APPROVED

Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

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

Date and Time
Wednesday August 19, 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/92747995571 , Meeting ID: 927 4799 5571, 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. For more information call the CEO's office at 310-725-5800.

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, ext. 1351 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), C. McCullough (remote), C. Taylor (remote), J. Morgan (remote), L. Jennings (remote), T. Johnstone (remote)

Trustees Absent
P. Escala

Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened
C. Taylor

Guests Present
A. Wohlwerth (remote), E. Whalen (remote), J. Hawn (remote), K. Croft (remote), Kevin Hunley (remote), M. Amato (remote), M. Ring (remote), M. Wunder (remote), Merrick Wadsworth (remote), Naomi Lara (remote), R. Robertson (remote), S. Ayala (remote), S. Warner (remote), 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 Aug 19, 2020 at 6:09 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Approval of Agenda

T. Johnstone made a motion to Approve the agenda as presented.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Jennings	Aye
C. Taylor	Absent

Roll Call

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

D. Public Comments

None

II. Special Order of Business - Election of New Members

A. Election of Christopher Taylor to Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board of Directors (Term Until 8/19/21)

J. Morgan made a motion to elect Christopher Taylor to Da Vinci L.A. County.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B. Election of Carla McCullough to Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board of Directors (Term Until 8/19/23)

A. Montes-Rodriguez made a motion to Elect Carla McCullough to the Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board of Directors.
T. Johnstone seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

C. Swearing-In of New Members

Dr. McCullough took the Oath of Office and joined the Board of Directors.
Dr. McCullough (Douglas) briefly spoke of her background. She is originally from Chicago, and moved to L.A. about 20 years ago. She taught in LAUSD, was a Principal and Assistant Principal for the Alliance College-Ready Public Schools, and is now an education operations and efficiency consultant. She expressed her enthusiasm for joining the board.

The other board members introduced themselves, including Dr. Johnstone, Ms. Morgan, Ms. Montes-Rodriguez, Dr. Ring, Mr. Whalen, Dr. Robertson,

III. Brown Act Training

A. Brown Act and Governance Training

C. Taylor arrived.
Mr. Merrick Wadsworth, attorney at Procopio, conducted the annually-required training, covering the Brown Act, California's "open meetings" law for local public agencies.

He defined "meetings" and warned to avoid inadvertent or serial meetings. One-on-one agenda briefings, conversations about whether to call a meeting, and information-only updates received by the full board are okay. Board retreats, planning sessions, etc. are meetings.

SB126 requires board meetings to be held in L.A. County and two-way teleconference ability at all school sites.

Teleconferencing (virtual meetings by phone, internet) rules are currently suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but are usually in play. Locations must be accessible to the public. Agendas must be posted on the school website and at all the teleconference sites. The agenda packet is a public record that should be available if requested.

Agendas cannot be easily modified once posted.

Public comment period is required. Comments should be time-limited. Disrupted conduct is not permitted. Comment is not a conversation - board president may ask staff to follow up with the member of the public.

Closed session is allowable for limited topics (litigation, personnel evaluation/discipline, real estate negotiations). Only essential persons may be present. Executive compensation (dollar amounts) must be discussed and approved in open session, at a regular, not special meeting. The board must orally report a summary description of executive compensation before final action is taken, and compensation must be reasonable (board should conduct compensation analysis).

Minutes should be more than an action format. Open session items are usually in narrative format.

The Conflicts of Interest "Big 3":
Corporations Code (applies to boards, not staff), and refers to decision making. The Political Reform Act (Form 700, applies to board, staff, spouses), and requires disclosure of financial interests in school business. Government Code 1090 (board and staff) deals

specifically with contracts, and is very broad. The board cannot enter, or delegate authority to enter, a contract in which a member has a financial interest. Nepotism, common law, IRS rules, federal funding rules, etc. also apply.
Mr. Christopher Taylor, who joined the meeting at 6:34 p.m., took the Oath of Office and joined the Board of Directors.
Mr. Taylor gave a brief bit of background, saying that he is a native of San Diego and a first-generation college student. He is a Director of Northrop Grumman, and has been employed there for 19 years. He is eager to help the RISE High students from a position on the board.

Dr. Wunder introduced himself, as did Dr. Johnstone, Ms. Morgan, Ms. Croft, Mr. Whalen, Dr. Robertson, and Dr. Ring.

IV. Information: Board Comments and/or Administrative Reports

A. From the Board

Dr. Johnstone thanked everyone at Da Vinci RISE High, the Da Vinci and Wiseburn organizations in getting education and the community back on a strong footing under the pandemic.

Dr. Jennings congratulated the staff for their start of school.

B. From the CEO

Dr. Wunder spoke of the extraordinarily special place RISE High is for kids. He spoke of the fact that under current pandemic-induced changes in law, there is no funding for expanded enrollment at RISE High. He is working with Da Vinci partners to effect change.

C. From the Executive Director

Dr. Ring spoke of the reopening plan for the schools. The plan suggested that the types of essential services that might be offered would be reviewed by September 1. Essential service staff may be brought back in September to support special education, compliance for initial assessments, etc. on an appointment-based, one-on-one arrangement. The reopening plan will be presented monthly to the board, due to the potential for changes.

D. RISE High Update

Ms. Croft gave the update, providing data on enrollment and demographics, saying that while the newly-added New Earth site shows 34 students enrolled, 20-25 additional students are in the process of being enrolled there. The delays are caused by a lack of documentation (transcripts, immunizations, birth records) that frequently occurs in this population. New Earth has an older student population due to its previous partnership with Youth Build. The material revision to the RISE charter petition allows the RISE New Earth site to serve students up to age 25.

Ms. Croft spoke of the desire to create a countywide school to support underserved students such as those in foster care, probation, and/or facing housing instability. This led to the partnerships with A Place Called Home (APCH) and New Earth to provide the students with education and wraparound services.

Ms Croft discussed graduation statistics. RISE has four graduation pathways: A-G, RISE (between A-G and state minimum), State Minimum, and California High School Proficiency Exam.

XQ Milestones must be met for RISE to continue to receive XQ grant funds. Priorities include increased student progress monitoring, i.e. Personalized Learning Plans for every RISE High student, with schedules, credit mapping, contact links to teachers and support sessions, and credit tracking that is updated weekly.

Learning engagement (Humanities and Math/Science labs with Socratic seminars, debates, etc.) and increased English Learner (EL) support such as weekly reading workshops are another priority.

Dr. Jennings requested a map of which staff work on which parts of the program.

E. Facilities Update

Mr. Bravo, Chief Administrative Officer, Operations, Equity & Compliance, introduced himself.

He and the Director of Facilities John Fernandez are working on public health and safety compliant ventilation, socially distanced furniture arrangement, cleaning and disinfection, PPE (masks, shields, etc.) and outdoor canopies at each site, keeping in mind costs. Protocols for campus access for staff have also been established.

F. Financial Update

Mr. Amato, Director of Finance and Accounting, introduced himself. Mr. Scott Warner, of consultancy firm CSMC, introduced himself, as did Ms. Sabrina Ayala, who is also assisting in the transition.

Mr. Amato gave the financial update, giving the July results. The annual budget bottom line is $43,578 profit, however, if RISE High does not receive funding for planned-for enrollment growth, the bottom line could be a potential loss of $650K. In addition to Dr. Wunder's efforts to find a solution, the finance team is exploring savings strategies in preparation for the potential loss of funding.

Mr. Warner commented that the hold harmless clause in the SB 98 specifically states it is for classroom-based schools; the hope is that non-classroom-based schools such as RISE High will be excluded.

Mr. Warner reminded the board that the LCP (local plan) and SPSA (how the schools will spend federal funding) which need to be approved by the board next month.

Ms. Ayala spoke of the cash deferrals that the finance team will present in future meetings. RISE High has always had a good position thanks to XQ.

Mr. Amato offered to meet with the new board members to orient them on RISE High finances.

Ms. Morgan pointed out that the the goal is for RISE High to become self-sustaining. Dr. Wunder noted that the team plans to seek additional long-term funding, and thanked Ms. Montes-Rodriguez for her guidance.

V. Approval of Minutes

A. Approve Minutes of the July 22, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board Meeting (RISE High) on 07-22-20.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Jennings	Aye
C. McCullough	Abstain
J. Morgan	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain
T. Johnstone	Aye

B. Approve Minutes of the August 12, 2020 Special Board Meeting

T. Johnstone made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Special Board Meeting on 08-12-20.
J. Morgan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Montes-Rodriguez	Abstain
P. Escala	Absent
J. Morgan	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain

Roll Call

T. Johnstone	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
C. McCullough	Abstain

VI. Action Items

A. Accept July 2020 Check Transactions Per Management

L. Jennings made a motion to accept the July 2020 Check Transactions per Management.
T. Johnstone seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Jennings	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain
C. McCullough	Aye
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
J. Morgan	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye

B. Acknowledge Receipt of the 2019-20 LACOE Review of Program Findings

Ms. Morgan asked the staff for training on the bylaws. Dr. Ring provided a summary document, and feels that a brief training and review of the bylaws and governance would be beneficial.

Dr. Ring commended the staff on the amount of effort required to pull together the audit during a pandemic, as did LACOE's Charter School Office. LACOE also understood the RISE High student population and their remarkable engagement during the COVID-19-induced closures. Dr. Ring praised the staff's work in creating additional engagement opportunities in summer school and the Personal Learning Plans. Dr. Ring and the leadership team will present the action items on which they're currently working.

Ms. Montes-Rodriguez would like to know more about what will be different for the English language learners apart from the online program, and restorative justice that won't require suspensions.
J. Morgan made a motion to acknowledge Receipt of the 2019-20 LACOE Review of Program Findings.
T. Johnstone seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Jennings	Aye
P. Escala	Absent

Roll Call

T. Johnstone	Aye
J. Morgan	Aye
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain
C. McCullough	Aye

C. Approve Home Hospital Instruction Board Policy

T. Johnstone made a motion to approve the Home Hospital Instruction Board Policy.
J. Morgan seconded the motion.
Dr. Ring pointed out that the policy has been updated to allow for the coronavirus pandemic.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

T. Johnstone	Aye
C. McCullough	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain
J. Morgan	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye

D. Approve the Catastrophic Leave Program

Dr. Johnstone pointed out that on page 84, letter D, "donators" should be corrected to "donors," on page 85, Number 5, "sixty (15) days" should be corrected to (60). and 88, number 5, "ten (5) days" should be corrected to (10) days.
T. Johnstone made a motion to approve the Catastrophic Leave Program as corrected on pages 84, 85, and 88.
J. Morgan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain
C. McCullough	Aye
J. Morgan	Aye
P. Escala	Absent

E. Approve and Adopt the Policy to Address Racist, Discriminatory, and Dehumanizing Incidents

T. Johnstone made a motion to Approve and Adopt the Policy to Address Racist, Ds.
J. Morgan seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
P. Escala	Absent
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
J. Morgan	Aye
C. McCullough	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain

F. Approve License Agreement Between Wiseburn Unified School District and Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County

T. Johnstone made a motion to approve License Agreement between Wiseburn Unified School District and Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County.
C. McCullough seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
J. Morgan	Aye
C. McCullough	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
P. Escala	Absent

G. Approve Memorandum of Understanding with A-GAME

T. Johnstone made a motion to approve.
A. Montes-Rodriguez seconded the motion.
Dr. Ring pointed out that there is no cost to Da Vinci. The team is participating under a grant from LACOE and is working with two experts and another charter school on measurement tools.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
L. Jennings	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
J. Morgan	Aye
C. McCullough	Aye
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain
T. Johnstone	Aye

H. Approve Expatiate Staffing Services Contract for Special Education

T. Johnstone made a motion to Approve Expatiate Staffing Services Contract.

L. Jennings seconded the motion.
Dr. Ring commented that this is for psychological assessments. This is a cost savings for staffing
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Morgan	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
T. Johnstone	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain
C. McCullough	Aye

I. Approve Food Service Contract with Chartwells including Da Vinci RISE High Sites

A. Montes-Rodriguez made a motion to Approve the Food Service Contract with Chartwells.
C. McCullough seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

T. Johnstone	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye
P. Escala	Absent
C. Taylor	Abstain
J. Morgan	Aye
C. McCullough	Aye

J. Ratify Participation Agreement (MOU) between APCH and Da Vinci RISE High for the period of 2020-21 through 2022-23 in an Annual Amount Not to Exceed $289,000

L. Jennings made a motion to Ratify the Participation Agreement between APCH and Da Vinci RISE High.
J. Morgan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Escala	Absent
T. Johnstone	Aye
C. McCullough	Aye
J. Morgan	Aye
L. Jennings	Aye
C. Taylor	Abstain
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

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

Roll Call

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Wohlwerth