

Journey School
A California Public Charter School

Thursday, December 12, 2024
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Approved January 22, 2025

6:00 p.m.

At Journey School, 27102 Foxborough, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656
(949) 448-7232 www.journeyschool.net

NOTE: This meeting was held in person on the Journey School campus and live streamed via Zoom at the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86025029240?pwd=3Ww1qZ3nZABuPqWnIC6wnsvu9uqK8j.1>

Meeting ID: 860 2502 9240 Passcode: 92629
One tap mobile +16694449171,,86025029240#,,,,*92629# US

BOARD MEMBERS:

Amy Capelle, Council President - PRESENT
Michael Allbee, Council Treasurer - PRESENT
Margaret Moodian, Council Secretary - PRESENT
Jeannie Lee, Board Member - PRESENT
Melissa Dahlin, Board Member - ABSENT

ADVISORY POSITIONS:

Renal Moodley, Parent Cabinet Advisor - PRESENT
Faculty Advisor, Samira Kasraie - PRESENT (6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:

Gaylen Corbett, Clerical Support
Larry Tamayo, ExED (7:05 p.m.- 7:40 p.m.)

	<i>AGENDA ITEM</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>Call to Order and Roll Call - The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Amy Capelle.</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>Inspirational Passage - Shelley shared an inspirational passage about the gift of light, in the spirit of our annual Spiral Walk.</i>

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3	<p>Approval of Agenda* NOTE: The order of the agenda may be changed without prior notice to the public. Item 6 was moved to be last on the agenda. Margaret made a motion to approve the agenda, with flexibility on the order of items as allowed. Jeannie seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.</p>
4	<p>PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no members of the public in attendance.</p>
5	<p>CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:</p> <p>A. Approval of Minutes*: Minutes from regular meeting, October 24, 2024.</p> <p>B. First Interim Financial Report*: Approval of First Interim Report, based on financial information including budget on actuals.</p> <p>C. 2024-2025 Staffing Plan*: Approval of updates to the staffing plan.</p> <p>D. Journey School Bylaws*: Triennial approval of Journey School Bylaws</p> <p>Margaret made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mike seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.</p>
6	<p>BOARD DEVELOPMENT and OVERSIGHT (Discussion/Action):</p> <p>A. Board Strategic Planning*: There was no update on work with Alliance for Public Waldorf as we are awaiting for the Alliance to take the next step. Council members reflected on last month's Board Retreat and discussed the development of a Strategic Plan. Amy pointed out three areas that may be used as focal points for a strategic plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The need to continue supporting Journey teachers to maintain our high rate of retention. 2. How to apply the achievement data in our Waldorf-inspired setting. 3. Attention to facilities needs. <p>Sustaining our strengths and making sure that our program is sustainable is the overall goal. Shelley stated that S.W.O.T. input from the teachers would be very helpful, having them view the board's analysis and inviting them to add to it. Amy will share her written summary with admin to share with faculty. The group would like to invite CUSD trustees to visit the campus.</p> <p>B. Schedule of Board Meetings*: Discussion of schedule of regular meetings. The January meeting was moved to Wednesday, January 22nd at 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>C. Nominating Committee Formation: Council members discussed identifying potential committee members and how to vet board candidates. Mike and Renal offered to help interview a potential candidate. Admin will find a faculty member to participate in the interview. Jeannie will reach out to a former faculty member to determine interest in joining the council.</p>
7	<p>INFORMATION ITEMS: Reports</p> <p>A. Financial Update*: Larry joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m. He shared a report on October financials and first interim report. We will be using our Learning Recovery Block Grant funds, and deferring the Arts and Music funds. The Little Acorns aftercare program is generating income. Expenses are higher in general, as</p>

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	<p>expected. Gavin and Larry explained "Maintenance of Effort" in regards to spending for Special Education, noting that we are required to spend more next year than we have this year, with certain exceptions. Annual net income projected is around \$32k. The school has 116 days cash on hand. The governor's draft budget will be available in January. Larry explained the process of the draft audit prepared by CliftonLarsonAllen. No deficiencies in internal controls were found in the audit. There were no instances of noncompliance.</p> <p>B. Faculty Update: Samira shared an update on Faculty activities. She shared that Spiral Walk is in progress throughout the grades, and spoke about her first year here at Journey School. Music lessons are in the spirit of the winter season which reflects nature slowing down as we head towards winter solstice. She noted that help is needed to bridge the gap between specialty teachers and main class teachers, in regards to communication and follow through, with consequences for repetitive behavior issues.</p> <p>C. Parent Cabinet Update: Renal shared an update on Parent Cabinet activities. Fairy Market was very successful, raising \$9,000. Spirit wear was also a financial success for PC. She offered feedback from the parent body, requesting more communication with parents regarding festivals and related expectations of parents for special events. Amy will locate our information on festivals, and Shelley will help to follow up.</p> <p>D. Administrative Update: Gavin shared an update on winter events, annual giving, attendance/enrollment, general education assessment practices, Special Education, Alliance for Public Waldorf Education conference, facilities improvements and other topics. The Winter Social is scheduled for February. Amy suggested highlighting the Journey School founders for our 25th anniversary at the Winter Social. The group discussed ideas for reinvigorating annual giving. Jeannie suggested a \$25 campaign for our 25th anniversary. They discussed how to educate parents about how donations to PC or Journey School are used for different purposes to benefit the school. Enrollment is at 616 and attendance is strong. Absenteeism is showing improvement. Temporary independent study is helping, especially for our students with families overseas, who also are English Language Learners. The Special Education team is performing very well. A new part-time special ed team member was hired this week to maintain compliance with student to teacher ratios. The group discussed the special education process.</p>
8	<p>DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:</p> <p>A. Undocumented and/or Migrant Students and Community Members: Council discussed the potential implications of increased immigration enforcement in our school communities. The state governor and CCSA recently emailed information about the rights of students in regards to this matter. Amy stated that staff should be informed of these rights. The group discussed how to go about sharing related information with the school community, if or when needed.</p> <p>B. 2023-2024 Draft Audit*: Larry reviewed the draft audit prepared by Clifton Larson Allen.</p> <p>C. Achievement Data Presentation*: Following a short break from 7:33-7:38 p.m., Gavin shared a presentation of CAASPP and IlluminateED achievement data. On the California School Dashboard, Journey will be categorized as a high performing charter school. Gavin noted that this data will be helpful with our charter renewal. Amy suggested creating a timeline of all of the programs that we have implemented over the course of the school's development. It was suggested that graphics from the Dashboard related to absenteeism be used to help parents understand the impact of unexcused absences on the entire school. More training for Fastbridge assessments was discussed. Sizable</p>

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	<p><i>improvement in science scores are attributed to our science curriculum, and also that our Earthroots and Gardening programs have been designed to align with the state standards. The group discussed how science is brought to the lower grades in a Waldorf setting.</i></p>
8	<p>Adjournment - Jeannie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Margaret seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.</p>

Agenda publicly posted at Journey School on December 9, 2024.

And on the school website at www.journeyschool.net

****Items that are expected to have back up materials provided prior to or at the meeting are indicated with an asterisk. Other items may also have back up materials provided.***