January Regular Board Meeting - 2026 Minutes

Shanel Valley Academy
1/22/2026 5:30 PMPST
@ Add Zoom Link

Attendance

Present:
Members: Amy Frost, Bessie Glossenger, Melissa Kendall, Aimee Landers, Melea Meyer

Absent:
Members: Noshie Merlin

I. Land Acknowledgment and Moment of Silence

Vision & Mission
Shanèl Valley Academy is a culturally responsive, community school where all students are valued and supported. SVA students will be prepared to lead and successfully participate in our rapidly changing multicultural society, they will contribute to the community with creative solutions and a resilient, culturally competent and collaborative mindset.
In Solidarity
We of this Academy, named after the Principal Local Indigenous Village of Shanél, acknowledge with honor the Shóqowa and Hopland People on whose traditional, ancestral, and unceded lands we work, educate and learn and whose historical and spiritual relationship with these lands continues to this day and beyond.

II. Call to Order

meeting called to order at 6:04

III. Roll Call

quorum is met.

Attendance

Present:
Members: Amy Frost, Bessie Glossenger, Melissa Kendall (remote), Aimee Landers, Melea Meyer

Absent:
Members: Noshie Merlin

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

motion to adopt the agenda as written

Motion:
Motion to approve the agenda as written

Motion moved by Bessie Glossenger and motion seconded by Melea Meyer. Passed unanimously; Frost: Aye, Meyer: Aye, Glossenger: Aye

V. Public Comment Regarding Closed Session Items

no public present. no public comment.

VI. Closed Session

Entered into closed session to confer with legal counsel and get updates on confidential HR matters

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION - Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(2) of Section 54956.9: 2 Cases

no action taken

B. Public Employee Employment: Certificated Position

Motion to approve the extension of on part time ELP certificated staff member to support intervention programming.

Motion:

Motion to approve the extension of on part time ELP certificated staff member to support intervention programming.

Passed unanimously; Frost: Aye, Meyer: Aye, Glossenger: Aye

C. Public Employee Employment: Classified Position

Motion to delay approval of classified staff leave extension request, pending legal counsel review.

Motion:

Motion to delay approval of requested leave extension from classified staff, pending legal counsel review.

Motion moved by Bessie Glossenger. Passed unanimously; Frost: Aye, Meyer: Aye, Glossenger: Aye

D. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

Motion to reduce the ELP staffing to eliminate one part time staff position was approved unanimously.

Motion:

Motion to reduce the ELP staffing to eliminate one part time staff position effective February 1, 2026

Passed unanimously; Frost: Aye, Meyer: Aye, Glossenger: Aye

VII. Introductory Items

Returning from open session with new members of the public present .

A. Reconvene in Open Session

Reconvened in open session at 7:27

B. Report Out from Closed Session

- Motion to delay approval of requested leave extension from classified staff, pending legal counsel.

Moved by Bessie Glossenger, seconded by Melea Meyer, passed unanimously.

- Motion to approve the extension of one part time ELP certificated staff member to support intervention programming.

Moved by Bessie Glossenger, seconded by Melea Meyer, passed unanimously.

- Motion to reduce the ELP staffing to eliminate one part time staff position effective February 1, 2026

Moved by Melea Meyer, seconded by Bessie Glossenger, passed unanimously.

VIII. Public Comment & Announcements on Non Agenda Items

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Board on items not on the agenda. Although the Board of Directors may briefly respond to statements or questions, under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. Individual public comments are limited to 3 minutes. If an interpreter is needed for comments, they will be translated to English and the time limit shall be six (6) minutes. The Board reserves the right to mute or remove a member of the public if comments or actions disrupt the Board meeting.

IX. Financial Updates

Brian from EdTec joined us to share financial updates including an update on the State Budget. Highlights include possible increase to community schools Kitchen infrastructure and professional development block grant. State budget is still in proposal stage.
Cash-in-county account access has improved. Cash balance is healthy. Projections look steady and sustainable. Final payment to our CDE Revolving loan will be paid off this month. SVA will only hold line of credit debt with SBMC after Jan.

SVA - January Board Meeting 01222026.pdf

SVA - FY26 November Financials 01222026.xlsx

X. School Updates & Community Announcements

welcome community members, thank you for joining us.

A. PAC / ELAC Report

Katie Cooper PAC president outlined fundraising plans that are underway: Dine and Donate (Panda Express), Campovida's Oysters and bubbly event is Jan 31 use code SVA15 for 15% off! we will have a raffle table there as well. Partnering with Julie and Amy L. to include a drive through BBQ chicken dinner during the health fair coming up. Katie Gibson brought up the idea to bring a movie night in the park this summer Truewest Cinema final will be working with the PAC on pricing and choosing a family friendly film.

B. Preschool Director Report

Lucia joined us to report out on the preschool. It;s been quiet so far in the new year. Lucia is continuing working on the mural and sign design. She announced enrollment opening for next year, and we have had a couple families come by to check it out. We will continue to be strategic and creative in collaboratively finding our early learning options for Hopland families. Amy Frost proposed the idea of convening a strategic planning session with local families and tribal leaders to establish and early learning support plan for Hopland families from birth to school age. The goal would be to have a program plan by the Spring.

C. Principal's Report

CASP testing starts in May for 3rd-6, staff has started preparing for practice tests and working on tests-taking strategies and outlining some key test-taking tips like dissecting the questions, aligning test question working and formats they are more used to. 5th grade fitness assessment is also coming up and the 5/6th class is getting ready for that.
Students are doing benchmark i-Ready testing. They do benchmark tests in the fall, winter and Spring. Amy L. will be working with i-Ready on how to use the data more effectively for progress monitoring, intervention planning and personalized learning plans for reading and math development.
Interventions for Special education students have begin in the afternoons. Soon we will also be adding some intervention and attendance recovery options after school as well.
Teacher evaluations are underway, Amy L. has been observing in classrooms and the preschool this week and is enjoying seeing the students engaging with our amazing staff.
Dyslexia screening is underway. First rounds have happened for all K-2 students, and next steps are looking deeper at students who are flagged for follow-up.

D. Community Updates & Announcements

We received a $2500 grant from McDonald's for healthy foods taste testing and education (from our school farm) with Miss Brittney
Two-payer fee system for Mental Health student supports (CYBHI) are still in progress getting set up, and we are tracking our time providing services. The County is still working on their end. we received fundings that can support the interim period until this fee-payer system is set up
We are 99.9% sure we are received the State Facilities grant we will know after the 29th the final grant award and parameters for how/ when we can spend it. Sat. tuned for more info in February. We are planning to start work on the roof in Feb. if all goes well.
Updates from our ELP program (thanks Miss Jaxx!)
•2 of our ELP staff will be attending the Expanded Learning Conference this Saturday
• Aimee compiled the necessary information, and I submitted the 2024–2025 21 APR outcome data
• All required documentation for the ASES renewal has been submitted, with confirmation of successful submission received.
• Attendance reporting has been submitted through ASSIST. Brian confirmed that the expenditure reports will be submitted by the 31st.
• Aimee conducted a student sports interest survey that I am currently reviewing, and I awaiting a return call from UUSD ASES Director, to explore opportunities to expand sports offerings at SVA.
Now onto the fun stuff:
We started our return to school with the much anticipated bath bomb project. Students explored chemical reactions, measurement, and design over the week-long process. The week culminated with the students using their 3D printed molds to make their bath bombs. Evidence of their enthusiasm can still be found in the lingering sparkle of mica throughout room 11!
Moving into week 2, the Napa cabbages the students planted with Ms. Brittany were finally ripe. The students got to make Korean kimchi, exploring the cultural significance of the dish while applying skills in measurement and food preparation. This also gave us another

wonderful opportunity to observe fermentation, reflecting on the connections between the fermentation of their sourdough starter and the kimchi process. By comparing these two foods, students deepened their understanding of fermentation as a natural, living process that preserves food, develops flavor, and requires careful observation and patience. Upon initial tasting, most seemed to enjoy the kimchi, it will be fun to see how they enjoy it as it ferments.
This last week has been spent starting our own bucket of oyster mushrooms, hanging bluebird nesting boxes, harvesting the chives from the garden and making cheddar chive biscuits, and candling our current batch of eggs to check for viability!

XI. Discussion and Possible Action - 26/27 Bell Schedule, Calendar and Performance Indicators

Principal Landers stated she has been working with the teachers to consider the most effective bell schedule that includes explicit periods throughout the day for intervention for both math and ELA. Aimee presented a preliminary plan for a bell schedule that could be more supportive of sustained intervention opportunities and a more systemic approach to curriculum delivery. The Board is supportive of potentially adding full day for all K-3 students and maximizing both the bell schedule and annual calendar to best meet the needs of students, staff and families. Aimee feels like the proposed changes could better reflect our values and vision as a school community. The board encouraged Aimee to come back with a more finalized plan that including staffing and financial impact.

XII. Review and Possible Approval - 24-25 School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

Principal Landers presented the SARC. No additional questions were asked by Board Members.

SVA SARC 2024-25 (published in 2026).pdf

Motion:

Motion to approve the 2024-25 SARC

Passed unanimously; Frost: Aye, Meyer: Aye, Glossenger: Aye

XIII. Review and Possible Approval - California State Incentive Grant Expenditure Plan

We are very likely to receive funding to the CA facilities Incentive Grant Program for charter schools. We need a new roof desperatly. Direction was to give Amy Frost and Melissa Kendall authority to action bids upon final approval from the CDE so that we do not have to wait for the next board meeting.

Motion:

To approve up to $200,000 in expenditures pending funding from the California charter school facilities program.

Passed unanimously; Frost: Aye, Meyer: Aye, Glossenger: Aye

XIV. Review and Possible Approval - Renewal of SBMC Line of Credit 30-90 Extension

The board discussed extending the LOC for up to 90days to allow SBMC additional time to review the financials. The board previously approved the extension earlier in the month, however, additional review time was needed by Savings Bank. It was also discussed that adjusting the renewal date would be more beneficial to SVA due to timing around the approval/extensions for yearly audit report which is

needed by SBMC for the renewal each year. The line of credit is essential for providing necessary cash for ongoing reimbursable grants.

Motion:

Motion to approve the Line of Credit extension

Passed unanimously; Frost: Aye, Meyer: Aye, Glossenger: Aye

XV. Review and Possible Approval - Field Trip Policy and Forms

The business manager and principal consulted with charter safe to establish all the necessary field trip policies to meet our needs and ensure students safety. the Board discussed changing bullet three in the SVA master Field Trip Policy adding "without prior approval from administrator." The Board also requested more clarity on procedures and practices for overnight field trips. we will take the next month to review and ocnsult with legal to ensure students safety and organizational risk is minimal.

- SVA Master Field Trip Policy (draft).docx
- SVA Master Driver Field Trip Assignment List .docx.pdf
- SVA Master Field Trip Code of Conduct & Expectations for Student Behavior_.pdf
- SVA Master Field Trip Excursion High-Risk Activity.pdf
- SVA Master Field Trip Excursion Non High-Risk Activity_.pdf
- SVA Master Field Trip Excursion Overnight Camping.pdf
- SVA Master Field Trip Excursion Swimmer Ability Acknowledgement.pdf
- SVA Master Field Trip Minor Sibling Waiver Form .pdf
- SVA Master Field Trip Request and Approval Form .docx.pdf
- SVA Master Summer Walking Field Trip Permission Form.pdf
- SVA Master Walking Field Trip Permission Form.pdf

XVI. Review and Possible Approval - Amended Board Calendar 25-26

Motion to ammend the Board meeting calendar to accommodate member's schedule conflicts. New meeting dates as follows (Wednesdays): Feb 11, March 11, April 8, May 6, June 24

Motion:

Motion to ammend the Board meeting calendar to accommodate member's schedule conflicts. New meeting dates as follows (Wednesdays): Feb 11, March 11, April 8, May 6, June 24

Passed unanimously; Frost: Aye, Meyer: Aye, Glossenger: Aye

XVII. Consent Agenda

The board discussed removing item B pending additional review.

Motion:

Motion to approve the consent agenda with the removal of item B

Passed unanimously; Frost: Aye, Meyer: Aye, Glossenger: Aye

A. Approval of Minutes

December Regular Board Meeting - 2025 Minutes.pdf

B. Approval of Overnight Field Trip Request 5/6 Grade

Scan2026-01-07_073310.pdf

C. Approval of Farm to School Contractor

Contract.pdf

Davis MOU.pdf

XVIII. Adjournment

meeting adjourned at 10:20