- Able to create an entire transdisciplinary unit in 10 minutes, allowing picking topics and subjects desired. Laid out an entire 5 week program that took from planning stage on.
- "Toddle would help us in a couple of ways. First, it would help us learn how IB works by guiding us through the journey of our first year(s) of figuring it all out. Second, it would connect us to other schools doing hte same thing. Third, it would eventually give us the opportunity to share with others in their journey on the same path." - Melody Reade - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Teachers feel it would create stronger learning opportunities in less time.

Lacey: There are tiers of subscriptions, has some redundant features from what we already have.

Stacy: Appears to be a great investment.

Steven: We had talked about this and integrating with our current systems. How would this fit in?

Stacy: Would still use Synergy for attendance and Special Education.

Lacey: If we move forward, we'd do so at lowest tier to do lesson planning, but we could look into SeeSaw component in the future; would need to discuss Synergy aspects further due to connection with district resources.

Stacy: Data can flow into high school level, being used by South High, some other high schools considering it. Price for up to 250 students up to 7<sup>th</sup> grade is around \$1,500; it is \$12k for the full suite of features.

Lacey: \$125/teacher for basic without AI; next step up "Planning Pro" with AI is \$180/teacher/year. Next tier "Essentials" is \$6,300. For 11 teachers would be \$1,980/year.

Stephen: Likes idea of increasing our access to IB tools and having a portfolio that can transfer with the student.

Brynn Ogilvie (kindergarten teacher): New to IB process, has been a journey for her. Focus on social/emotional aspects of education at that level. The 12 tools in the toolbox are used, and a lot of the 10 attributes of IB directly relate. Kindergarten is very tactile. Talked about planing wood with a hand tool as a metaphor for patience, used with hand motion and tagline "I am strong enough to wait." Talked about being reflective, caring, principled, etc. Hoping to make multiple connections to learner profiles to help them take on the lifelong learner mindset. Saw a student with challenges using their tools to help another student.

**7:04pm Staffing Update**

Lacey: Current enrollment numbers: Same as November. K 22 / 1<sup>st</sup> 26 / 2<sup>nd</sup> 25 / 3<sup>rd</sup> 27 / 4<sup>th</sup> 27 / 5<sup>th</sup> 23. Total: 150 of 168 positions. Looking at spreading word through community connections.

**7:07pm Treasurer's Report**

Stephen: No concerns, finances are looking good.

**7:07pm Board Position Progress**

Stephen: In the process of scheduling interviews, some completed and some likely done in the next few weeks, hoping to have names to bring forward by next meeting.

**7:08pm Social Media / Photo Release**

Lacey: Stephen and Lacey been discussing what it should look like and doing some research, reached out to another charter school for input as well and waiting for response. We are SKSD public charter school, reviewed their policies. Photo release, social media protocols (what sorts of things aren't allowed, etc.). Appears to be a pretty good blueprint. Hoping to have something for the board to discuss by the next meeting.

Stephen: Were hoping to have something by this meeting, but working out details of the intersection of two legal entities (VICS and SKSD) having some say in the matter.

Cammi: Current photo release is still valid.

Lacey: Parents always have the option to opt out for their child.

**7:12pm**

### **Open Comments**

BJ: During section on Toddle, mentioned profiles moving on with student if they continue in an IB school that uses it. Is there a similar tool currently used to transfer data to other SKSD schools that students would lose the benefit of?

Stacy: Primarily for IB profiles; can use Google Drive collaboration if receiving school doesn't use Toddle, is more cumbersome to move on if not in IB system, but can be done. Non-IB schools largely wouldn't be interested in these profiles.

Terry: Would like to bring brochures, let him know when is a good time.

Stephen: Sees that Toddle has a communication platform similar to ParentSquare. Also seeing accreditation management as another nice to have.

Stacy: At higher tiers could use those features to do things SeeSaw does in linking to communications with parents.

Cammi: Are we needing to vote on this?

BJ: Role of Governing board is directive, but specific implementation is the role of the executive; so long as it falls within an existing line item of the budget, would be within purview of the executive to decide upon.

Brynn: Tool makes it easier to implement teaching, otherwise are a bit scattered with lots of tabs constantly open to manage a non-integrated system.

Stacy: All the teachers felt it would be helpful; Google Drive materials now could be transferred into Toddle.

Cammi: Agrees within purview of the executive.

Lacey: Also was thinking they could make the decision but felt it was important to show the board and supports goals of school.

Stephen: Parents, we'd love to hear from you if you have any comments on parking, etc. Please make your voice heard as it improves us.

Garrick: Sets up systems like this all the time for his work. If we need help, would be happy to do so.

**7:27pm**

### **Next Meeting info**

Next meeting: January 13, 2024 in Person at VICS.

**7:27pm**

### **Meeting Adjourn**