

Journey School - A California Public Charter School

Thursday, April 23, 2026

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Approved May 28, 2026

6:00 p.m.

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

*This meeting will be live-streamed via Zoom. Join Zoom Meeting.
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86025029240?pwd=3Ww1qZ3nZAbuPqWnIC6wnsvu9uqK8j.1>*

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

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNCIL BY PARENTS AND CITIZENS

Journey School welcomes your participation at the school's Council meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Council is to conduct the affairs of Journey School in public. We are pleased that you are in attendance. To assist you in the ease of speaking/participating in our meetings, the following guidelines are provided:

- 1. Agendas are available to audience members during the meeting and on the school website.*
- 2. "Request to Speak" cards are available for all audience members who wish to speak prior to an agenda item or under the general category of "Public Comment." "Public Comment" time is set aside for members of the audience to raise issues that are not specifically on the agenda. However, due to public meeting laws, the Council can only listen to your issue, not discuss your issue, respond in substance or take action. These presentations are limited to five (5) minutes (ten (10) minutes if a translator is needed) and total time allotted to non-agenda items will not exceed thirty (30) minutes. The Council may give direction to staff to respond to your concern.*
- 3. With regard to items that are on the agenda, you may specify that agenda item on your "Request to Speak" card and submit the card prior to an agenda item. The public comment period precedes presentations on that agenda item by staff and/or school committees, Council discussion, and deliberation. You will be given an opportunity to speak for up to five (5) minutes (ten (10) minutes if a translator is needed).*
- 4. When addressing the Council, speakers are requested to state their name and adhere to the time limits set forth.*
- 5. Audience members attending a meeting virtually are required to follow the guidelines specified in points 1 through 4 with the following exception noted: In lieu of a "Request to Speak" card, an audience member may utilize the chat function to indicate their name and a request to speak under the general category of "Public Comment" or at a specific agenda item. All other comments, questions, and dialogue entered into the chat will not be entered into public record and will not be responded to/addressed.*

Notices: *Journey does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment in employment in its programs or activities. Please notify the office at (949) 448-7232 twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date of the meeting for disability accommodations necessary in order to participate. Per California Government Code section 54957.5(b), Journey shall*

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make materials that are part of the regular agenda packet available in the office and/or on the school's website www.journeyschool.net, without delay and at the same time, they are distributed to the Council.

	AGENDA ITEM	SPONSOR
1	<p>Call to Order and Roll Call - The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.</p> <p>BOARD MEMBERS:</p> <p>Michael Allbee, Council President - PRESENT Margaret Moodian, Council Vice President - PRESENT Jeannie Lee, Council Secretary - PRESENT Cassie Kauwling, Board Treasurer - PRESENT Lisa Murray, Board Member - PRESENT from 7:17 p.m. to conclusion</p> <p>ADVISORY POSITIONS:</p> <p>Renal Moodley, Parent Cabinet Advisor - PARTICIPATING VIA ZOOM Faculty Advisor, Adam Kilcollins - PRESENT</p> <p>Also Present:</p> <p>Gavin Keller, Executive Director Shelley Kelley, Education Director Gaylen Corbett, Clerk of the Board Jess Johnston, Faculty Member</p>	Michael Allbee
2	<p>Inspirational Passage - Shelley shared an inspirational passage by Nelson Mandela, and also life lessons inspired by Phish lyrics.</p>	Shelley Kelley
3	<p>Approval of Agenda*</p> <p>Margaret made a motion to approve the agenda. Jeannie seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.</p> <p>NOTE: The order of the agenda may be changed without prior notice to the public.</p>	Michael Allbee
4	<p>PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no requests for public comment.</p>	
5	<p>BOARD DEVELOPMENT and OVERSIGHT (Discussion/Action):</p> <p>A. Executive Director Performance Feedback Survey*: Mike shared an update on the Executive Director Performance Feedback Survey. Gaylen will send the survey out tomorrow. The deadline for responses will be May 15th.</p> <p>B. Strategic Plan: Shelley reviewed the Year 1 priorities and shared an update regarding the status and steps taken for each goal.</p>	Michael Allbee

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	<p><i>Priority 1 - Educational Excellence & Assessment: An assessment committee has been formed and will meet soon. Grade band meetings are being conducted twice monthly regarding curriculum and developmental stages. Grade band learning objectives have been established in conjunction with co-alignment of standards. When this work is completed next school year, it will be shared with parents.</i></p> <p><i>Priority 2 - Faculty & Staff Sustainability: The group discussed faculty salaries, and how having to pay specialty teachers and pay for materials for specialty classes affects salaries for main class teachers. They also discussed the differences between our public Waldorf school and a regular public school. Specialty teacher meetings are mirroring faculty meetings.</i></p> <p><i>Priority 3 - Community Engagement & Thought Leadership: Offering a movie screening of the documentary "Screenagers" was a community building event that aligned with our school values regarding media. Registrations for our Summer Renewal teacher training are happening. The possibility of hosting the Alliance for Public Waldorf Education conference 2-4 years in the future is being explored. An effort will be made to reach out to alumni to provide insight that can be shared with the community via social media.</i></p> <p><i>Margaret shared an update on the facilities goals of the Strategic Plan. Gavin reached out to CUSD once again regarding options for a new facility and is awaiting a reply. Margaret may follow up if needed.</i></p> <p><i>Other Strategic Plan updates: A new website to promote annual giving has been completed by Amanda Sturges. A bookmark has been designed by Gaylen. Thank you notes will be sent to our top donors. The Plan will be formally launched in the fall.</i></p>	
6	<p>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.</p> <p>A. Approval of Minutes*: Minutes from regular meeting March 26, 2026.</p> <p>B. 2025-2026 Staffing Plan*: Updates to staffing plan for current year</p> <p><i>Margaret made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Jeannie seconded the motion and the items were unanimously approved.</i></p>	Gavin Keller
7	<p>INFORMATION ITEMS: Reports</p> <p>A. Financial Update*: Larry shared a report on March financials and P2 ADA. 95% average ADA for the year which is nearly pre-pandemic ADA. The LCFF is lower due to lower TK enrollment, and free & reduced eligible student count is also less. Some ELOP funds are being deferred. Nutrition program funds and aftercare fees have come in a bit lower than expected. Benefits costs are lower than expected. Operating costs are considerably higher due to legal costs and general insurance premiums. We will end the year with a negative balance of -\$99,000. The school is still in a strong financial</p>	Larry Tamayo

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	<p>position with cash reserves of around \$2.9 million. The state budget will be incorporated into the school budget at next month's meeting. Revenue COLA is expected to be 2.5-3%.</p> <p>B. Faculty Update: Jess Johnson shared a faculty update from his third grade class, going through the nine-year change, camping together, and his class performance of the story of Moses. Preparations for May Faire are underway. Adam shared an update on 6th grade's Medieval Games, and other happenings in the grades. He also discussed the importance of camping trips for social connections and trust building.</p> <p>C. Parent Cabinet Update: Renal shared an update on Parent Cabinet fundraising activities including the auction, resale clothing for May Faire and recital attire. She shared the list of new PC officers. Upcoming events include a fundraiser at a local climbing center, community social and May Faire. She shared gratitude for Amy Caldwell for her work on the PC budget. Estimates of proceeds are: Auction, \$66k, Harvest Faire \$24k, Read-a-Thon \$20k. They have increased teacher discretionary funds by 20% with a one-time rollover. They are reserving funds for speakers next year.</p> <p>D. Administrative Update: Gavin shared updates on the LCAP, the 2026-2027 budget development, overnight trips, and school events. The draft budget and draft LCAP will be presented at the May council meeting. Both will need to be approved at the June meeting. There is a financial coffee talk for parents scheduled for April 24th, which Larry Tamayo will also attend.</p> <p><i>Journey is using iWellness to assess student mental health and help teachers and counselors identify students needing support. Our most recent assessment showed 0.3% of Journey's middle school students were assessed as needing immediate support, which is much lower than average middle schools that indicate 6-8%.</i></p> <p><i>Administrators have been meeting with parents of students who are chronically absent or nearing that category to find solutions.</i></p> <p><i>Facilities: We will continue to try to connect with CUSD regarding other campuses that may be available.</i></p> <p><i>Events: Kudos to Miss Joy Halverson for leading an excellent Medieval Games event for Journey School and 12 other Waldorf schools. The 5th Pentathlon took place yesterday. Theatrical play season is underway, the 7-8 dance is coming up, as well as the talent share, and 8th grade graduation.</i></p>	<p>Adam Kilcollins</p> <p>Renalani Moodley</p> <p>Gavin Keller</p>
8	<p>SCHOOL OPERATIONS: Discussion/Action</p> <p>A. 2026-2027 Staffing Plan*: Gavin reviewed the staffing plan for the 2026-27 school year. The administrative job descriptions have been reconfigured due to the retirement of office manager and HR specialist Grace LaHatt. Specialty programs all remain in the budget. The receptionist position is not in the budget, but will be added if funding is available.</p> <p>B. Purchasing Oversight*: Board members reviewed two proposals for the purchase or lease of two new copiers. Cassie made a motion to approve the lease proposal</p>	<p>Gavin Keller</p>

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	<p><i>by Revolution Office for Ricoh copiers. Mike seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.</i></p> <p><i>Margaret made a motion to move into closed session. Jeannie seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The board entered closed session at 7:52 p.m.</i></p>	
9	<p>CLOSED SESSION</p> <p>A. Pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9: <i>Regarding anticipated litigation. Two matters, against the school.</i></p> <p>B. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiators: <i>Update on the negotiations for 2026-27 CBA</i></p> <p>Employee organization: <i>Journey Teachers’ Association/CTA</i> Agency designated representative: <i>Gavin Keller</i></p> <p><i>The board exited closed session at 9:03 p.m. No action was taken in the closed session.</i></p>	
10	<p>Adjournment - <i>Margaret made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeannie seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.</i></p>	<i>Michael Allbee</i>

***Agenda publicly posted at Journey School on April 20, 2026.
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 indicate with an asterisk. Other items may also have back up materials provided.***