



INNOVATIONS

INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

It is the mission of Innovations International Charter School of Nevada to provide a safe learning community, empowering responsible citizens for life.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

- The regular meeting of the Governing Board of Innovations International Charter School of Nevada was called to order by Board President Dr. LeAnn Putney at approximately 5:15 p.m. A quorum was established.

- Board Members Present:

Dr. LeAnn Putney, President

Dr. Donnell Bayot, Secretary

Dr. Rebecca Nathanson, Member

Dr. Nicole Klimow, Teacher Representative

Mr. Lorne Cramer, Member

Dr. Lonnie Wright, Vice President (arrived after roll call)

- Board Members Absent:

Dr. Steve Barnson, Teacher Representative

Mrs. Yvonne Medina, Member

- School Leadership and Staff Present:

Dr. Connie Malin, Superintendent

Mr. Nick Didier, Principal

Mr. Ken Malin, Director of Human Resources and Business

Mrs. Mackenzi Creel, Executive Assistant

Mrs. Becky Poole, Business Office

Mrs. Christina Godwin, Accounting

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- The Governing Board and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Public Comment

- No public comment was offered.

IV. Consent Agenda (For Possible Action)

a. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes - May 20, 2026

- The Governing Board considered the minutes from the May 20, 2026 meeting. Mr. Lorne Cramer moved to approve the minutes as presented, and Dr. Rebecca Nathanson seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion carried unanimously, with no opposition or abstentions.

V. Action and Discussion Items

a. Agenda Adoption - For Possible Action

- Dr. Nicole Klimow moved to adopt the agenda, and Dr. Donnell Bayot seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, with no opposition or abstentions. Following adoption, Dr. Connie Malin requested that

Mr. Ken Malin's items be heard first so that the longer School Focus presentation could follow. Board President Dr. Putney agreed, and the meeting proceeded in the revised discussion order while these minutes retain the published agenda order.

b. Emergency Operations Plan - For Possible Action

- Mr. Ken Malin presented the updated Emergency Operations Plans for the Oakey and Sahara campuses. He explained that the plans had been revised using guidance from an SPCSA-sponsored training, emergency-management input, and a model shared by another school. The plans were tailored to IICSN and included required updates, including cardiac emergency response procedures. Mr. Malin thanked Dr. Connie Malin and Mrs. Mackenzi Creel for assistance with the technical development and formatting of the documents.
- Mr. Malin reported that the plans were substantially complete and were awaiting one required signature from the Clark County Health Department. He also noted that the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department had acknowledged the plans. The Board was reminded that the Emergency Operations Plans are confidential documents, although selected appendices and procedures may be shared with staff as needed for emergency response. Board members expressed appreciation for the work completed and emphasized that student safety remains the school's first priority. Mr. Malin stated that no Board vote was required at this meeting; no formal action was taken on this item.

c. Financial Audit - Discussion Item

- Mr. Ken Malin provided an update on the prior-year audit and the search for a new auditing firm. He reported that the final cost associated with the prior audit had increased to approximately \$98,000, including additional billings attributed to extra time related to the accounting-system transition and other audit work. Board members expressed concern about the increase and asked administration to review the prior firm's invoices and supporting documentation to determine whether the charges were accurate and appropriate before resolving the remaining balance.
- Administration reported that CLA Consultants had been identified from the State-approved auditor list. CLA proposed a three-year engagement with an initial audit fee of approximately \$25,145, with modest increases in subsequent years and a separately stated fee if a single audit were required. The Board discussed CLA's charter-school experience, digital workflow, and emphasis on meeting audit deadlines.
- Because the proposed engagement exceeded the school's \$5,000 approval threshold, Mr. Lorne Cramer moved to authorize administration to engage CLA Consultants for the FY2026 audit, and Dr. Donnell Bayot seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, with no opposition or abstentions.
- The discussion expanded to the school's current financial position. Administration reported a deficit approaching \$600,000 and discussed the effect of reduced Title I revenue, increased Oakey-campus facility costs, outstanding vendor obligations, reimbursement timing for grant-funded programs, and the school's pending line-of-credit application. Staff reported that vendors had generally been cooperative in establishing payment arrangements and that enrollment was expected to remain near 600 students despite normal summer movement. Board members discussed the need to identify potential corporate sponsors or strategic partners while balancing the importance of maintaining confidence among families and staff.

d. Facilities Update - Discussion Item

- Mr. Malin reviewed summer facilities work at both campuses. At Sahara, work included restroom tile replacement, touch-up painting, gymnasium maintenance, classroom moves, curriculum relocation, and technology setup. At Oakey, support staff completed significant classroom improvements, including removal of worn carpeting and installation of waterproof vinyl plank flooring in eleven classrooms, along with painting and related repairs.
- Additional Oakey work included preparation of playground equipment, movement of sixth-grade furniture and curriculum to Sahara, technology relocation and cleanup, organization and inventory of warehouse space, and conversion of the room adjacent to the library into a dedicated technology lab. The rear stairway was also improved by removing worn indoor/outdoor carpeting, refinishing the stairs, and installing rubber treads for improved safety. The Board recognized the substantial work completed by school support staff and administration in preparation for the August 10 opening of school.

e. Organizational Performance Framework - For Possible Action

- Mrs. Mackenzi Creel presented the SPCSA Organizational Performance Framework self-certification required at the close of each school year. She explained that, because 2025-2026 was IICSN's first year under SPCSA sponsorship, administration had not been aware of the applicable deadline and therefore could not obtain timely Board certification for that cycle.
- Mrs. Creel reviewed the areas covered by the framework, including governance, federal and state requirements, administrative codes and regulations, English learner services, special education services, and health and safety. Administration's self-review indicated compliance in each category. Mrs. Creel stated that the completed information would be provided to Board members and that future Board calendars would include the certification in late May or early June so the required Board approval and signature could occur before the deadline. No formal Board vote was taken on this item during the meeting.

f. Personnel Update - Discussion Item

- Mr. Malin reported that eight licensed staff members and two support staff members had retired, been released, or otherwise left the school following the prior year. At the time of the meeting, IICSN was fully staffed, with two administrators, 48 licensed staff members, and 28 support staff members, for a total of 78 employees. Administration was monitoring a possible middle-school mathematics vacancy related to a teacher's family circumstances and had already identified a potential licensed replacement candidate if needed.
- Mr. Malin also reported that the teacher employment contract had been reviewed by legal counsel and substantially revised from the school's longstanding three-page form into a more comprehensive document reflecting current expectations and operating procedures. Teachers would be given time to review the agreement before signing and would receive a copy for their records.

g. Mandatory Parent Nights - Discussion Item

- Dr. Connie Malin reported on the Title I mandatory parent engagement evenings. At the time of the meeting, the K-5 and middle-school sessions had been completed and the high-school session was scheduled for the following evening. Attendance had been strong, with approximately 200 participants at each completed session. Administration reported positive parent feedback, strong questions, and increased interest in participating in the school community and understanding the school's direction for the coming year.

h. School Focus - Discussion Item

- Dr. Connie Malin presented the instructional and culture framework planned for the 2026-2027 school year, organized under the theme "The Learning Galaxy." She explained that the framework was designed to build upon the school's Governor-designated STEM certification and deepen K-12 integration of STEM, literacy, artificial intelligence, aviation, drones, robotics, virtual reality, and student leadership.
- The Board received an overview of the Teach-Practice-Explore (TPE) instructional model. Under the framework, direct instruction occurs during the Teach phase; guided practice, small-group support, and individualized AI-assisted tutoring occur during Practice; and hands-on, collaborative application occurs during Explore. Administration described the planned use of National Inventors Hall of Fame materials, digital publishing, student e-portfolios, and structured opportunities for students to communicate and demonstrate their learning.
- Dr. Malin also reviewed the CODE student framework - Create, Organize, Develop, and Explore - and a progressive leadership pathway through which students can earn recognition for attendance, academic progress, attitude, decision-making, and other indicators of growth. The system is intended to recognize sustained positive behavior and progress rather than focusing primarily on isolated mistakes.
- The presentation included the new Student Success Center model, which is designed as a short-term support and reflection setting for students who need assistance regulating emotions, identifying the cause of a poor choice, completing academics, and developing a successful classroom re-entry plan. Administration emphasized that the goal is restoration and rapid return to learning whenever appropriate, while serious safety matters continue to be handled through established administrative procedures.
- Administration further described Mission Control and mission-partner terminology for school operations, student leadership levels by grade band, SchoolAI sidekicks and tutoring supports, parent dashboards,

technology integration, and professional development designed as interactive digital escape-room missions so teachers experience the same Teach-Practice-Explore philosophy expected in classrooms. Board members responded positively to the presentation and the emphasis on recognition, engagement, student responsibility, and future-ready learning.

i. Grant Updates - Discussion Item

- Mrs. Creel reviewed major grant allocations supporting the 2026-2027 school year. She reported approximately \$216,435.46 in Title I funding for Oakey before- and after-school programming, tutoring support, and a Sahara mathematics strategist; approximately \$25,689.21 in Title II funding for professional development and school AI software; approximately \$30,783.84 in Title III funding supporting professional development for instruction of English learners; and approximately \$18,145.24 in Title IV funding supporting STEM, drone, and related professional development. IDEA funding had also been awarded, although the amount was not stated during the meeting.
- Administration also announced a newly awarded K-3 STEM and Literacy Integration Grant totaling approximately \$277,000. Board members thanked Dr. Malin for the significant work involved in securing the grant and discussed how the funding would support the school's expanded STEM and literacy focus.

j. Website Updates - Discussion Item

- Mrs. Creel reported that the school website had been substantially redesigned over the summer and now included a new Mission Control section with several child pages intended to become central information consoles for parents and students. At the time of the meeting, the pages primarily explained the planned resources and several links remained under construction. Administration anticipated rolling out the first set of functional parent and student links by the end of September. Board President Dr. Putney encouraged members to review the updated website and recognized the significant summer work involved in the redesign.

VI. Member Comment

- Board President Dr. Putney discussed the school's planned use of SchoolAI across elementary, middle, and high school. She emphasized that the platform had been selected because it is a controlled, school-focused environment intended to support safe and appropriate AI use. The Board and administration discussed using AI to provide resources, tutoring, enrichment, and remediation rather than replacing teachers or simply producing answers for students. Dr. Malin emphasized that the human element of instruction remains central to the school's model.
- Dr. Putney also noted the need to identify a new parent representative for the Governing Board following the departure of the prior parent member. Dr. Malin reported that administration expected to secure a prospective parent representative within the first month of school and was speaking with interested families. Dr. Malin thanked Board members for their assistance and invited them to visit the new elementary technology lab, which includes virtual reality, three-dimensional learning, coding resources, interactive technology, and classroom-management features integrated into the room's lighting and technology systems.

VII. Public Comment

- The meeting recording does not reflect additional public comment before adjournment.

VIII. Meeting Adjournment

- There being no further business before the Governing Board, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The motion carried without opposition or abstention. The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:33 p.m.

Minutes adopted as true and correct by the Governing Board on September 14, 2026.

Signed by:

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 Dr. LeAnn Putney, Governing Board President

September 21, 2026

 Date