

Innocademy

Minutes for the Meeting of the Board of Directors

September 19, 2024; 4:00 p.m.
Innocademy – Upstairs Team Room
8485 Homestead Drive
Zeeland, MI 49464

Jessica Parker
10/24/24

School Mission Statement:

Innocademy is an inclusive public school academy that prepares PreK-8th grade students to have a global mindset through whole child, Spanish language, and nature-rich learning.

1. Call to Order: meeting called to order at 4:05 pm
2. Attendance: Jessica Parker (attending in person), April Best (attending in person), Abbie Petroelje (attending in person), Nick DeVries (attending in person)
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items:

None.

4. Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve agenda as printed and prior meeting minutes. Nick moved. April second. Motion passes unanimously.

- a. Agenda
- b. Prior Meetings Minutes – August 15, 2024

5. Board and Staff Celebrations of the School

Abbie celebrated her boys' transition to Zeeland Public – it's been a success because of the kids they knew from Innocademy in prior years who have welcomed them. April celebrated her son's first year in Middle School and the positive interactions he's having with his teachers. Jessica celebrated the carwash fundraiser last weekend – the opportunity to bond over working together as well as seeing progress of making money. Jessenia celebrated the 10-11 students who volunteered at the carwash and the skills they learned (they worked really hard and made close to \$400). Miss Jessie has been a great support and inspiration for fundraising. Miss Jessenia also celebrated the Art Prize field trip that middle schoolers went on today. Jessenia celebrated the on-site

psychological services that allows two days for a therapist to see students during school hours. Nick celebrated the carwash for fundraising for trips. He also celebrated how his son who transitioned to Zeeland said that school is easy (due to Innocademy's academics). Joe celebrated his time in the building yesterday – spent 4 hours with staff and students; everyone is working hard and taking pride in the school. Dave celebrated the ability to host two full sessions of Great Start Readiness – approved for two 20 student spots (currently have 15 and 16 students in each sections); also have a robust teaching team. Received a second grant that will probably go towards partnering with Outdoor Discovery. First Spanish GSRP in the county which is a big deal.

6. IES Report

a. Policy 2264 - BP Section NCSI Title IX Special Release: First Reading

Dave presented the IES report that highlighted the Title IX policy that should be considered for an earlier adoption. Will need to update board policy because it is a required change (effective as of August 1, 2024).

Early adoption options: compliance with new Federal Law and take advantage of protections.

- key definitions allows everyone to understand what each term means
- assigns someone to be a Title IX coordinator (other schools defer this to the HR department – this is the recommendation for Innocademy schools)

This would be adopted at the November meeting (which is the early adoption timeline)

7. School Report

a. Enrollment Update

Jessenia presented current enrollment numbers. Currently have 268 students. LH - 122, Classic - 126. This equal distribution is a positive. Budgeted for 264.

b. Attendance Update

Jessenia shared attendance data as of September 16. 24 students received a tier 1 letter (5-7% absent), 10 students received a tier 2 letter (7-9%), 12 students received a tier 3 letter (<9%)

Nick asked about the tension between having a flexible environment where students who are earning good grades are not seen as negative. Jessenia shared that the system is broken and the majority of those absences are with students who aren't doing well academically. Learning process for some parents who need proper documentation when students are sick.

Efforts in place to improve attendance: certificates before break weeks, emails to parents, communication via newsletter, meeting as a small team to discuss tiers.

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c. Academic Data: Julie Buchholtz from LSSU

Julie presented Innocademy Zeeland's 2023-2024 Annual Report. Reminded board of mission as authorizer: philosophy, mission, and vision. Student demographics (57% caucasian, 35% Hispanic/Latino, 5% multiracial, Asian American and Native American or Pacific Islander 3%). Student growth according to NWEA SCGP from fall 2023 to spring 2024 growth – target score is 50 (reading data is approaching goal, math is not meeting goal). Overall score was 38. Achievement targets: set by NWEA. 44% of cohort students meeting math target. 24% of noncohort students meeting math target. 46% of students meeting reading target. 55% noncohort students meeting reading target. Also presented the median scores. M-STEP scores: 49% advanced or proficient for ELA, 36% advanced or proficient for math, 45% advanced or proficient for science, 18% advanced or proficient in social studies. State assessment comparison: Innocademy scored higher than other schools with similar student characteristics as well as the state overall in ELA and science; higher than comparison schools and equal to state in math; lower than comparison schools and state in social studies. Dave asked about the disconnect between NWEA growth measurements and state assessment data and what that tells us about our academics and student performance. Julie and Jessenia said you can't really compare NWEA to M-STEP – they are measuring two different things. PSAT and SAT scores: 21% 8th graders hit math CCR targets, 71% 8th graders hit EBRW targets. Academy Specific Goals: met 3 out of the 4 goals: met positive acknowledgments, approaching conference attendance (91% of a 95% goal), met student growth portfolio, met nature rich off site experiences. Shared about a training for MAP Growth Basics on November 12 from 6-7 pm. The presentation will be sent to members with a link to register.

Jessenia said her reflection on the data informs her decisions about PD for the year. It is difficult for teachers to know that students are growing and learning and to see data that doesn't reflect this. New teachers are still learning how to keep moving through the curriculum at a quick enough pace.

d. SEAB Update

None due to conflict of meeting day and time from current members. Upcoming meeting next week.

e. Staff PD Update

Focus will be on scope and sequence of Math and Reading curriculum to ensure finishing every unit throughout the year. A coach will come in and give teachers feedback on how to improve lessons.

8. Financial Report

a. September Report on August Financials

Dave presented the financial summary from August 31, 2024. Still have taken in no revenue. Will not see any revenue until October payment. This is why we need a fund balance. Quite comparable to last year – coming in from enhancement millage. Spent 17.56% of instructional expenditures which is lower than last year – good trend. Support services – 13.3% (early but necessary spend). Encouraging off site trips which means transportation line item is up a little bit. Cash fund balance is ahead of where we were at last year. Have all grant money in from June – all IOUs from federal and state government have been paid. Credit card bill included a lot of expenses for outdoor learning (all budgeted and paid for already).

Checks over \$1000:

- AD concrete (bathroom floors)
- Arnold Janitorial Supplies (stock for year)
- Committee for Children (curriculum license)
- Lexia (curriculum license)
- Trane U.S. (rooftop)
- ZPW (power bill)
- Arnold Janitorial (second shipment)
- Frontline Technologies (system for subs)
- Follett School Solutions (renewed catalog system)
- Ottawa Area ISD
- Gounds Guys (landscaping)

b. Financial Audit Update

Remote audits. The audit happened last week. It went well. A presentation of the audit will happen at the October board meeting.

9. Action Items

- a. N/A

10. Discussion Items

a. New Board Member Interest

Still looking for 2-3 new board members. What do we each have and what skills do we need to add to the board? What should be represented on the board? Use mission statement to guide the search for new members. A retired educator would benefit the board a lot. Perhaps someone from LAUP.

Letter asking teachers to refer parents who might be a potential board member. Would be beneficial to have an outside perspective from a non-parent member who is connected to the community. Nick said that Chris can't commit to joining the board.

Write up the description of member duties and expectations of the role. Compile a list of names that might fit the needs. Perhaps have a coffee hour before school to share what board membership looks like; 15 minutes to share in person.

11. LSSU Comment

Site visit went well yesterday. Kudos to everyone and their collective effort. Governance and Compliance Report 2023-2024:

-operations is 100% from board (94% from school)

-governance: professional development (room to grow for board)

Joe asked board to do a few things in October:

1. Look over board governance document from Jenny Peterman - specifically is there a strategic plan that aligns with school mission. Discussion of status of strategic plan - talk about mission statement, reflect purpose of academy.

2. Points of pride: portfolio that highlights academy's strengths (2 points of pride) to create connection across the 19 academies.

12. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

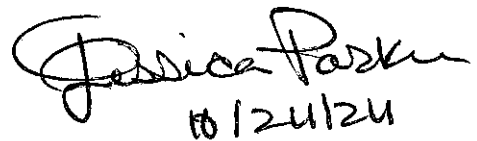
Dave shared about looking at crossover in assessment data: are we moving enough kids along in Just Right Learning?

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 24, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Directors in public for the purpose of conducting the Academy's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the agenda.


10/24/24

Minutes of all board meetings are available after approval by the Board at <https://innocademy.com> or by contacting:

*Jessenia Martinez, School Lead
Innocademy
8485 Homestead Dr.
Zeeland, MI 49464*

Individuals wishing to address the Board of Directors will be recognized in accordance with Board policies regarding public comments. Individual comments are limited to no more than three (3) minutes each and total time allowed regarding agenda specific items is twenty (20) minutes and non-agenda items is fifteen (15) minutes. The Board will not verbally respond to any public comments at the time of the meeting but may refer comments to appropriate personnel for follow-up or respond itself in a timely manner.

Complaints or concerns regarding Board members or school employees associated with the academy shall first be addressed in writing and delivered to the Board President no less than five (5) days prior to the next regular Board meeting, or such complaints shall not be heard by the Board.

Those in attendance at this meeting are reminded that this is a meeting of the Board of Directors in public for the purpose of conducting academy business. It is not considered to be a public meeting. There is a specified time on the agenda for public comment regarding issues of importance to those in attendance.

The proposed minutes of this meeting will be available for public inspection at the office of the Board of Directors of Innocademy no later than eight (8) business days after the meeting. Approved minutes will be available at that office and at <https://innocademy.com/> no later than five (5) business days after the meeting at which they are approved (Open Meetings Act, P.A. 267).

Individuals with a disability who need a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or special service to participate in this meeting should contact Jessenia Martinez at 616-748-5637 at least two (2) days prior to the meeting.

Innocademy has provided notice of this meeting at:

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