

APPROVED



Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday August 26, 2020 at 6:00 PM

Da Vinci Schools ("DV") 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 DV 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 conducted through Zoom. Join Zoom meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/96592954424>, Meeting ID: 965 9295 4424, or dial (669) 900-6833.
 2. Agendas are available to all audience members on the Da Vinci Schools website at www.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
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inspection at 201 N. Douglas Street, El Segundo, CA 90245, during Business Office operating hours. Please contact 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 Alison Wohlwerth 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

B. Meath (remote), D. Boston (remote), D. Brann (remote), J. Morgan (remote), K. Latuner (remote)

Trustees Absent

None

Guests Present

A. Johnson (remote), A. Wohlwerth (remote), B. Silvers (remote), Bernard Bella (remote), C. Levenson (remote), E. D'Souza (remote), G. Long (remote), J. Hawn (remote), M. Amato (remote), M. Rainey (remote), M. Ring (remote), M. Wunder (remote), S. Ayala (remote), S. Wallis (remote), S. Warner (remote), V. Bravo (remote), V. Rodriguez (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

D. Brann called a meeting of the board of trustees of Da Vinci Schools to order on Wednesday Aug 26, 2020 at 6:03 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Approval of Agenda

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

D. Boston seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Boston Aye

B. Meath Aye

J. Morgan Aye

K. Latuner Aye

D. Brann Aye

D.

Public Comments

Da Vinci Communications teachers Janee Gerard, Kristina Becht, Christopher Jackson, and Dani Guerrero gave comments on Da Vinci Schools' anti-racism commitment and the need for transparency about the work being done to thoughtfully roll out diversity, equity, and inclusion policies and practices to the wider organization, including staff, students, and families. Dr. Brann requested copies of the Da Vinci messages to the staff and the teachers' comments be sent to the board (via Alison Wohlwerth). Mr. Boston thanked Ms. Gerard for bringing her comments on this critical topic to the board.

II. Information

A. From the Board

Ms. Latuner welcomed everyone back to school, saying that she is sure everyone will rise above all the challenges this year.

Mr. Boston thanked the staff for their teaching preparations over the summer, saying that their work is evident in the first week of school. The team thinks outside of the box, and he appreciates the continued office hours, and the conversations on race at Connect.

Mr. Meath concurred with the other board members.

Ms. Morgan shared that she also serves on the RISE High board, that RISE High has opened a new site at New Earth in Culver City, and that she welcomes questions from the other board members.

Dr. Brann thanked everyone on the greater team during this unprecedented time.

B. From the CEO

Dr. Wunder shared that he believes anti-racism and equity work has occurred at the schools, and that the work is ongoing. He feels that perhaps a special board meeting to discuss the topic and address the concerns brought up in public comment is in order.

He also commented that he is responding to staff requests for transparency around the budget, the solidarity statement, and strategic planning. He feels that these issues are reflective of the need for more clarity around decision-making, and that the necessity is a natural part of the organization's growth. He thanked Ms. Dani Guerrero for her work on a revised process for strategic planning, which Dr. Wunder would like to share with the board at a future meeting.

Dr. Wunder also mentioned a request by a student that the Board consider adding a student representative. The Board will see more information in September.

Dr. Wunder committed to address all of the concerns at the next board meeting.

Dr. Brann shared the status of the search for candidates to fill the vacant board seats.

C. Financial Update

Mr. Amato noted that he would be discussing the summary of the year-end Unaudited Actuals, having previously presented the year-end projections at the last meeting.

Da Vinci has a healthy cash position which will help weather the effects of State-mandated Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) deferrals.

The 2019-20 year ended with a healthy net income of \$3.176MM, which is divided into Temporary Restricted and Unrestricted funds. Temporary Restricted funds (\$961K) are CTEFP funds (restricted to Equipment-related and Construction expenses), and leftover Northrop Grumman grant funds. Unrestricted funds are \$1.3MM after adjusting for 30-year depreciation expenses for the Connect Del Aire construction project income. Deducting \$600K from CTEIG grants and gym rental of special funding further reduces the Unrestricted funds. The remaining amount, put into Reserves, is a healthy \$700K.

Mr. Meath thanked Mr. Amato for the report, saying that the dis-aggregated amounts were what the board wants to see.

Dr. Brann asked about the PPP loan. Mr. Amato responded that the rules keep changing, and the Banc of California has promised to help Da Vinci in the fall when the rules settle down. Mr. Amato and the Banc believe the loan will be forgiven in full, due to Da Vinci's payroll expenses and rent.

Mr. Scott Warner commented that the application for PPP loan forgiveness should be paused, as the word is that certain of those loans will be automatically forgiven.

D. Fundraising Update

Ms. Carla Levenson gave the fundraising update.

2018-19 = \$1.4MM raised

2019-20 = \$2.6MM

2020-21 = \$2.9MM

The total fundraised for the past three years is \$7.1MM, and \$69.6MM has been raised since Da Vinci Schools' inception, including the initial charter school facility grant. The numbers above do not include RISE High.

BUT the vast majority of the fundraised dollars are restricted for specific projects (and may come with additional costs), leaving little "excess" unrestricted funds.

For example, the State CTE Facilities Program has a 1:1 matching requirement (in order to receive the \$1.6MM funds, Da Vinci has to match it), and the funds must be used for specific expenses. The State CTE Incentive Grant has a 2:1 matching requirement,

meaning Da Vinci must spend \$1.9MM to get \$976K in the last four years. The CTEIG grant's flexibility of usage makes it worth pursuing. The Ahmanson Foundation grant must be spent on general technology, which Da Vinci spends a lot on anyway. Da Vinci does not pursue grants that do not align with its values.

Dr. Wunder added that Ms. Levenson's report will be shared with Da Vinci staff for transparency. He and Mr. Amato have been preparing recorded financial presentations for staff viewing, to help demystify Da Vinci Schools finances.

Ms. Levenson shared that for 2020-21, funding is projected to be \$485K in unencumbered funds. Ms. Sabrina Ayala pointed out that Da Vinci's unrestricted funds amounts to about 22% of the total (which equals only 12 days of cash on hand). The vast majority of funds are restricted.

E. Enrollment Update

Ms. Carla Levenson spoke to the board the strong enrollment interest at Da Vinci Schools. Each month about 150 new unique applicants apply.

The enrollment projection this year is 2490 students across all schools. DVC, DVD, DVS, Connect are over enrolled, and enrollment has been paused at Connect High and Remote due to SB 98.

Students come from 113 different zip codes, and there are 1,203 waitlisted students, including 440 for 9th grade. RISE New Earth is still enrolling. Connect High shows a lot of diversity.

DVC had 12 no-shows, DVD had 18, and DVS had 6. These are students who enrolled but never showed up, which is why the enrollment team over-enrolls the sites.

86% of Dana 8th graders moved to DV 9th grade. 31 WUSD residents returned to the district for this year.

F. Operations Update

Mr. Vicente Bravo shared that his team is assessing the HVAC systems at the schools. He also commented that they are receiving items which have been ordered such as canopies and standing shields. PPE is also coming in, such as the equipment being provided by the state.

Chromebooks have been issued. The IT team has handled 400 support tickets for staff and ___ for students.

Grab and Go meal distributions are being conducted by the meal team.

Screening will be conducted at the sites using either the Raptor or Facilitron systems.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes of the July 29, 2020 Regular Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

B. Meath made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting on 07-29-20.

J. Morgan seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Brann Aye
J. Morgan Aye
B. Meath Aye
D. Boston Aye
K. Latuner Aye

B. Approve the Minutes of the July 29, 2020 Da Vinci Schools Special Board Meeting

B. Meath made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools SPECIAL Board Meeting on 07-29-20.

J. Morgan seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Brann Aye
J. Morgan Aye
K. Latuner Aye
B. Meath Aye
D. Boston Aye

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Accept Check Register - July 2020

J. Morgan made a motion to accept the July 2020 Check Register.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Boston Aye
K. Latuner Aye
D. Brann Aye
B. Meath Aye
J. Morgan Aye

B.

Approve the Da Vinci Schools Unaudited Actual Financial Report for 2019-20

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Da Vinci Schools Unaudited Actual Financial Report for 2019-20.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

J. Morgan Aye

D. Brann Aye

D. Boston Aye

K. Latuner Aye

B. Meath Aye

C. Approve the 2020-21 Consolidated Applications for Da Vinci Connect, Communications, Design, and Science

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the 2020-21 Consolidated Applications for Da Vinci Connect, Communications, Design, and Science.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Boston Aye

K. Latuner Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Brann Aye

J. Morgan Aye

D. Approve and Adopt the Revised Independent Study Board Policy

J. Morgan made a motion to approve and adopt the Revised Independent Study Board Policy.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

K. Latuner Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Brann Aye

D. Boston Aye

J. Morgan Aye

E. Approve Da Vinci Schools Employee Handbook

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Da Vinci Schools Employee Handbook.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

B. Meath Aye
J. Morgan Aye
D. Boston Aye
K. Latuner Aye
D. Brann Aye

F. Approve 2020-21 Connect High School and Da Vinci Extension Student and Family Handbook

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the 2020-21 Connect High School and Da Vinci Extension Student and Family Handbook.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

K. Latuner Aye
J. Morgan Aye
B. Meath Aye
D. Brann Aye
D. Boston Aye

G. Approve Revisions to Policy to Address Racist, Discriminatory, and Dehumanizing Incidents

J. Morgan made a motion to approve Revisions to the Policy to Address Racist, Discriminatory, and Dehumanizing Incidents.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

B. Meath Aye
D. Brann Aye
J. Morgan Aye
D. Boston Aye
K. Latuner Aye

H. Approve and Adopt the Home Hospital Instruction Policy

J. Morgan made a motion to approve and adopt the Home Hospital Instruction Policy.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

K. Latuner Aye
D. Brann Aye
B. Meath Aye
D. Boston Aye

Roll Call

J. Morgan Aye

I. Approve Master Contract for S.T.A.R. of California Non-Public Agency for Special Education Services

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Master Contract for S.T.A.R. of California Non-Public Agency for Special Education Services.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

K. Latuner Aye

D. Brann Aye

J. Morgan Aye

D. Boston Aye

B. Meath Aye

J. Approve Memorandum of Understanding with Concordia University to Provide Fieldwork for Counseling Credential Students

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Concordia University to Provide Fieldwork for Counseling Credential Students.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Boston Aye

B. Meath Aye

J. Morgan Aye

D. Brann Aye

K. Latuner Aye

K. Approve Appointment of Christopher Taylor to Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board of Directors as of August 19, 2020 (Term Until 8/19/21)

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Appointment of Christopher Taylor to Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board of Directors as of August 19, 2020 (Term until 8/19/21).

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

K. Latuner Aye

D. Brann Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Boston Aye

J. Morgan Aye

L.

Approve Appointment of Carla McCullough to Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board of Directors as of August 19, 2020 (Term Until 8/19/23)

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Appointment of Carla McCullough to Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board of Directors as of August 19, 2020 (Term until 8/19/21).

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

J. Morgan Aye

K. Latuner Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Boston Aye

D. Brann Aye

V. Closed Session

A. Conference with Legal Counsel

Dr. Ring thanked the board for approving the new RISE board members, and thanked Nichol Whiteman and Brenda Freiberg for their service to the Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board of Directors.

Closed Session was entered at 7:31 p.m.

VI. Closing Items

A. Reconvene for Public Session & Closed Session Reporting

The public session reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

Dr. Brann reported that no action was taken.

Dr. Wunder requested a special board meeting for two topics:

The financial report - would like the board to consider reinstating level increases.

He also wanted to respond to the concerns from the public comments, and share with the board the action around diversity, equity and inclusion. Dr. Brann reminded everyone that the board requested all communications around this topic.

Dr. Brann inquired about the level increases, and Dr. Wunder clarified that the increases would be for all staff, certificated and classified.

Ms. Wohlwerth will coordinate dates for the additional board meeting.

B. Adjourn Meeting

J. Morgan made a motion to adjourn.

K. Latuner seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

B. Meath Aye

D. Brann Aye

D. Boston Aye

K. Latuner Aye

J. Morgan Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Wohlwerth