APPROVED

Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board Meeting (RISE High)

Date and Time
Wednesday June 17, 2020 at 6:00 PM

Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County ("DVLAC") welcomes your participation at its Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Directors ("Board") is to conduct the affairs of DVLAC in public. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our schools. To assist you in speaking/participating in our meetings, the following guidelines are provided:

1. Teleconferencing will be held through Zoom. Join the Zoom Meeting at https://zoom.us/j/92824155237 , Meeting ID: 928 2415 5237, or dial (669) 900-6833.
2. Agendas are available to all audience members online at https://dvrise.davincischools.org.
3. Audience members who wish may speak on any agenda items or under the general category of "Public Comments," which is time set aside for members of the audience to raise issues not specifically on the agenda. However, due to public meeting laws, the Board can only listen to your issue, not respond or take action. These presentations are limited to three (3) minutes and total time allotted to non-agenda items will not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Non-English speakers who use a translator shall have six (6) minutes in which to address the Board.
4. The Board may give direction to staff to respond to your concern or you may be offered the option of returning with a citizen-requested item.
5. The chair will recognize such individuals who wish to speak on a specific agenda item at the appropriate time. When addressing the Board, speakers are requested to adhere to the time limits set forth, and to not repeat remarks made by those who preceded them.
6. Any public records relating to an agenda item for an open session of the Board which are distributed to all, or a majority of all, of the Board members shall be available for public

inspection at 201 N. Douglas Street, El Segundo, CA 90245, during Business Office operating hours.

The agenda and documents in the agenda packet will be made available, if requested, in appropriate alternative formats to any person with a disability as required by the ADA, 42 USC section 12132, and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. To request a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, you must contact Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County (201 N. Douglas Street, El Segundo, CA) at 310-725-5800 at least 48 hours before a regular meeting, and at least 12 hours before a special meeting. (Government Code § 54954.2(a)(1).)

Trustees Present
A. Montes-Rodriguez (remote), J. Morgan (remote), L. Jennings (remote), T. Johnstone (remote)

Trustees Absent
P. Escala

Guests Present
A. Wohlwerth (remote), Delia Castillo, E. Whalen (remote), K. Croft (remote), Kevin Hunley, Kiumars Arzani, M. Amato (remote), M. Denniston (remote), M. Ring (remote), M. Wunder (remote), R. Robertson (remote), S. Ayala (remote), S. Warner (remote), Tom Nichols, V. Bravo (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

L. Jennings called a meeting of the board of trustees of Da Vinci Schools to order on Wednesday Jun 17, 2020 at 6:05 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Approval of Agenda

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
T. Johnstone seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Morgan	Aye
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
L. Jennings	Aye

D.

Public Comments

None

II. Information: Board Comments and/or Administrative Reports

A. From the Board

Dr. Jennings shared that she enjoyed the RISE High graduation celebration videos, and thanked the RISE High team for all of their work. She congratulated the team on the students' accomplishments, and spoke of her pride in the students and the work.

Dr. Johnstone shared that he appreciated the hard work that went into the end-of-year.

Ms. Morgan concurred with the other board members and credited the work of the entire staff. She also appreciated the fine job of video editing.

Ms. Montes-Rodriguez thanked the staff for their day-to-day work in support of the students during the difficult time.

Dr. Jennings congratulated Dr. Wunder and the rest of the Da Vinci staff for all the graduations of the Class of 2020.

Dr. Jennings shared that she and Ms. Montes-Rodriguez have arranged to speak with two more candidates for the board. She noted that Ms. Morgan has also spoken to one of the two candidates.

B. From the CEO

Dr. Wunder shared his deep respect for the RISE High team and their work under extraordinary circumstances.

He also spoke of the Solidarity Commitment that Da Vinci sent out, and that he appreciates the fact that the RISE High team has done so much work in their area already that can be tapped.

C. From the Executive Director

Dr. Ring spoke of the LACOE Board's approval of the material revision of the RISE High Charter.

She presented some information on New Earth, the third RISE High site. Her presentation included visuals of the new site. Dr. Ring spoke of her excitement in the work. About 65 new students will be joining RISE High from the RISE High staff. Brief discussion on the origins of the New Earth and RISE High relationship. Ms. Croft had visited the New Earth site previously, and Ms. Jen Ralls, consultant, connected the

two. The timing was right in that New Earth was seeking a new educational partner just as RISE High was looking for a third site. Ms. Croft had also followed New Earth founder Dr. Harry Grammer's work for years, as well as heard about New Earth from probation officers who worked with youth at both New Earth and RISE High.

RISE at New Earth, Hawthorne, and APCH.

Dr. Ring spoke of the reopening planning meetings that were underway. Safety, technology, and protective gear were being discussed and would be shared with the Board.

D. RISE High Update

Ms. Croft spoke of the exciting ways that New Earth has been supporting students, and how RISE High could incorporate some of those methods. The staff of both organizations have begun working together in planning meetings.

Ms. Croft spoke of the graduates and their socially distanced photo opportunity and diploma pick-up celebration. The students said that they felt loved and supported. She anticipates more students will finish their diploma requirements over the summer. Ms. Croft also commented on Senior Presentations of Learning for the 17 seniors were attended by the staff. The students gave their reflections on their Exhibition project, the topic of which was "Does my voice matter, and how do I use my voice to impact change?" The topic became increasingly relevant during the social unrest that began in the beginning of June.

Ms. Croft shared some of the students' reflections that they felt they mattered and that the RISE staff believed in them.

The four-week summer school will begin on Monday, June 22. 75 students are currently enrolled, and New Earth students have yet to be added. Ms. Croft believes that about 90 students will be enrolled in summer school.

E. Facilities Update

Mr. Bravo shared that Micron Disinfection Services that will be used for all Da Vinci sites that has been contracted. He spoke of the safety of the product Micron uses.

He is working on an information sheet with school nurse Dr. Emily Green to distribute to staff and families regarding health and safety during the pandemic.

He spoke of purchasing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for staff and students.

Dr. Wunder spoke of working with Dr. Blake Silvers and the Wiseburn Board on finalizing the agreement for the Hawthorne site. Discussion on the term of RISE High's occupancy of the Hawthorne site ensued.

F. Financial Update

Mr. Scott Warner, and Mr. Miles Denniston presented the May 2020 financials. The financial report included a summary of income and expenses. The net year-to-date surplus of $173,577 is larger than the forecasted $147,682, and total assets are strong, so the overall picture is good. State revenue usually accrued in June will be deferred to July this year. June books will not close until August or September, so there will be no financial updates until then.

Mr. Warner spoke of an unprecedented "Season of Uncertainty" due to the COVID-19 pandemic and waiting for the State's final numbers. Normally, the State issues a January Budget Revision and, following the receipt of tax revenue in April, issues the May Revision; however, the delay of tax receipts to July 15, 2020 has resulted in a $54 billion deficit for the remainder of 2020 into 2021. The state legislature sent the Governor a revised budget that reverts back to the January Revise assumptions. Mr. Warner does not personally believe that budget will be approved. COVID-19 reopening uncertainty, uncertain State and Federal financials, and enrollment all affect the budget and will result in the team revising the budget in late summer or early fall.

Mr. Warner said that the budget presented to the board at this meeting takes into account the May Revise assumptions, not necessarily the worst case scenario. His personal belief is that the situation will get better, and the Governor will use a line item veto rather than a full veto of the budget he is given.

Mr. Miles Denniston spoke of a 10% difference between the +2.31% surplus budget that the State Assembly recently passed and the Governor's -7.7% deficit budget. He commented on the need for quick reactions to the latest information, and that the team is using the most conservative numbers in their work. Brief discussion on the political issue ensued.

Mr. Michael Amato spoke of the 2020-21 budget presented to the board for approval. The team has studied expenses to see where efficiencies can be achieved. A modest 4$3K surplus is being planned. Expenses are being kept low, and expenses created by opening the third site can be offset by increased enrollment. XQ funds were used sparingly in past years, and although the plan is to increase the use of those funds for the next year, Mr. Amato does not want to use up the funds unnecessarily. Mr. Warner added that personnel and educational programs were not cut.

Ms. Morgan thanked Mr. Amato for the budget dashboard and asked for clarification on personnel. Mr. Amato shared that the academic coaches are part-time employees. Dr.

Ring added that there are four new, growth teacher positions for the New Earth site. New Earth and APCH provide additional staff not shown in Mr. Amato's dashboard. Dr. Ring spoke of adding the full time equivalent staff to a chart to give the board more clarity.

Discussion of the budget dashboard elements ensued. Ms. Montes-Rodriguez commented that the coalition which with she works has pressed the Governor and legislature to protect concentration and supplemental funds so as not to penalize highest-need students. Mr. Warner added that for transparency, the CSMC team will provide a reporting vehicle for concentration spending.

Mr. Amato commented that contingencies are being allowed for COVID-19 expenses.

Dr. Johnstone shared that as a staff member of the School Advisors Association, he is closely following the situation in the State legislature and Governor's office.

Ms. Sabrina Ayala spoke of the insurance policies for Da Vinci and RISE High. She has been working with the insurance company to correct the valuation of the facilities. The policy has not yet been completed, thus the board will be voting on a resolution to allow staff to purchase insurance. Ms. Morgan offered to assist with reading the insurance policy, as that is her area of expertise.
Brief discussion of COVID-19-based elements and Facilitron (a facilities consultant Da Vinci has contracted) suggestions followed.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approve Minutes of the May 27, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

T. Johnstone made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board Meeting (RISE High) on 05-27-20.
J. Morgan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Escala	Absent
L. Jennings	Aye
J. Morgan	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye

IV. Action Items

A. Accept May 2020 Check Transactions Per Management

J. Morgan made a motion to accept the May 2020 Check.
T. Johnstone seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Escala	Absent
L. Jennings	Aye
J. Morgan	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye

B. Approve 2020-21 Budget

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the 2020-21 Budget as presented.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
J. Morgan	Aye

C. Approve and Adopt the COVID-19 Written Operations Report

T. Johnstone made a motion to Approve and adopt the COVID-19 Written Operations Report.
A. Montes-Rodriguez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Escala	Absent
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
J. Morgan	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye

D. Approve Memorandum of Understanding with New Earth, LLC

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with New Earth, LLC.
T. Johnstone seconded the motion.
Dr. Ring commented that the MOU has gone through multiple revisions and legal review. The LACOE Board has seen a first draft of the MOU and approved.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Morgan	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye

Roll Call

T. Johnstone	Aye

E. Approve Home Visitations Board Policy

T. Johnstone made a motion to approve the Home Visitations Board Policy.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
Dr. Ring commented that the policy is new, to ensure the staff are trained in the event home visitations are needed.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Jennings	Aye
J. Morgan	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye

F. Approve and Adopt Resolution to Grant Authority to Purchase Insurance Coverage

A. Montes-Rodriguez made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution to Grant Authority to Purchase Insurance Coverage.
T. Johnstone seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Escala	Absent
J. Morgan	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye

G. Approve and Adopt the Resolution Regarding the Education Protection Account

J. Morgan made a motion to approve and adopt the Resolution regarding the Education Protection Account.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
Mr. Warner commented that this is an annually-required resolution to ensure the EPA funds are only spent on instructional, non-administrative expenses. It will be followed by an accounting of the actual expenditures that will be posted on the school's website later in the year.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Escala	Absent
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
J. Morgan	Aye

H. Approve the 2020-21 Board Meeting Calendar

L. Jennings made a motion to approve the 2020-21 Board Meeting Calendar.
J. Morgan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
J. Morgan	Aye

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

J. Morgan made a motion to adjourn.
T. Johnstone seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
J. Morgan	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Wohlwerth