APPROVED

Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday September 29, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Location
Zoom videoconference

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/98203668493, Meeting ID: 982 0366 8493, 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 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. Boston (remote), D. Brann (remote), J. Morgan (remote), J. Webber (remote), R. Ochoa (remote), R. Santiago (remote)

Trustees Absent
None

Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened
B. Meath

Guests Present
A. Johnson (remote), A. Wohlwerth (remote), C. Levenson (remote), Carisma De Anda (remote), D.R. Moreland (remote), Daniela Torres (remote), E. Green (remote), Emma Enriquez (remote), Franki Johnson (remote), J. Hawn (remote), L. Rodriguez (remote), M. Amato (remote), M. Denniston (remote), M. Rainey (remote), M. Wunder (remote), Noah Chan (remote), Tania Newman (remote), V. Bravo (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 Sep 29, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Approval of Agenda

J. Morgan made a motion to approve.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B. Meath arrived at 6:05 PM.

D. Public Comments

None

II. Information

A. From the Board

Dr. Webber commented that she appreciated the joint board meeting and is excited about working with the Wiseburn board.

Mr. Santiago concurred.

Mr. Ochoa also appreciated the joint board meeting, as did Mr. Meath.

Mr. Boston seconded the comments of the other board members.

B. From the CEO/Superintendent

Dr. Wunder also believed the joint board meeting was positive and helpful. He thanked Dr. Webber and Ms. JoAnne Kaneda for their work in pulling together the meeting.

He introduced Dr. Allegra Johnson who spoke of the first of a series of articulation meetings between Da Vinci and Wiseburn principals that she is coordinating with Dr. Aileen Harbeck. They focused on Da Vinci pathways and Dana signature practices at their meeting, to better align Dana and Da Vinci and facilitate students' transition from middle to high school. Future meetings will discuss the K-12 math pathway, and K-12 socio-emotional learning.

Dr. Wunder then shared that the first Parent/Guardian Advisory Committee meeting had been held. Over 80 parents signed up for the Committee, and rather than turn any away, Dr. Wunder enlarged the group. The Advisory Committee will help strengthen communications with the Wiseburn + Da Vinci community.

Regarding the Strong Workforce Partnership, Dr. Wunder commented on the digital badging and certifications, and last mile training work that is being set up to provide a pathway for all students to successful adulthood.

C. Student Board Member Update

Dr. Wunder commented that he respects the student board members' dedication.

Dr. Hawn introduced the student board members.

Student Board coordinator Carisma De Anda and student board members Tania Newman, Emma Enriquez, Franki Johnson, and Daniela Torres provided the report.

Tania Newman presented Da Vinci Design's update, saying that campus events such as Club Fair, Community Dialogue (CD), and Back to School Night have been enthusiastically received. Virtual college visits have commenced. It has not taken long for the students to reacclimate to in-person classes and COVID protocols.

Emma Enriquez presented the Da Vinci Science report, speaking about book fairs, Hispanic Heritage month, field trips, Club Fair, Seminars, and Science students volunteering to tutor RISE High students. Students reported that they are more engaged and happy to see their classmates in person. Targeted support time has been built into students' schedules on Tuesday afternoons so that students don't have to come in early or stay late for office hours.

Franki Johnson reported that Da Vinci Connect High School held a virtual Open House, in-person Club Fair, and are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month that will culminate in a Culture Day. Ms. Johnson felt that being in-person has been very positive, connecting students to each other outside of classe. Connect High School students are looking forward to moving to their new facility. DV Connect High School students have completed five SNHU college courses and four El Camino College courses.

Daniela Torres reported that Da Vinci Communications held a Club Fair, a Door Decorating Contest for Hispanic Heritage Month, and will later hold a Halloween Spirit week and a Hispanic Heritage Month-focused Community Dialogue. Students have been enthusiastic about being on campus and have maintained a warm, supportive school culture.

D. Presentation: COVID Update

Dr. Wunder shared that the presentation will highlight staff recommendations, but there are no related items for board approval on the agenda.

Dr. Green shared the updated COVID-19 Dashboard. Mr. Boston requested the columns be totaled.

Health & Safety Protocols:
Dr. Green's staff have been administering 150-200 PCR tests per week on average to students and staff. Student testing for unvaccinated students participating in indoor sports and FRC (robotics) has commenced.

Masking indoors is being adhered to by all.
Seating charts are crucial for contact tracing; seating has been modified when possible to minimize transmission potential.
Staggered schedules prevent overcrowding at entrance/egress points.
Indoor air quality is now the focus; cleaning and sanitizing are performed when students are not on campus. Monitoring systems have been installed at all sites.

Dr. Hawn presented local trends, saying that other schools, like Da Vinci, are following State guidelines for staff vaccination or weekly testing. Some districts and local universities are requiring staff and student vaccinations with no testing options.

Wiseburn and other neighboring districts require masking indoors; other districts required indoor and outdoor masking in response to outbreaks.

Dr. Green presented Leadership Recommendations. School districts can make their own decisions from most to least restrictive practices in masking, vaccination, quarantine periods, physical distancing, Plexiglas dividers and cleaning. Da Vinci falls between Restrictive and Very Restrictive on the decision-making continuum.

Dr. Hawn shared recommendations for surveillance testing. Da Vinci does not currently recommend surveillance testing, but could change this if the Board desires to pursue it. This type of testing is of limited usefulness at this time. Mr. Boston inquired if surveillance testing would be of value in reassuring families. Dr. Green said such testing can't prevent transmission, but is reflective of the community case rate at a given point in time. Surveillance testing could mean testing everyone weekly, or testing everyone on return from Winter Break, or testing vaccinated people once a month. Dr. Green is researching mobile testing companies to provide surveillance testing if it is needed. Surveillance testing would be in addition to current testing being done at Da Vinci.

In response to Mr. Ochoa's inquiry, Dr. Green shared that 250 students a week, or about 10% of the total student body, are taking advantage of testing at school.

Masking is required indoors at all California schools; medical exemptions (with a note by a physician) are allowed, but the schools have leeway on how to accommodate the request. Face shields with drapes, twice-weekly testing and physical distancing are required for those with exemptions. Independent Study is offered to those families who are not interested in those options. Currently, there are no students on campus with those accommodations, although Dr. Green is talking with a few families to ensure their

comfort level with the option they have chosen. Currently, there are no students who have opted for Independent Study as opposed to some other solution.

Vaccination for Staff: Da Vinci is preparing to comply with the State Public Health Order to require staff vaccinations or weekly testing. No student vaccination mandate had been issued at the time of the board meeting.

Vaccination for Individuals on Campus for Extended Periods: This would include consultants, volunteers, student teachers, college representatives, interns, agency staff, tour participants, and university observers. Such people would be asked to show vaccination proof or a negative test result issued within the previous 72 hours.

Visitors on Campus for a Short Period of Time: Staff recommend no vaccination or testing requirement, but would be asked to self-attest that they were not ill with any COVID symptoms.

Quarantine Period: Da Vinci is using LACDPH quarantine guidelines. Vaccinated students exposed to a COVID case do not need to quarantine but should test 3-5 days after exposure. Unvaccinated students exposed are quarantined for either 10 days with no test or after 8 days with a negative test result on or after day 5. New update as of September 24: unvaccinated students exposed at school where staff can confirm masks were worn during the exposure period are eligible for a modified quarantine where if tested twice weekly and asymptomatic, they may attend school for classes but not extracurriculars.

Wiseburn Unified has implemented the modified quarantine. The Wiseburn board is not creating policies but schools are implementing COVID protocols, due to the ever-changing guidance. Not all communities are the same.

Ms. Morgan inquired about the language "encouraged to test" vs. "required to test" since it is known that vaccinated people who are exposed are experiencing break-through cases of COVID. Dr. Green responded that this is the County's language. Da Vinci could require the testing if the board thinks it best.

Dr. Brann commended Dr. Green's efforts in the face of the ever-changing guidelines.

Brief discussion of Connect TK-8 ensued. Dr. Green commented that mandating testing at Connect K-8 is more problematic since parents need to request/consent to testing for that age group. Dr. Green is encouraged by families' willingness to test and keep the community safe.

Board members' thoughts are welcomed by Dr. Green, Dr. Hawn, Dr. Wunder, and staff.

Mr. Santiago inquired and Dr. Green confirmed that staff reporting they are vaccinated but not offering proof will be required to test weekly.

E. Financial Update

Mr. Amato shared the 2020-21 year-end unaudited actual financial results to be presented to Wiseburn and auditors. Brief discussion on philanthropic funding ensued.

Auditors will be doing fieldwork in November, and their results will be presented at the January 26, 2022 board meeting.

Mr. Amato covered the current balance sheet and profit and loss statements, saying that the previously-delayed State LCFF revenue has now been received; Da Vinci's cash position is healthy. Profit & Loss results for August show nothing out of the ordinary regarding revenue. Other revenue both Federal (ESSER II funds, COVID testing funds, etc.), State (in-person instruction grant, ELOP grant etc.), and philanthropic (Chevron, Northrop Grumman, etc.) were discussed.

Salary expenses reflected the 3.75% salary COLA increases approved by the board. Health benefits costs will not increase in January thanks to Dr. Hawn's efforts. Budgets are re-projected in October and November and presented to the Board in December.

Dr. Brann inquired if Mr. Amato has revisited enrollment expectations impacting the budget. Mr. Amato shared that enrollment is lower than expected at Connect TK-8 and High School. Annual ADA average percentages must also be taken into account; while those are on target, if enrollment is lower, Mr. Amato will report on how that may impact funding. Da Vinci Communications is currently under projected enrollment, but Science is over enrollment, so the 201 schools as a whole are fine. The enrollment projections were kept conservative (95%), which helps. Dr. Brann spoke of the declining enrollment impacting districts all over the State, and the reckoning that districts will face when the hold harmless provision is withdrawn.

F. Operations Update

Mr. Bravo spoke of a previous incident handled jointly by the El Segundo Police Department and Da Vinci staff, and thanked the ESPD for their work. Mr. Bravo also mentioned the critical incident drill in which ESPD and the El Segundo Fire Department participated. Fire drills and an earthquake drill will also be held in October.

Construction is ongoing at the 550 Continental Blvd. campus for DV Connect High School and DVX.

Parent Liza Somilleda has been working with the Hawthorne and El Segundo Police Departments to present a bike safety class for Da Vinci and Wiseburn students on October 13.

Mr. D.R. Moreland, Athletic Director, was happy to share that Da Vinci will be in the CIF Pioneer League starting in the 2022-23 school year with Torrance, Lawndale, and El Segundo schools.

Current Magna Carta-allowed sports at Da Vinci are Basketball, Soccer, Volleyball, Cross Country, Track, Swim (all co-ed), Girls' Softball, and Boys' Baseball. Water Polo and Tennis could be added under the Magna Carta, but are dependent on student interest. 22 students are interested in participating in Tennis.

Sports Da Vinci does not offer since they are not listed in the Magna Carta are Badminton, Lacrosse, Golf, Wrestling, and Football. Mr. Boston inquired about who makes the decision on adding sports. Mr. Moreland responded that there are many considerations (financial, facilities rental, staffing, travel costs, and student interest by grade for sustainability, etc.). Mr. Boston brought up the consideration that different sports can change the character of a school. Dr. Brann added that there are only so many hours in the day, and students have many demands on their time. CIF requires seven sports for girls and seven sports for boys, which Da Vinci meets. Dr. Brann commented that The Lakes golf course and Top Golf are being installed in El Segundo, and could be a resource for Da Vinci.

Dr. Wunder stipulated that moving forward, no new sports will be added without Board approval.

Dr. Brann thanked Mr. Moreland for his report. Mr. Santiago encouraged Mr. Moreland to make his decisions based on his criteria, and leave the potential for changing school culture up to the Board. Mr. Boston concurred, clarifying that he was not asking Mr. Moreland to weigh in on changing school culture. Mr. Ochoa looked forward to Mr. Moreland's recommendations.

Dr. Wunder shared that the Athletics budget for the 2021-22 school year is $430K.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes of the August 25, 2021 Regular Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

B. Meath made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting on 08-25-21.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Ochoa	Aye
D. Boston	Aye

Roll Call

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

B. Approval of Minutes of the September 15, 2021 Joint Wiseburn + Da Vinci Board Meeting

B. Meath made a motion to approve.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Accept Da Vinci Schools Payment Register - August 2021

J. Morgan made a motion to accept the Da Vinci Schools Payment Register for August 2021.
J. Webber seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B. Approve 2020-21 Year End Unaudited Actual Reports to Wiseburn Unified School District

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the 2020-21 Year End Unaudited Actual Reports to Wiseburn Unified School District.
J. Webber seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

C. Approve Master Contract for Beach Cities Learning, LLC Non-Public School

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Master Contract for Beach Cities Learning, LLC Non-Public School.
J. Webber seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

D. Approve Master Contract with EdTheory, LLC for Student Services

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Master Contract with EdTheory, LLC for Student Services.
J. Webber seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

E. Approve Report of Alternative Authorization of Teacher Assignments

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Report of Alternative Authorization of Teacher Assignments.
J. Webber seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

F. Approve Pay Rate Increase for Substitute Teachers

Dr. Brann spoke of the staffing difficulties that schools across the state are facing. He thinks other ways of staffing should be explored. In the past at Wiseburn, he paid an elevated rate and guaranteed work hours for substitute teachers to work only in the District schools. He also commented that some schools are wining and dining substitutes to keep their staffing up.
D. Brann made a motion to approve.
J. Morgan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

Dr. Wunder shared that Da Vinci principals and assistant principals have been substituting in classrooms almost daily, so this approval item is critical.

On a different note, Dr. Brann asked Trustees to consider attending the California Charter Schools Association conference in Long Beach in March 14-17, 2022. It would provide an opportunity to meet other charter school staff and board members and for Da Vinci Board members socialize with each other.

V. Closed Session

A. Conference with Legal Counsel

Closed Session entered at 8:02 p.m.

VI. Closing Items

A. Reconvene for Public Session & Closed Session Reporting

Public session resumed at 8:47 p.m.

Dr. Brann reported that no action had been taken in Closed Session.

B. Adjourn Meeting

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

Roll Call

J. Webber	Aye
B. Meath	Aye
R. Ochoa	Aye
R. Santiago	Aye
D. Boston	Aye
D. Brann	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 8:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Wohlwerth