

VALLEY HOME JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES

Tuesday – November 4th, 2025 – 5:00pm

Bonnie Gellerman Multipurpose Room @ Pioneer Ave. Campus
13231 Pioneer Ave, Valley Home, CA

I. CALL TO ORDER - 5:00 PM / Establishment of Quorum

The regular meeting of the Valley Home Joint School District Governing Board is called to order by Chris Hempleman at 5:01 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4th, 2025, in the Bonnie Gellerman Multipurpose Room at 13231 Pioneer Avenue, Valley Home, California.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: ___ P ___ Chris Hempleman, President
 ___ P ___ Megan Kistler, Clerk
 ___ P ___ Brandon Longstreth, Member
 ___ P ___ Michael Hofmann, Member
 ___ P ___ Leslie Hunt, Member

Administration Present: ___ P ___ Bill Slikker, Superintendent/Principal

Flag Salute: Brandon Longstreth

Staff Present: Tressa Souza, Natalie Lopez, Emma Cornett,
and Holly Benkula

Others Present: Paul Benkula, Samantha Isernhagen, Dariene Airola,
and Amber Orth

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PUBLISHED/AMENDED

Megan Kistler made a motion to approve the agenda, Michael Hofmann seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

III. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATION

Opportunity for the public to address the Board on agenda items only. **Maximum of five (5) minutes per speaker.** The Board is not permitted to act or hear comments on any matter not on the Agenda. If appropriate, a Board member may direct the questions to the Superintendent/Principal or schedule an item for a future board agenda.

IV. SCOTT KUYKENDALL, STANISLAUS COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS. PRESENTATION: 3...2...1... READY OR NOT UNPLUG!

A. Superintendent Scott Kuykendall gave a presentation in conjunction with the book The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt. Kuykendall touched on technology's effects on the current generation.

a. Kuykendall discussed an unprecedented increase in mental health issues between the years 2010-2015 that can be linked to social media.

i. Major depression amongst teens has increased 135% in girls since 2010 and 161% in boys since 2010.

- b. He touched base on the infant's developing brain and urged to limit or not allow screen time for infants in the first 1000 days. If screen time is provided, it should be long-form content.
- c. Kuykendall described how a once play-based childhood is now a phone-based childhood.
- d. Scott Kuykendall encouraged parents to be proactive and try these things:
 - i. Give your children some freedom by practicing letting them out of your sight, or consider having them walk to school in a group of similarly aged children.
 - ii. After school is for free play. At school, there is always an adult present during recess, and sports are structured. Allowing free play will encourage children to learn how to resolve low-level conflicts.
 - iii. Go camping - spend time with your children unplugged and away from electronics.

V. BREAK FOR DISMISSAL

- A. Moved into a break for dismissal at 5:45 pm, board meeting returned to session at 5:47 pm.

VI. STAFF AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

The Superintendent/Principal may report to the Board about various matters involving the district. The Board may ask questions or refer matters to staff.

- A. Red Ribbon Week Update
- B. Halloween Parade Update
- C. Harvest Festival Update
- D. Current Enrollment 189
- E. End of 1st Trimester 10/29
- F. Report cards mailed out on 11/3
- G. Cruzin' Critters Assembly 11/5
- H. No School November 10th & 11th
- I. Trimester Awards Assembly 11/12
- J. Soccer vs Gratton 11/14
- K. 4th Grade Field Trip 11/19 to Mission
- L. Soccer @ Paradise 11/20
- M. School closed 11/24-11/28 - Thanksgiving break
- N. ELOP 11/24-11/26
- O. Soccer @ Shiloh 12/5
- P. NWEA testing 12/8-12/12

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Board members may report on any matter involving the district. No action may be taken unless a matter is listed on a subsequent agenda.

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

Consent Agenda

Notice to the Public

All matters listed under Consent Items are considered to be routine, and all will be enacted by one motion

and voice vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless the Board of Trustees requests items to be removed from the Consent Items list for separate action. Any such items will be considered after the motion to approve the items on the Consent Items list.

A.1 Approval of the Minutes from the 10/07/2025 Regular Board Meeting.
Megan Kistler made a motion to approve, Brandon Longstreth seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

A.2 Approval of the bills and warrants through 10/31/2025.

Brandon Longstreth made a motion to approve, Leslie Hunt seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

IX. FINANCE / GENERAL BUSINESS

No items to be voted on this session.

X. CLOSED SESSION

Megan Kistler motioned to move into closed session at 5:55 pm, Michael Hofmann seconded the motion to move into closed session.

MOTION PASSED: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

A. VHTA Negotiations

Megan Kistler motioned to move into open session at 6:18 pm, Brandon Longstreth seconded the motion to move into open session.

MOTION PASSED: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

XI. PUBLIC REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION (IF NEEDED)

A. Discussed negotiations with the Valley Home Teachers' Association and decided on the district's final offer.

XII. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

A. First Interim Financial Report

B. Board Organizational Meeting/Election of Board Members

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Megan Kistler motioned to adjourn, Brandon Longstreth seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm

Meeting adjourned at

Next Regular Meeting date and time: Tuesday, December 9th, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.