



Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday May 26, 2021 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/91453823833>, Meeting ID: 914 5382 3833, 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 each 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 the CEO's office 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. Brann (remote), J. Morgan (remote), J. Webber (remote), R. Ochoa (remote), R. Santiago (remote)

Trustees Absent

D. Boston

Guests Present

A. Johnson (remote), A. Wohlwerth (remote), B. Silvers (remote), C. Levenson (remote), D.R. Moreland (remote), E. D'Souza (remote), J. Hawn (remote), K. Toon (remote), M. Amato (remote), M. Denniston (remote), M. Rainey (remote), M. Wunder (remote), S. Wallis (remote), Tori Grafeman (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 May 26, 2021 at 6:03 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Approval of Agenda

B. Meath made a motion to approve.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

J. Morgan Aye

J. Webber Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

R. Santiago Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Brann Aye

Roll Call

D. Boston Absent

D. Public Comments

Mr. and Mrs. Dana Arazi, Connect parents, made a comment regarding a work journal compliance matter.

Dr. Brann requested a report from staff regarding the situation.

II. Information

A. From the Board

Mr. Meath acknowledged the hard work of all Da Vinci staff during this difficult year.

Mr. Santiago concurred with Mr. Meath.

Dr. Brann commented that it had been an unprecedented year, that he is proud of everyone's efforts, and that he looks forward to the next school year.

B. From the CEO

Brief discussion on graduation ceremonies ensued.

Dr. Wunder commented that Da Vinci staff is sprinting uphill for the next three weeks with the end of the year activities. He also commented that early indications are that Da Vinci Connect High School will receive full WASC accreditation. He also commented that the team, including Wiseburn leaders Dr. Silvers and Ms. Harbeck, is working on building next year's K-12 music program.

C. Financial Update

Mr. Amato shared the April 2021 balance sheet and profit & loss statements. Dr. Wunder added that the line of credit increase with Banc of California has been renewed.

Mr. Amato continued with the P&L, saying that there are no material differences between the projections and actuals to report as the organization heads into the end of the year.

Mr. Meath inquired about accounts payable. Mr. Amato explained that in early 2020, he had done a lot of work on assuring accuracy, and is confident that accounts payable will be properly booked.

Mr. Amato briefly commented on the California State-funded program Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant Plans (ELOP) funds. The program was only recently announced and each school has created a plan for use of the funds which are presented for the Board's approval.

Regarding the Governor's May Budget Revision, Mr. Amato noted the COLA increase for LCFF funding is 5.07%, including a 4.07% base and 1% supplement. The revised budget also included a 4.05% increase for COLA to SPED revenue and a 1.7% increase in mandated block grants and child nutrition funds.

Discussion on LCFF deferrals ensued. In Mr. Denniston's view, the Governor is betting that voters care more about universal Transitional Kindergarten (TK) programs than eliminating all education deferrals.

Mr. Amato also noted that future planned LCFF COLA increases for the 2022-23 are proposed to be 2.8% and 3.11% in 2023-24. Mr. Denniston reminded the board that these are only proposals, and the State is proposing universal TK for all 4-year-olds by 2024-25. There is no additional money to pay down retirement (CalSTRS and PERS). Mr. Denniston anticipates the State will allocate more funds for summer school which will help to alleviate learning loss.

Mr. Denniston further discussed the Governor's proposal triggering a potential cap on school district reserves of 10% (that does not apply to charters). This is a large change since the current statewide average is 20%. 10% is too low for school districts, especially given deferrals. Further brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Amato went on to discuss the PPP loans, saying that the Banc of California is seeing longer timeframes for organizations to receive their loan forgiveness. Mr. Amato is not concerned as forgiveness can be received up until the audit is complete in October.

The Line of Credit increased from \$1.5MM to \$2.5MM, and interest rate decreased from 5% to 4.75%.

Da Vinci's share of ESSR III stimulus funds were estimated early on to be \$1.6MM. The CDE recently released preliminary estimates which were higher. Da Vinci Connect's and Communications' allocations increased significantly. Brief discussion ensued on the funds and the timing of their use. The funds require the school sites to submit a written plan 90 days from now.

Mr. Amato commented on Deferred Maintenance, saying that wording of the Facilities Use Agreement has been agreed upon with Wiseburn saying that there is no need to open a separate bank account just for deferred maintenance funds. For the period from FY17-18 through the end of FY20-21 \$545,742 of Da Vinci reserves will be designated for unrestricted deferred maintenance. Each year beginning with the FY21-22 budget, 1% of LCFF unrestricted reserves will be transferred to deferred maintenance.

The Board thanked Mr. Amato for his work.

D. Operations Update

Mr. Bravo introduced the new Athletic Director, D.R. Moreland, and the interim Athletic Director, Tori Grafeman. Discussion on athletics ensued, and the Board members welcomed Mr. Moreland and thanked him and Ms. Grafeman.

Mr. Bravo commented on the film shoot occurring on campus and the graduation ceremonies. Graduation plans have been submitted to the L.A. County Department of Public Health (required for events of 250 people or more).

Mr. Bravo also commented that the Black Box theater is complete, and a brief video of the space being used was shown. A video wall was installed as well as a new stage, camera, sound and baffle system. Seating capacity for the space is 400; but less with the COVID-19 restrictions.

Ms. Morgan expressed her enthusiasm for the completed project, and thanked Ms. Levenson, Mr. Bravo and the staff for their hard work. Dr. Webber agreed, saying that the facilities are world-class, and the school is ideally located for not only students but members of the public to appreciate.

E. Public Notice: Commission on Teacher Credentialing Waiver Request

Brief discussion among Dr. Brann, Dr. Hawn, and Dr. Wunder on the difficulty in filling speech language pathologist positions ensued.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes of the April 28, 2021 Regular Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

B. Meath made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting on 04-28-21.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Boston Absent
J. Morgan Aye
B. Meath Aye
J. Webber Aye
R. Santiago Aye
R. Ochoa Aye
D. Brann Aye

B. Approve the Minutes of the May 12, 2021 Special Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

B. Meath made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Special Board Meeting on 05-12-21.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

R. Santiago Aye
D. Boston Absent

Roll Call

J. Webber Aye
D. Brann Aye
J. Morgan Aye
R. Ochoa Aye
B. Meath Aye

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Accept Da Vinci Schools Payment Register - April 2021

R. Santiago made a motion to accept the Da Vinci Schools April 2021 Payment Register.
R. Ochoa seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Webber Aye
D. Brann Aye
B. Meath Aye
J. Morgan Aye
R. Ochoa Aye
D. Boston Absent
R. Santiago Aye

B. Approve Designating Unrestricted Reserve Funds for Deferred Maintenance for High Schools Facility per Facilities Use Agreement

Brief discussion by Dr. Wunder, Dr. Silvers, and Dr. Brann on the 201 N. Douglas Street move-in date and the proration of the first year's deferred maintenance amount.
D. Brann made a motion to approve Designating Unrestricted Reserve Funds for Deferred Maintenance for High Schools Facility per Facilities Use Agreement.
J. Morgan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Santiago Aye
D. Boston Absent
R. Ochoa Aye
J. Morgan Aye
J. Webber Aye
D. Brann Aye
B. Meath Aye

C. Approve Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant Plans

R. Santiago made a motion to approve the Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant Plans.
R. Ochoa seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Santiago Aye
D. Brann Aye
B. Meath Aye
J. Morgan Aye
D. Boston Absent
J. Webber Aye
R. Ochoa Aye

D. Approve Commission on Teacher Credentialing Waiver Request

R. Santiago made a motion to approve the Commission on Teacher Credentialing Waiver Request.

R. Ochoa seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Boston Absent
R. Santiago Aye
R. Ochoa Aye
D. Brann Aye
B. Meath Aye
J. Morgan Aye
J. Webber Aye

V. Action Items

A. Approve Lease Agreement for 550 Continental Blvd.

Item was tabled, as the lease agreement had not yet been produced.

VI. Closed Session

A. Conference with Legal Counsel

The Board entered Closed Session at 7:20 p.m.

VII. Closing Items

A. Reconvene for Public Session & Closed Session Reporting

Public Session resumed at 8:58 p.m.

Dr. Brann reported no action was taken in Closed Session.

B. Adjourn Meeting

J. Morgan made a motion to adjourn.

B. Meath seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

R. Santiago Aye

J. Webber Aye

D. Boston Absent

J. Morgan Aye

B. Meath Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

D. Brann Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Wohlwerth