

*Journey School
A California Public Charter School*

October 27, 2012
MEETING MINUTES
Approved on November 29, 2012

6:00 p.m.

*At Journey School
27102 Foxborough
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656
And by teleconference at posted locations
Journey School Office: (949) 448-7232
www.journeyschool.net*

*Michael Corbo, Council President: Present
Jon Kaplan, Council Member: Present via Skype from posted location
Sue Vaughn, Council Member: Present
Kimberley Springer, Council Member: Not Present
Michelle Spieker, Council Member: Not Present
Colleen Patterson, Council Member: Present
Lisa O'Neill: Parent Cabinet Member: Present
Alyson Smith: Secretary and Educational Trustee Member: Present*

Staff members present: Shaheer Faltas, Administrator, and Franci Sassin, Administrative Consultant (via phone)

AGENDA ITEM	
1	Call to Order, Roll Call and Review of Norms/Roles The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm. All members were able to hear each other.
2	Inspirational Passage and Oath of Office* Alyson Smith read a passage submitted by Michelle Spieker.
3	Approval of Agenda* NOTE: The order of the agenda may be changed without prior notice to the public. A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
4	PUBLIC COMMENT: No members of the public were present at this time, and no public comment was submitted.

5 **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Items on Consent Agenda may be approved with one motion and vote for all but without discussion. If an item is to be discussed, it is removed from the Consent Agenda and moved to an Action Item immediately following the Consent Items.

A. Approval of Minutes:* Minutes from meetings of August 23, 2012 and September 27, 2012.

B. Approval of updated 2012-13 staffing plan*

C. Parent Participation Policy for Title funding*: Approval of required policy for eligibility for federal funds

Item C was tabled until the next meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the remainder of the consent items. The motion was approved unanimously.

6 **INFORMATION ITEMS: Reports**

A. Financial Report*: Review of September financials

Larry Tamayo reported that the school is slightly above budget with respect to ADA: currently ADA is approximately 319 with 337 enrolled students. The school is tracking as expected with respect to cash, the month finished at approximately \$164,000, of which approximately \$72,000 is the Parent Cabinet fund. Expenditures on supplies have exceeded budget, which will be addressed at the time of the budget revision. There is a balance of \$81,000 outstanding to CUSD from last year, the invoice just arrived and will be paid right away.

There was a brief discussion regarding the upcoming ballot measures and how they may impact the school and state budget.

The Council decided to move item 8A immediately after 6A in order to receive input from Mr. Tamayo.

B. Administrative Update*: Report on Administrative activities

Shaheer Faltas gave a brief update on both Administrative and Education Director activities of the last month.

C. Education Director Update: Report regarding aspects and activities of the educational program

D. Faculty Update

Alyson Smith presented a slideshow and videos of students in their classrooms.

E. Parent Cabinet Update*

Lisa O'Neill updated the Council on Parent Cabinet activities, including the Harvest Faire coming

up on November 3rd. The festivals take a lot of community effort. PC will be looking at the levels of current parent engagement in order to maintain our strong volunteer base. They are now working with Elizabeth Beas to explore these issues. Parent Cabinet is getting ready to file the paperwork to receive the 5013C status from the IRS, but they are also discussing if it is wise for Journey to have three different non-profit corporations.

Parent Cabinet offered their space to Elizabeth for the Development Office.

F. Report on *Follow-up for Previous Board Items**

No follow up items were noted.

7 DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS: *Financial Development*

A. *Development Projects: Update on new Director of Development, including a report on her activities so far, plus planning for future.*

Colleen Patterson introduced Elizabeth Beas, the new Director of Development.

Elizabeth presented a report on her work so far. She has met with most of the teachers, administration, and Parent Cabinet. She spent her first two weeks learning about our community. Now she is working on creating an infrastructure, strategizing on building upon the development already created, and creating a short and long term plan. She anticipates that the plan will include at least the next five years.

The Council asked for Elizabeth to create a written document for each meeting with updates for the board. Shaheer also mentioned that a written update would be helpful to be shared with teachers.

8 DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

A. *AUDIT COMMITTEE*: Review and acceptance by Audit Committee (a committee of the entire Board) of 2011-12 audit report and letter to the Board from auditors*

Mr. Tamayo reviewed the draft audit report and was pleased to note that there are no findings, discrepancies, or issues for the 2011-12 audit. He reported that the draft report had been extensively reviewed and that the audit process went very smoothly.

A motion was made to accept the draft audit report and to proceed with submission of the final audit by the required deadline. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

B. *Student Outcomes*: Report on student outcomes on STAR testing from May 2012*

Shaheer Faltas reminded the board about the annual reporting cycle for student outcomes and the multiple measures Journey uses to assess student performance. The Council reviewed and discussed the various documents reporting on Journey's STAR testing results, as well as other accountability measures.

There was discussion of the need to start focusing on the Common Core standards and assessments, which are being phased in and which will replace the current state standards and tests. Waldorf education should be better aligned with Common Core due to the emphasis on problem solving and creative

	<p>thinking.</p> <p>The Council also discussed the middle school math program, especially with respect to what coursework students should do and what tests should be administered.</p>
9	<p>DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS: Board Training and Development</p> <p>A. Board retreat planning: <i>Planning for annual board retreat, which is to be rescheduled</i></p> <p>The Council agreed to re-schedule the retreat, which will be a special meeting, for November 10th from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm with lunch provided.</p> <p>Topics that the Council would like on the agenda include:</p> <p>Essentials of Waldorf Education</p> <p>Review of governance best practices</p> <p>Leadership Succession planning</p> <p>Development</p> <p>Financial issues, especially: If Prop 30 doesn't pass, where do we go from here?</p>
10	<p>CLOSED SESSION: <i>The meeting will now convene to closed session to discuss the matters described below:</i></p> <p>The Council adjourned into closed session at 7:50 pm. Shaheer Faltas and Franci Sassin were invited to participate based on their work in these matters. Alyson Smith left the meeting at 8:10 pm after Item 10A had been discussed and before Item 10B.</p> <p>A. Pursuant to Government Code §54957: Public Employment: Title : Education Director</p> <p>B. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6: CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS: Update on negotiations</p> <p>Employee organization: Journey Teachers' Association/CTA/NEA</p> <p>Agency designated representative: Colleen Patterson</p> <p>C. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION: The meeting was reconvened to open session at: 8:24 p.m.</p> <p>PUBLIC REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION <i>(includes the vote or abstention of every member present):</i> No action was taken in closed session.</p>
11	<p>Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.</p>