

***Journey School
A California Public Charter School***

Thursday, August 28, 2025

7:00 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

This meeting was held in person on the Journey School campus and live streamed via Zoom at this 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
Michael Allbee, Council Treasurer
Jeannie Lee, Council Secretary
Margaret Moodian, Board Member
Melissa Dahlin, Board Member

ADVISORY POSITIONS:

Parent Cabinet Advisor, Renalani Moodley
Faculty Advisor, Kelly Larson

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*

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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 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
1	Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.
2	Inspirational Passage: Margaret shared an inspirational passage by Rudolf Steiner.
3	Approval of Agenda*: Mike made a motion to approve the agenda. Jeannie seconded and it was unanimously approved. NOTE: The order of the agenda may be changed without prior notice to the public.
4	BOARD DEVELOPMENT and OVERSIGHT (Discussion/Action): A. Board Member Nominations, Vote and Swearing In: Amy made a motion to approve Lisa Murray to join the Journey School Council. Mike seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. B. Board Roster & Calendar of Meetings*: Amy made a motion to nominate Mike - Jeannie seconded. Unanimously approved. Amy submitted her resignation from the JS Council and thanked the school for allowing her to lead the council for the past five years. Melissa tendered her resignation and shared her reflections on her time working with Journey School. Mike resigned his position as Treasurer. Margaret made a motion to approve the roster as amended. Jeannie seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.
5	PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public may contribute public comment. Journey School teacher Kristi Kilcollins shared a public comment. The complete comment is attached to these minutes.
6	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 regular meeting of June 16, 2025. B. Earthroots Contract*: Renewal of contract with Earthroots for 25-26 school year for EcoLiteracy program C. Recurring Expenses*: Approval of list of recurring vendors for payment in 2025-26 in accordance with fiscal policies.

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	<p>D. Limited Use Agreement with AVCA for park space*: Ratification of agreement to use Aliso Viejo community spaces</p> <p>E. 2024-25 Unaudited Actuals Report: Approval of report</p> <p>F. 2024-2025 Education Protection Account*: Ratification of 2024-2025 EPA Expenditure Report</p> <p>G. Instructional Minutes*: Adjustment to bell schedule to adjust timing of breaks/classes. Total instructional minutes through the year remains compliant with State requirements.</p> <p>Jeannie requested to pull item 6A from consent. Jeannie made a motion to approve the consent agenda items 6B-6G. Margaret seconded the motion and those items were unanimously approved.</p> <p>Regarding the minutes reference in 6A on the consent agenda, item 7D, "SST" should be changed to "Child Study." Margaret made a motion to approve item 6A with the change noted above. Jeannie seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.</p>
7	<p>INFORMATION ITEMS: Reports</p> <p>A. Faculty Update: Kelly Larson shared an update on Faculty activities including teachers preparing for the start of school.</p> <p>B. Parent Cabinet Update: Renalani shared an update on Parent Cabinet activities including the appointment of new officers, activities, spirit wear sales, and events.</p> <p>C. Administrative Update: Gavin reported on summer projects including the outdoor staff space, repairs, School Food Authority, ELOP summer programming, teacher provided summer camps, staff professional development over summer and the start of school activities. Journey School hosted a Summer Renewal teacher training over summer with Journey teachers attending, as well as 12 teachers from other Waldorf schools. Shelley shared information about our new math curriculum, Eureka Math. Council members discussed the curriculum with Shelley. This is the only curriculum that has been backed by SBAC and ESL testing. Lisa requested additional information about how Journey School handles state testing. Jeannie will share data information with Lisa on that subject.</p> <p>Gavin stated that our application to become a School Food Authority is still being processed. Until it is approved, Journey will not be able to claim the funds offered by the state, so we will have to pay CUSD for all lunches served. The council discussed how the School Food Authority and school lunch program process works.</p> <p>D. Financial Update*: Larry Tamayo from ExED shared a report on the 2024-2025 year end close of financial statements, plus any budget updates for 2025-2026 school year. The report is included in the materials provided for this meeting. Title II and Title IV funds were released by the state so they will be included in this year's budget.</p>

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8	<p>SCHOOL OPERATIONS: Discussion/Action</p> <p>A. Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Bylaws: Amanda Sturges and Renalani Moodley outlined the updates to the By Laws of the PAC. It was agreed that Gavin will have the school's attorney review the proposed changes.</p> <p>B. Staffing Plan 2025-26*: Gavin reviewed the Staffing Plan updates for the start of school. All changes were included in the budget shared earlier by Larry.</p> <p>C. Executive Director Review Cycle: Gavin presented his goals for the 2025-2026 school year.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Goal 1: Increase revenue for Journey School through Annual Giving, grants, and the Art of Teaching program.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Goal 2: Improve staff evaluation, support systems, and training. Improve looping models.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Goal 3: Continue innovation within our core academic programming in alignment with our Charter and in support of Charter outcomes.</p> <p>Margaret made a motion to move into closed session. seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The council entered closed session at 9:25 p.m.</p>
9	<p>CLOSED SESSION: The meeting will now convene to closed session to discuss the matter described below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9: Regarding anticipated litigation 2. Pursuant to Government Code §54953: Public Employee Compensation, Title: School Executive Director <p>Report from Closed Session:</p> <p>Item 9-1: The Council directed Gavin to discuss the potential litigation with the school's attorney.</p> <p>Item 9-2: The Council approved a bonus for the Executive Director in the amount of \$5,000.00 in honor of his positive performance evaluation, with all board members in favor of this action.</p>
10	<p>Adjournment Margaret made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeannie seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 p.m.</p>

Agenda publicly posted on the school website at www.journeyschool.net on August 25, 2025.

**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.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comment by Kristi Kilcollins:

"I'd like to publicly set the record straight.

- I do not try to get rid of children from my class.

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- I am not neurodiverse unaffirming.
- I am not unable to handle children.
- I am not racist, especially since I'm biracial.
- I do not fail to communicate important IEP information.
- I do not fail to implement IEP accommodations meaningfully and daily.
- I don't constantly roll my eyes when placed in a frustrating situation.
- I do not deny families important culturally meaningful moments.
- I do not withhold recess from any child.
- I do not change my loving approach to a child based on their parents' behavior.
- I do not exclude anyone from my expertise as a main class teacher for retaliatory purposes.
- I am not out of alignment with the school's philosophy.
- I did not plan our April class meeting with other parents - I planned it with admin.
- I did not attack or shame anyone publicly.
- I did not tarnish anyone's reputations, frankly they did that all by themselves.
- I did not collude with parents to have Renal removed from her PC position
- I have not been "unlawful, unethical and unprofessional".
- I have never asked any parent for money.

"Yet, I've been accused of all of these things in informal and formal settings by Renal Moodley and Desigan Reddi. You can imagine how hard it has been for me to hear these baseless accusations. You can also imagine how, after hearing these accusations time and time again, some listening began to believe them.

"As these accusations spread, my every movement was scrutinized and complained about down to which parent I made eye contact with as I greeted children on the ramp. Once the lies took hold of people's hearts, even my most benign actions were seen as proof of something terrible. What I didn't know, was how great a headstart the lies had - Renal began spreading malicious rumors about me over a year ago while I was still recovering from treatment for breast cancer.

"However, the accusations and rumors are just part of an ongoing and concerted effort by Renal and Desigan to harass and bully me.

"In addition to making baseless accusations to parents in the class, parents outside of my class, administration and committees, they published a public facing website that included metadata with my name in it so that if you searched me, you found the website. Further, they took private emails between themselves and Gavin about me, edited them, saved them as pdfs and put them online, so that if you searched my name, you found them.

"I told Renal and Desigan explicitly that this behavior made me uncomfortable and that I wanted it to stop, this is a summary of their response:

- They will continue unabated to make me uncomfortable in my workplace.
- They shared the email pdfs with people outside of our community and did not have the skill set to remove this content that they put online.
- They repeatedly lied and said that they took down the website when they never took it down even when asked to by Gavin. It is, still live.
- And most disturbing, Google deemed their uploads to contain sexually explicit material for reasons they cannot or will not explain.

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"Further, after I brought my concerns to them, they reposted all the misinformation to the website. All of this is more egregious because, as the VP of IT at a large financial institution, Desigan has more than a passing familiarity with online data creation and security. This is cyber bullying and None of it was accidental.

"Most upsetting, the harassment has also manifested in putting the children in my class at risk while they are in my care including violation of the Volunteer agreement and even the law. The sad reality is that there are very few laws to protect teachers. As a society, we assume that people will not target teachers while those teachers serve their children. The laws are reflective of the idea that common decency and sanity prevent such behavior, that any complaints will actually have a legitimate purpose. Abusing your teacher is not a legitimate purpose.

"The ethics of an institution are defined by the decisions it makes. Though we may think that decisions are only made by leadership, administration, board members or elected volunteers, that's incorrect. Each of us, as members of this community, make decisions each day that define the ethical fabric of Journey School.

"We can choose the path of institutional courage and say that this behavior is not in alignment with our core values. We can say, this behavior does not reflect who we are or what we want for ourselves or our children. We can say that we do not treat our teachers this way. Or, we can continue to endorse this behavior by allowing it to continue without saying, 'stop.'

"If you have any doubts at all about the veracity of any statements I have made, you may reach out to me by email and I will share substantial documentation. I have shared this documentation with the board president, administration and Human Resources as well.

"I have profound gratitude for everyone who has supported me during this exceptionally difficult time, especially the parents in my class whose early grades experience has been forever tarnished by this situation. I am so sorry about that. Thank you for every kindness you have shown me, even if it meant being gossiped about and ostracized yourselves. We can turn this experience around and we will."