



## Da Vinci Schools

### Minutes

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

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##### Date and Time

Wednesday April 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM

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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/98018541135> Meeting ID: 980 1854 1135, 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
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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).)

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#### **Trustees Present**

A. Montes-Rodriguez (remote), C. McCullough (remote), C. Taylor (remote), J. Morgan (remote), L. Jennings (remote)

#### **Trustees Absent**

T. Johnstone

#### **Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened**

C. Taylor

#### **Guests Present**

Anthony Gay (remote), Ashley Oku (remote), E'bow Morgan (remote), E. Salango (remote), E. Whalen (remote), Edith Funes (remote), J. Hawn (remote), M. Amato (remote), Miles Denniston (remote), N. Lara (remote)

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### **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 Apr 20, 2022 at 6:02 PM.

#### **B. Record Attendance and Guests**

#### **C. Approval of Agenda**

A. Montes-Rodriguez made a motion to approve the agenda.

C. McCullough seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

L. Jennings	Aye
C. Taylor	Absent
T. Johnstone	Absent

**Roll Call**

C. McCullough	Aye
J. Morgan	Aye
A. Montes-Rodriguez	Aye

**D. Public Comments**

None.

**II. Special Board Action**

**A. Special Board Action: Approve and Adopt Board Resolution Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for the Period April 1, 2022 through April 30, 2022**

J. Morgan made a motion to Approve and Adopt Board Resolution Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for the Period April 1, 2022 through April 30, 2022.

L. Jennings seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**III. Information: Board Comments and/or Administrative Reports**

**A. From the Board**

Dr. Jennings shared her gratitude to all DV RISE staff in attendance at the TFA annual benefit event.

**B. From the CEO/Superintendent**

None.

**C. From the Principal/Executive Director**

RISE 2021-22 Priorities: Data-driven, campus culture, college, and career.

March Data and Demographics Data Update

RISE serves 224 students, 41% of whom are opportunity youth. ADA from 3/7-4/1 was 55.63% at Richstone, 51.18% at APCH, and 53.19% at New Earth.

School-wide ADA is 53.40%. Mr. Whalen shared a breakdown of the number of foster youth, probationary youth, housing unstable (which changes weekly), and parenting youth across the RISE sites.

#### Student Support Services Update

Mr. Whalen highlighted data pertaining to student support services provided from January through April from APCH and Richstone.

#### Partnership and RISE Updates

APCH: Basketball courts are now open. Lunch services are in the main building. In-person after school APCH programming is from 5pm - 6:30pm. Student internships are taking place.

Richstone: RISE and Richstone staff collaborated on Intersession programming and offered a week of World of Work experiences. Hawthorne PD provided CPR & First Aid training and discussed their careers and passions. Kinecta Credit union branch manager and reps taught a financial literacy session. There were two career panels, one with SpaceX employees and the other featuring entrepreneurs, social media content creators, and a financial advisor.

NE: New Earth students were provided Academic Support during intersession. Students engaged in Unstoppable Week, which included an aquarium trip, staff-student kickball, substance-use awareness, yoga, and girl's group. The New Earth gala is on Sunday, May 1st.

#### RISE Advocacy and Fundraising

LACOE Board members and staff visited RISE at Richstone. They spent time with students, observed STEM and Humanities courses, and discussed data with Mrs. Lara and Mr. Whalen.

Members of the Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine, Magic Johnson Foundation, and Gibson Consulting and Solutions also visited RISE at Richstone. They shared their interest in the work RISE is doing regarding trauma-informed practices. These groups are seeking to support RISE through advocacy and possible financial sustainability.

Senator Kamlager sat down with RISE staff and students during a virtual visit. She had a chance to meet staff, discuss RISE's impact, review data, and join student circle. Senator Kamlager shared her interest in supporting RISE in the future.

Grants currently in progress are the Homeless Initiative HIP grant due April 29th and the California Community Foundation LA Scholars Investment Fund due May 3rd. Letters of Interest for the Parsons Foundation and Ballmer Group are currently in progress.

#### 2022 Spring Intercession

At Richstone, students learned CPR and First Aid from Hawthorne Police Department officers and paramedics. The officers shared how the police departments have focused on increasing their capacity to provide lifesaving aid as first responders. One of the

officers shared how he is also an ER Doctor at Torrance Memorial. At APCH, the students were engaged in a scavenger hunt seeking out the works of Basquiat, Warhol, and more at the Broad Museum. Many students displayed their refined speaking and listening skills by leveraging the museum staff to assist them with finding the needed information.

Mr. Whalen asked for support as students approach a heavy testing season. Due to multiple accountability measures, RISE students will need to complete the following assessments before the end of the year: CAASPP, CAST, PFT, and NWEA MAP. This amounts to over 10.5 hours of testing for many students, which is particularly challenging because many students have negative associations with testing. Staff are doing their best to motivate students and are requesting help in seeking incentives and rewards for their hard work.

Mrs. Montes-Rodriguez inquired about school partnerships for next year. Mr. Whalen shared that MOU's are in progress and will be shared with the Board for review and approval. Mrs. Montes-Rodriguez asked about space limitations with increased enrollment and on-site learning. Mr. Whalen shared that space at APCH and NE is not an issue. Staff is seeking creative ways of utilizing space at Richstone.

Dr. Jennings and Dr. McCullough thanked staff for their amazing work.  
C. Taylor arrived at 6:19 PM.

#### **D. Financial Update**

Mr. Amato reviewed the March financial statements starting with the Balance sheet through the end of March. Cash-in-bank is \$299,560. The last transfer of the original XQ grant (\$693,000) will boost cash for the remainder of the year. Accounts receivable and liabilities are normal. Profit and loss show a large loss, but the incoming transfer of XQ money is revenue that affects total net assets.

Dr. Jennings asked about the timeline of the XQ transfer, and Mr. Amato shared that the money will be coming in at the end of the week.

Mr. Amato reviewed the P&L and noted a surplus of \$11,996 in the second interim year-end projection. RISE is on track to come in at the \$11,996 surplus. The bottom line net income through March shows a large loss, but with the XQ revenue in April, net income will balance out.

Mr. Taylor inquired about the about projected revenues and liabilities for the 22-23SY. Mr. Amato shared that the budget will be presented at the June Board meeting. Mr. Amato stated that with the new funding from XQ, Ballmer, and other areas of new funding, RISE will continue next year with the current model of 3 sites. Fiscally, next school year looks similar to this year with a financially stable model, and healthy reserves of around

\$900,000. Mr. Taylor clarified that given the influx of funding from XQ and Ballmer, it can be expected that at year-end next year to be at a small surplus with our reserves at what they are now baring any extraordinary circumstances. Mr. Amato agreed.

#### **E. Facilities Update**

None.

### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

#### **A. Approve Minutes of the March 29, 2022 Regular Board Meeting**

C. McCullough made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board Meeting (RISE High) on 03-29-22.

J. Morgan seconded the motion.

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

##### **Roll Call**

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

### **V. Action Items**

#### **A. Accept March 2022 Check and EFT Transactions Per Management**

J. Morgan made a motion to Accept March 2022 Check and EFT Transactions Per Management.

L. Jennings seconded the motion.

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

##### **Roll Call**

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

### **VI. Closing Items**

#### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

C. Taylor made a motion to Adjourn Meeting.

L. Jennings seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
E. Salango