



Innocademy

Minutes for the Meeting of the Board of Directors

Jessica Parker
12/19/24

October 24, 2024; 4:00 p.m.
Innocademy - Upstairs Team Room
8485 Homestead Drive
Zeeland, MI 49464

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 4:02 p.m.
2. Attendance: Jessica Parker (attending in person), Abbie Petroelje (attending in person), April Best (attending in person), Nick deVries (attending in person – arrived at 4:05 pm)

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Agenda: motion to approve agenda as presented. Abbie moved. April second. Passed unanimously.
- b. Prior Meetings Minutes – September 19, 2024
Motion to approve prior meeting minutes as presented. Abbie moved. April second. Passed unanimously.

5. Auditor Presentation

Kasey Roth from Maner Costerisan presented the audit. New state categorical funding as well as spending down of ESSR funds. Highest level of assurance offered from auditors. MD & A(pp. 4-8) – overview of activities for the year, capital assets and liabilities (decreased from last year). Governmental funds (p. 12-13) slight increase in fund balance, 33% of operating expenditures (very comfortable range). Notes to financial statements (pp. 15-25): note 4, additions; note 5, long term obligations; footnote showing oversight fees to LSSU. Budgetary comparison schedule (p. 27) – positive budget variance (in compliance with state regulation). Report on Internal Control Over Financial

Reporting (pp. 28-29) – no significant weaknesses. No concerns as an audit firm.

6. Board and Staff Celebrations of the School

Jessica celebrated student led conferences and shared how it is a fun way to merge home life with school life (individualized which helps students demonstrate where they're at). Abbie shared her appreciation for the trip that many teachers from Inno took to the Dominican Republic – demonstrates the core value of service, also praised the landscaping. Dave celebrated his meeting with Boileau to revamp the website – he was encouraged with the team about creating a website that reflects the needs and values of the school (important recruitment total). Nick celebrated a conversation he had with a dad of two students who attend Inno who was impressed and grateful for Inno. Joe shared how LSSU featured Innocademy in their most recent newsletter – the information and photos were a great snapshot. April celebrated the rhythm of the balanced calendar and how it meets the needs of both students and teachers. Jessenia shared her reflection on the time in the Dominican – was grateful for the team building and strengthening of relationships; the time away provided a great perspective on how much Innocademy has. Renee celebrated the opportunity IES gave to outwork the global mindset on the Dominican Republic – appreciated the IES group at large that is a network of different communities.

7. IES Report

Dave shared that the report is meant to be a concept starter / thought starter. From a perspective of sustainability 10 years ago there was a grant to study the merging of Allegan with Zeeland; it didn't end up happening. Currently, looking at PSA Consolidation of a merger of one school into another which requires approval of schools' board members, adoption of a plan of merger; execution of a merger agreement. Factors to consider are economic savings, governance from both schools. Long list of different questions to consider as the board thinks about whether this topic is worthy of being studied/pursued. We would be doing this from a position of strength – only looking at as a way to run more efficiently. Concerns from the last time this was proposed: two totally different markets, both schools were quiet new/young, Allegan was in a different financial position. Big question at the time: would this be a marriage of equals?

Dave would like to treat this as a first reading today, second reading next month. Still need to entertain this concept at the next board meeting in Allegan. Will be a board decision requesting feedback on the position. Nick asked how many of our board members have been to Allegan – he shared that it would be beneficial for the board members from each school to meet one another. Dave shared that this is a long term consideration of looking down the road so that 10 years from now both schools are in a long term stable position.

Nick asked what the macro-shift regarding charter schools that prompted the consideration for the merger. Joe shared that there are benefits to merging schools that put charter schools in healthy positions. Dave shared how the question of what it would look like to merge schools in two districts; he also said it helps to create equilibrium.

For the next meeting: more details on what it would entail. Board members bring questions.

8. School Report: Jessenia shared the details of this.

a. Enrollment Update

Currently sitting at 268 – same as last month. On count day (less than 7 absences) which was one of the lowest ever – big celebration.

b. Attendance Update

Met with all 12 families who received a tier 3 letter and have cleared up confusion on excused versus unexcused absences as well as the impact of not being in school. Families understood that goal is to improve and decrease number of absences. Staff was able to help brainstorm ideas with families to get kids to school.

c. Academic Data

NWEA MAPS

Reading – classic (k-8) tier 1 54%, tier 2 20%, tier 3 19%, tier 4 5%; las huellas (k-8) tier 1 60%, tier 2 22%, tier 3 17%,

Math – classic (k-8) tier 1 65%, tier 2 20%, tier 3 13%, tier 4 2%; las huellas (k-8) tier 1 54%, tier 2 32%, tier 3 19%, tier 4

d. SEAB Update

Celebration – co-chairs have candidates to fill every adult position on board; stuck on the limited diversity among SEAB candidates and a student interested in providing input to the board; next steps co-chairs are meeting virtually with candidates, offering positions, scheduling first meeting before Thanksgiving. Scott and Robyn are doing more research on curriculum offered and created a succinct presentation of all the information for the first meeting.

e. Staff PD Update

Focus will be working on scope and sequence for Reading and Math curriculum to ensure teachers get through every unit by end of year. Staff PD on October 11 was looking at data from Mstep last year and fall data dig to learn areas to focus on. Coach will be coming to provide teachers with feedback – teachers are looking forward to this. Jessenia was able to reach out to Julie to bring questions from staff and will be able to share those answers with the team to provide clarification on the reports.

9. Financial Report: Dave presented the details of these

a. October Report on September Financials

Don't see money come in the door until October 20 – so live on fund balance until we get this state aid. Total revenue this year is .97% of budget YTD. Instructional programs should be at 25% and we are, which is good news. Support services percentage is very comparable to last year which is great. Total debt service is also comparable. Budget looks in good shape. Account is higher. Should be okay this year. Have a balanced budget – revenues match expenditures. Balance sheet is very similar to last year. Good position to be in. Sitting on a lot of deferred revenue – all things that will be used for future programming. More money may be helpful in getting intervention for math.

b. Quarterly Financial Report

Checks for over \$1K – AD Concrete for bathrooms, Comprehensive therapy for speech support, Frontline technologies – teacher eval tool, absence reporting, Midwest construction – wall for precademy (grant for this), TrueGreen for landscaping, ZPW - utilities, Envirosafe - indoor safety, Johnson controls – safety, Maner Costerian - audit.

Comparative Cash Balances trending like it was last year. Finances are performing to where they have been planned.

10. Action Items

- a. Motion to accept the Financial Audit
Nick moved. Abbie second. Passed unanimously.
- b. Motion to approve the Quarterly Financials
Nick moved. Abbie second. Passed unanimously.

11. Discussion Items

a. Strategic Plan

Joe shared the purpose and reason for having a strategic plan.

Jessenia summarized the work done since March 2022 on the strategic plan.

Adjustments to SR teams so that mission and vision continue to work through a goal or two within each part of our mission statement per year. 2024-2025 working on a nature rich and global mindset. Continue revising MTSS system of supports.

b. Points of Pride (to share amongst the 19 academies)

Staff engagement, collaborative mindset, multicultural worldview, global citizens. Jessenia added the strength of having a growth mindset rather than a fixed mindset. Nick shared the balanced calendar and how it benefits teachers and families.

c. Sensory Break Room

Mental health grant – looking at how to meet needs of students in building (students identified by behavior interventionist, OT, and Jessenia). Space would be supervised by OT, behavior interventionist, and para.

It would be the space outside of kindergarten LH students. Need to build a wall to enclose the space. Items for space are on an itemized list printout. Working with a company that specializes in building these spaces.

d. New Board Member Interest

Nick has a couple of people he could reach out to. From the list that teachers gave Jessica there are a couple of people she will reach out – plan is to create a form/letter to get input on what it looks like to be a board member. If anyone has ideas of what to include, email Jessica before next meeting.

12. LSSU Comment

Joe shared gratitude for SR update and Points of Pride details. Angie Irwin has another PD coming up that members can attend.

13. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

14. Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 21, 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.

Jessica Parker
12/19/24

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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