

APPROVED



Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday January 26, 2022 at 6:00 PM

Location

Zoom

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/92991717380>, Meeting ID: 929 9171 7380, 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.
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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

D. Boston

Guests Present

A. Johnson (remote), A. Wohlwerth (remote), Aaron Diaz (remote), B. Silvers (remote), C. Miller (remote), Carisma De Anda (remote), Chiamaka Offokansi (remote), Christian Salinas (remote), Daniela Torres (remote), E. D'Souza (remote), G. Long (remote), G. White (remote), J. Hawn (remote), K. Toon (remote), Kevin Hunley (remote), Leilah Harper (remote), M. Amato (remote), M. Denniston (remote), M. Rainey (remote), M. Wunder (remote), Neil Goldman (remote), Noah Chan (remote), R. Stoll (remote), S. Wallis (remote), Tania Newman (remote), V. Bravo (remote), Vanessa Pineda (remote), Zirak Engineer (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 Jan 26, 2022 at 6:01 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Special Board Action - Approve and Adopt Board Resolution for Teleconference Board Meetings Pursuant to Special Rules in Government Code Section 54953(e)

J. Morgan made a motion to approve.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

D. Approval of Agenda

R. Santiago made a motion to approve.

B. Meath seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

E. Public Comments

None

II. Information

A. From the Board

Mr. Ochoa wished everyone a happy New Year.

Dr. Brann also wished everyone a happy New Year. He spoke about Israel Mora, who has resigned from the Wiseburn Unified School District Board after 20 years of service. Only 81 people have served on that board in its long history, and only six have served 20 years or more, showing Mr. Mora's rare commitment to public service. Dr. Brann gave some details of the the history of the Wiseburn board, expressed his appreciation for Mr. Mora's dedication, and wished him well in his future endeavors.

B. From the CEO/Superintendent

Dr. Wunder commented that he had met with Mr. Mora, and that so much of Da Vinci's ability to serve students well is because of Mr. Mora and Wiseburn's support of Da Vinci. Dr. Wunder also commented on the Metrics presentation on the agenda.

Dr. Brann is thankful for the foundation built by Wiseburn Board on which Da Vinci now stands.

C. Student Board Member Update

Dr. Hawn introduced Leilah Harper, Chiamaka Offokansi, Aaron Diaz, Christian Salinas, Zirak Engineer, and coordinator Carisma De Anda.

Leilah Harper gave the Design update, sharing that MAP testing was held in Advisory classes; seminars were being selected; Seniors were planning the prom for May; Spring sports have begun, and the Girls soccer team has been on a winning streak. Many students are taking advantage of on-campus COVID testing before and after school and at lunch.

Chiamaka Offokansi gave the report for Science, commenting on MAP testing, the FRC Kickoff, and Youth in Government conference scheduled for the weekend. She shared that Zoom office hours, assignment postings, and afterschool tutoring have helped all students keep up with school work. The School Site Council met to review the School Safety Plan and discuss academic performance and parent survey data.

Aaron Diaz gave the Connect High School update, saying that Spirit Week was held at the start of the second semester, and both cohorts of the school community are excited to move to the new campus on February 7 and 8.

Zirak Engineer gave the update for Connect K-8, saying that the new semester has brought a new, more traditional schedule. Students have been following COVID mask guidelines well during the Omicron COVID surge.

Christian Salinas gave the update for Communications, saying that Sexual Education, Bystander, and Harassment lessons have been held, as well as virtual counselor presentations for parents, and ongoing COVID testing. Upcoming events are a blood drive on February 14 and Black history month activities. Students have been following COVID protocols including social distancing, double masking, and for those students who have returned to online learning, teachers have adjusted the flexibility of their lessons.

D. Boston arrived at 6:16 PM.

D. Financial Update

Mr. Amato introduced Vanessa Pineda, a Director at Christy White Associates, Da Vinci Schools' auditor. Ms. Pineda gave the report for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year. The Auditor gives their opinion, a reasonable assurance that Da Vinci's financial statements are materially correct and Da Vinci is in compliance with Federal and State requirements. Christy White Associates gave an unmodified opinion (the best opinion an organization can receive) on the Da Vinci Schools' financial statements, internal control over financial

reporting, and compliance. No significant deficiencies or material weaknesses were found.

No new accounting policies were implemented in the 2020-21 fiscal year. No material misstatements were found. Ms. Pineda noted that this was a very clean report; most organizations have an issue here and there.

Ms. Pineda thanked Da Vinci's business office and CSMC for their assistance in this second year of remote auditing.

Mr. Meath asked if the auditor felt the board should discuss any of the findings with her.

Dr. Brann expressed his appreciation for Mr. Amato and Mr. Denniston's work, saying that he has never seen such a clean audit. He also thanked Ms. Michelle Rainey for her work with the auditors on independent study. Mr. Amato also thanked the staff, noted that approval of the audit report appears on the night's agenda, and that Da Vinci's tax return will be presented to the board in February and will be filed on time.

Mr. Amato gave the financial report, going over the December balance sheet, P&Ls, and July through December 2021 Year to Date Actuals. As of December, everything was on track, with only a few small variances to the budget.

Mr. Boston inquired about any significant January student absences due to the pandemic. Mr. Amato explained that the last full reporting period ran through December 31, 2021; January ADA reports will be covered in the February board meeting.

Mr. Amato spoke of waiting for the ECF federal grant award (which is not in the First Interim budget projection) which would pay for the cost of new Chromebooks for all sites. Da Vinci is not alone in waiting for the awards to be made. Da Vinci is also awaiting the A-G grant to help students with A-G course success and credit recovery.

The Governor's budget has been released. One of the key components is a 5.33% COLA. However, the rate for STRS is increasing 2.1% over the previous year, somewhat offsetting the COLA revenue.

Mr. Denniston reminded everyone that it is a budget proposal; what matters is the budget that is approved in late June. The non-partisan Legislative Analyst's Office is calling for a more measured budget.

Discussion of the retirement systems, STRS and PERS ensued, as well as a discussion of the creation of the Average Daily Attendance measurement rather than simple enrollment.

E. Annual Metrics Update

Dr. Hawn introduced the Metrics team of Dr. Allegra Johnson, Executive Director of Student Services; Gloria White, Director of Data Analysis; and Chris Miller, Data Coordinator.

Dr. Hawn shared the overview of the presentation: the importance of metrics, the focus on students, where we've been and where we're going, and internal and external data collection.

Dr. Johnson gave the context for the report. Ms. White shared that data is being used in many different ways at Da Vinci to reveal both academic outcomes and SEL/culture. Tools being used include the Da Vinci Data Hub that Mr. Miller has created, California Dashboard, National Clearinghouse, PowerSchool, Naviance, and Achieveworks surveys.

Da Vinci's Net Promoter Score is 71.4, which is very high considering the national decline in net promoter scores across all industries.

Dr. Hawn shared that the team of Dr. Johnson, Ms. White, Mr. Miller, the counselors, administrators, and teachers are integral to collecting and analyzing the data. The team is looking to expand how they gather, use, and prioritize the data in meaningful ways to improve practices and inform instruction.

Dr. Johnson noted that moving forward, the team will focus on having more stakeholder discussions on outcomes and assessment tools, focusing on signature practices, formative assessments, career readiness, and broadening the definition of inclusion. The team also wants to expand their collaboration and articulation with Wiseburn.

Mr. Boston commended the team for their work on making the mountain of data digestible and for the push on the diversity, equity, and belonging front. Dr. Brann also thanked the team for their amazing work and results.

F. Operations Update

Mr. Bravo spoke of working with Micron and Honeywell on the next phase of the indoor air quality program: monitoring CO2 and VOC levels. The current ionization system will be inspected, and the ionization and MERV filtration units will be installed in the main parts of the gym.

Mr. Bravo thanked school nurses Dr. Emily Green and Titsyana Lucero for their heroic and tireless health and testing work. Testing company IHD has been contracted to administer PCR tests.

The potential for an outdoor car show on campus is being explored.

Mr. Santiago inquired about the practice fields for athletics. Mr. Bravo commented that the fields have been secured for baseball and soccer. In a good neighbor exchange, the track team will be practicing on the El Segundo High School track two days a week. El Segundo High used the Da Vinci gym last season when theirs was undergoing maintenance.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes of the December 15, 2021 Special Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Special Board Meeting on 12-15-21.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

B. Approval of Minutes of the December 15, 2021 Regular Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting on 12-15-21.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Accept Da Vinci Schools Payment Register - December 2021

J. Morgan made a motion to accept the December 2021 payment register.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

R. Santiago Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

J. Morgan Aye

J. Webber Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Boston Aye

D. Brann Aye

B. Approve Fiscal Year 2020-21 Annual Audit Report

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Annual Audit Report.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Boston Aye

B. Meath Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

J. Webber Aye

R. Santiago Aye

D. Brann Aye

J. Morgan Aye

C. Ratify Dannon Development Proposal for Fire System at 550 Continental Blvd.

Mr. Bravo explained that for the El Segundo municipal code, there has to be one single fire system throughout the 550 Continental Blvd. property where Connect High School will be operating. Dr. Brann commented that Da Vinci relied on the information from an interim Fire Marshall, and the current Fire Chief and Fire Marshall required a single alarm system, creating a budget overage and delay in moving in. Future expansion will be able to be housed in the same building, avoiding future expenses of this type.

J. Morgan made a motion to ratify the Dannon Development Proposal for the Fire System at 550 Continental Blvd.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

J. Morgan Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

D. Boston Aye

B. Meath Aye

J. Webber Aye

R. Santiago Aye

Roll Call

D. Brann Aye

D. Ratify Paid Internship Credential Program Agreement with National University

J. Morgan made a motion to ratify the Paid Internship Credential Program Agreement with National University.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

R. Santiago Aye

J. Webber Aye

B. Meath Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

D. Boston Aye

D. Brann Aye

J. Morgan Aye

E. Approve Internship Agreement for National University School Psychology Intern for Connect High School

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the Internship Agreement for National University School Psychology Intern for Connect High School.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

B. Meath Aye

J. Webber Aye

D. Boston Aye

R. Santiago Aye

J. Morgan Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

D. Brann Aye

F. Approve Paid Sick Leave for COVID-19

Dr. Brann commented that Dr. Hawn suggested paid COVID-19 sick leave to help staff who are sick, caring for an ill family member, or impacted by daycare closures, etc.

The Federal provision for paid COVID sick leave ended in December 2021. Da Vinci staff had not really been impacted until the Omicron surge. There is no significant financial impact to Da Vinci offering 10 additional paid sick days for COVID.

State tax credits are being considered, but have not been approved yet.

Ms. Morgan inquired if the days would be tracked differently than the usual sick days. The HR/payroll team have already begun setting up a system to differentiate these sick days.

The sick leave would be retroactive to January 1 and will end on June 30, 2022.

D. Brann made a motion to approve.

J. Morgan seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Brann Aye

B. Meath Aye

J. Webber Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

R. Santiago Aye

J. Morgan Aye

D. Boston Aye

G. Approve the 2020-21 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Communications

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the 2020-21 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Communications.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

J. Webber Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Boston Aye

R. Santiago Aye

D. Brann Aye

J. Morgan Aye

H. Approve the 2020-21 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Design

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the 2020-21 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Design.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Boston Aye

D. Brann Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

J. Morgan Aye

R. Santiago Aye

B. Meath Aye

Roll Call

J. Webber Aye

I. Approve the 2020-21 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Science

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the 2020-21 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Science.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

R. Santiago Aye

J. Morgan Aye

D. Boston Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

D. Brann Aye

B. Meath Aye

J. Webber Aye

J. Approve the 2020-21 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Connect

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the 2020-21 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Connect.

J. Webber 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

R. Ochoa Aye

J. Webber Aye

R. Santiago Aye

V. Closed Session

A. Conference with Legal Counsel

Before the Board moved to Closed Session, Dr. Brann briefly discussed the potential Joint Board meeting dates proposed by Wiseburn. The Board members were asked to check their availability for February 15.

Closed Session was entered at 8:12 p.m.

VI. Closing Items

A. Reconvene for Public Session & Closed Session Reporting

Public session resumed at 9:14 p.m.

Dr. Brann stated that no action was taken in Closed Session.

B. Adjourn Meeting

J. Morgan made a motion to adjourn.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

R. Ochoa Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Brann Aye

J. Morgan Aye

D. Boston Aye

J. Webber Aye

R. Santiago Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Wohlwerth

The next Da Vinci Schools Board meeting will be held on February 23, 2022 at 6 p.m.