



Minutes of the April 13, 2026
Governing Board of Directors for Innovations International Charter School of Nevada

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Board President Dr. LeAnn Putney called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm with a quorum present either through physical attendance at 1600 E. Oakey Blvd. and/or virtually through Zoom.

The following members were present: Dr. LeAnn Putney, Dr. Donnell Bayot, Mr. Lorne Cramer, Dr. Nicole Klimow, Dr. Steve Barnson, Dr. Rebecca Nathanson, and Mrs. Shara Weston. Members not in attendance were Dr. Lonnie Wright and Mrs. Yvonne Lopez.

Also present were: Dr. Connie Malin, Superintendent; Mr. Nick Didier, Principal; Mrs. Mackenzi Creel, Promotions and Marketing Manager; Mr. Ken Malin, H.R. Director; Mrs. Becky Poole, Business and Accounting Department; and Mrs. Christina Godwin, Business and Accounting Department

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Open Meeting Law Public Comment Statement

There was no public comment or discussion.

IV. Consent Agenda

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Member Putney called for an approval of the prior meeting minutes and/or suggestions, additions, or corrections to be made. Member Klimow moved to approve the prior meeting minutes with no corrections. Member Cramer seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve.

V. Action and Discussion Items

a. Presentation and Discussion of the Meeting Agenda

Member Putney presented the board agenda reminding the members she had disbursed this to them earlier through email. Member Klimow moved to approve the current agenda. Member Weston seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve.

b. Amended Bylaws

Dr. Putney began by explaining to the Board members in attendance that the Bylaws that were sent to the sponsoring agency were reviewed and required additional revision. After speaking with Molly Burkhardt at the SPCSA, Dr. Putney and Ms. Burkhardt determined it would be a good practice to start all board member term limits as of the current school year to keep accountability measures easier to track. Dr. Putney then explained the term limits of all board members would be two (2) years for members in the teacher position, three (3) years for all community members, and one (1) year for the parent representative. Due to these changes, the amended bylaws were being presented and reviewed for board approval and adoption. Member Weston made the Governing Body aware that she and her family would be moving out of Las Vegas at the end of the school year due to personal reasons and would need to have her seat filled after the

school year. Dr. Putney thanked Member Weston for making the Board aware of her departure and that the Board would begin looking for a replacement in July. There being no other conversation, Dr. Putney called for a motion to approve the amended bylaws as written and presented. Member Klimow motioned to approve the bylaws with no additional changes. Member Bayot seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve.

c. **AB398 for FY27**

Mr. Malin let the Governing Body know that he has the approved breakout of the AB398 funds for FY27 as the second part of the biennium. He explained that during this current school year, the funds were paid out in two installments, and going forward for next year would be part of the budgeted funds for salaries. He noted that at around 2:00pm prior to the meeting, there was another change to the budgeted funds as there was a school that was inadvertently left of the allocation list. This changed the amount of funds available to Innovations' staff members by roughly \$8,000.00. Mr. Malin then requested Board approval for AB398 totaling \$224,536.29. Member Nathanson motioned to approve the AB398 raises as prepared by Mr. Malin. Member Klimow seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve.

d. **Facilities Update**

Mr. Malin addressed the facilities by beginning with stating that the Sahara campus is in good condition and the partnership with Trinity Life was beneficial to the state of the secondary campus. He mentioned their willingness to help with the upkeep and maintenance of the building and there were no major problems. Mr. Malin then briefed the Governing Board that the school is continuing to have problems with air conditioning units, plumbing, and sewer pipes on the Oakey campus. Dr. Malin then spoke to a meeting held with a representative from Red Hook to help come up with a plan that would work for all parties. The conversation centered around two possibilities: to forgive three months of rent so the school can pay the repair costs associated with the repairs, or for Red Hook to front the costs of the repairs and add those costs on the back end of the lease term. Dr. Malin expressed a hope that there would be news to report back to the Board by the next meeting. Mr. Malin then closed out the conversation with an update on the retaining wall that borders the staff parking lot. The work that was supposed to be completed during Spring Break was not done as per the verbal agreement, so Red Hook is putting pressure on the land owner of the wall to make sure the project is completed during the summer break.

e. **Financials**

Mrs. Becky Poole reviewed the quarterly financial report with the Board. She showed the revenue and expenses amounts as well as the bank balances in all current accounts. Mr. Malin reassured the Board that there was still a large number of outstanding deposits to be made into the accounts since the State and Federal allocations had not all come in yet to offset the expenses. Dr. Malin finally reminded the Governing Board that there was deficit spending in the categories of Special Education and ELL in order to receive a higher allocation of funds from the State when the next biennium begins. Finally, Mr. Malin presented the Board with the tentative budget for the 2026 – 2027 school year. He reminded the Board that this was not due for any action, just an informal conversation in order to set a meeting in May to approve the final budget for FY27. The Board agreed to set the meeting for May 20, 2026 at 4:30pm with Mr. Malin will post to the classifieds on May 13, 2026.

f. **Personnel Update**

Mr. Malin began by reminding the Board that all letters of intent were to be put out on May 1, 2026. He and Mr. Didier have been talking to staff and trying to give enough information to let them know that there are going to be changes to programs and teaching framework for the upcoming school year. Mr. Malin also let the Board know that we have a significant number of applications that have already started to come in for potential new staff. He feels very encouraged that the school will be able to fill any vacant positions in a quick manner with the number of resumes that have come in.

g. Emergency Operations Plan

Mr. Malin made the Governing Body aware that there would be some changes to the Emergency Operations Plan for the upcoming school year. He also made the Board aware that there would need to be a member from the Board to sit on the committee for forming the plans. He called for a member to volunteer to be on the committee and asked for an answer by the end of the week as the plan will be due by mid-July or the beginning of August and work needed to begin as soon as possible.

h. Grant Status

Dr. Malin began by informing the Board that the school has already received preliminary allocations for most of our grant sources. She then spoke to the fact that she had already written and submitted the grants for FY27 and wrote them in a very similar manner to this school year's allocations in order to keep consistency for our programs. Dr. Malin also informed the Board of two new grants that the school applied for this year; the first is for Special Education under extreme needs for which the school qualifies, and the second is for the K-3 Stem and Literacy Grant that incorporates STEM with the Science of Reading initiative the State is pushing for. Innovations hopes to know the status of that grant by the end of May.

i. Program Updates

Dr. Malin informed the Board that there were going to be program changes and updates to the 2026-2027 school year. She let them know that there was a new instructional framework going into effect next year. There will be a presentation made to the Board at a later date to spell out all of the changes that are deemed necessary for the success of the school and to allow growth and development in all subject areas.

VI. Announcements and Notifications

a Fundraising Opportunities

Mrs. Creel began by letting the Governnig Body know that the night out with the Henderson Silver Knights was a huge success. The choir represented the school well and did an amazing job singing the National Anthem. Of the 150 tickets purchased by the school, 148 of the tickets were sold to parents and families. All in attendance had a wonderful evening and enjoyed being at the hockey game. Mrs. Creel also informed the Governing Body that Innovations would be participating in a night out with the Las Vegas Aces on May 9, 2026. An email had been sent out to staff and the Board with the link to purchase tickets for the game and \$5.00 from each ticket purchased from the dedicated link would be donated back to the school.

b Testing Update

Mrs. Creel informed the Governing Body that she met with Mr. Clarke, the testing coordinator for the Oakey campus to discuss the progress of SBAC testing. While there are makeup tests that need to take place, Mr. Clarke is encouraged by the work he is seeing the students complete. He said they were taking their time, working hard, and putting in their best efforts to be successful during their testing. Mr. Clarke believes he will be able to reach 100% completion once all makeup testing is completed.

c Recruitment and Enrollment

Mrs. Creel informed the that she and Ms. Ruth Paxton would be going to a local community center to speak to parents who are looking for a kindergarten program to enroll their kids into. They will be taking handouts and other leave behind materials to try to assist other parents who might not be in attendance. The goal is to try to recruit incoming kindergarten students to help boost enrollment numbers at the lower grade level.

d First LEGO Robotics

Mrs. Creel was happy to inform the Board that the First LEGO Robotics Team had been successful in their fundraising attempts for their competition at the end of May and had raised all the needed funds for the hotel stay. They are continuing to raise funds for any incidental costs associated with the travel and are looking forward to the competition and the chance to represent the school as well as the State.

VII. Member Comment

Dr. Klimow congratulated the school on their hard work as well as the accreditation on becoming a Governor's STEM school. She stated how wonderful it was and also her appreciation for the hard work and dedication to student achievement.

VIII. Public Comment

No members of the public were present in the meeting, so there were no comments to share.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58pm. by a motion from Dr. Klimow.

Approved on: May 20, 2026


President of the Governing Board
Innovations International Charter School of Nevada