APPROVED

Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

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

Date and Time
Wednesday May 18, 2022 at 6:00 PM

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/93486875295 Meeting ID: 934 8687 5295, 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

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).)

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

Trustees Absent
None

Guests Present
Anthony Pur (remote), E. Salango (remote), E. Whalen (remote), J. Hawn (remote), M. Amato (remote), M. Denniston (remote), V. Bravo (remote)

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 May 18, 2022 at 6:02 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Approval of Agenda

T. Johnstone made a motion to Approval of Agenda.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Jennings	Aye
C. McCullough	Aye
T. Johnstone	Aye
C. Taylor	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 May 1, 2022 through May 31, 2022

C. Taylor made a motion to Approve and Adopt Board Resolution Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for the Period May 1, 2022 through May 31, 2022.
C. McCullough seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

III. Information: Board Comments and/or Administrative Reports

A. From the Board

Dr. Jennings shared her excitement about the upcoming RISE graduation.

Dr. Johnstone shared his enthusiasm about being back after missing the previous meeting due to a humanitarian trip to Puerto Rico supporting the recovery from earthquakes and hurricanes. He shared about providing scholarships to Da Vinci students during graduation.

B. From the Principal/Executive Director

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

RISE Vision
Mr. Taylor read the RISE vision. Mr. Whalen shared that reading the vision will be part of Board culture moving forward.

April Data and Demographics Data Update
RISE serves 226 students, 41% of whom are opportunity youth. ADA from 4/1 through 5/6 was 68.22% at Richstone, 46.49% at APCH, and 50.35% at New Earth. School-wide ADA is 54.86%. 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 May from APCH and Richstone.

Partnership and RISE Updates
APCH: APCH Summer Programming registration is now open. Six RISE students will be eligible to earn course credit through their participation in IMPACT and Enrichment programming.

Richstone: Enrichment program partner, Indivisible Arts, showcased a Richstone student’s photography at their annual Gala. BEAT Lab programming pilot was funded through Elevate Youth Grant and will launch on May 19th to run through summer programming.

NE: Students displayed their talents at the New Earth Gala through a performance during the fundraising celebration where invitees bid on an elaborate vacation to Antigua and other remote locations. During ‘Unstoppable Week’, students were given the opportunity to participate in resetting school culture. Instructors relocated classes to the center area to concentrate instructional services. Students are employed in collaboration with 'Collab' as digital rights managers to protect digital content creators from piracy while earning credits toward career development requirements. Students earned credits for attendance, scavenger hunt completion, and reflection at a recent aquarium field trip.

Friday Student Services
Students are encouraged to attend on-campus services on Fridays from 9:00 am-12:00 pm for attendance recovery, CAASPP testing, and senior workshops.

RISE Advocacy and Fundraising
The Homeless Initiative HIP grant and the California Community Foundation LA Scholars Investment Fund grant have been submitted. Letters of Interest for the Parsons Foundation and Ballmer Group are currently in progress. Da Vinci Advancement Team visited all RISE campuses.

Spring Point Observation
Strengths: Da Vinci RISE has established an inclusive approach to building a sense of belonging for both learners and adults. Staff are universally committed to building relationships and maintaining an environment where students feel welcome, safe, and known. Da Vinci RISE develops and consistently leverages various community groups and organizations to cultivate student engagement, interest, and motivation.

Recommendations: Alignment to ensure all learners are held to high academic expectations. Ensuring all coursework students are asked to do promotes real-world relevance and is consistent in preparing them for life after high school.

Boeing
Students and staff met with musician Pharrell, his family, and his team at Millennium Space Systems. The connection was made through Boeing. Students and staff shared the RISE mission, visions and their personal experiences. The visit led to a potential partnership in the future.

2022-23 LCAP Priorities
1. Providing students with rigorous, relevant, and aligned project-based and competency-based curriculum through community engagement, professional development, and curricular resources for teachers;
2. Providing students with digital literacy skills through digital programming and supports;
3. Providing students with extracurricular and co-curricular experiences to align learning with their interests and passions.

Graduation
RISE Graduation is taking place on Wednesday, June 8th, 2022, at 6:00 pm. A private room will be available for Board members to gather and prepare pre-ceremony.

Prom
Mr. Whalen shared images of students enjoying their time at prom.

Support
Mr. Whalen thanked the RISE Board for their generous contributions in support of RISE students during testing season. All RISE campuses developed an incentive plan to encourage Friday attendance, test completion, and increased instructional minutes. RISE staff were also provided goodies for teacher appreciation week.

Dr. Johnstone shared his appreciation for the RISE school updates, and Dr. McCullough concurred.

Mrs. Montes-Rodriguez thanked staff for staying focused on the priorities and the hard work. She inquired about justice-involved youth and the experiences they are facing. Mr. Whalen shared that the county is moving away from detainment centers, and the data shared in a previous slide reflects the number of students detained or for students leaving their current placements. Many of the students are older in age, and oftentimes those students come back to RISE immediately after detainment. With NE partnership, NE is also located in the detainment centers to support not losing students in the detainment and release process.

Dr. Jennings asked about clothing for prom. Mr. Whalen shared that RISE has clothing closets at all sites, and many of the clothes students wore were provided by RISE.

C.

Financial Update

Mr. Amato reviewed the April financials. He shared the April balance sheet. Cash remains healthy at $797,072. RISE received the final transfer of the original XQ grant, which boosted cash. Accounts receivable is normal and reflects the $60,000 ECF grant that was awarded. Liabilities reflect the normal monthly amounts. Deferred revenue is money collected from state and federal government that will be used next year, such as ESSER III. Restricted net assets of $217,840 is from Weigngart that was previously received and will be used this month. P&L shows a loss of $273,202 which is an inflated number due to the timing of the year, but more funding will be received and recorded by year-end, which will balance it out.

Mr. Amato then shared the April Profit & Loss sheet. He reviewed the 2nd interim year-end projection. The bottom net income reflects a projected positive surplus of $11,996 by the end of the year. For revenue, everything is tracking normally with a few key variances indicative of ADA challenges. ADA is tracking around 55%, not the 60% projected, which will cause us to receive less LCFF funds than originally projected. Federal revenue has a positive variance of $65,030 reflecting the ECF grant. Local revenue variance will balance out at year-end.

Mr. Amato then reviewed personnel and operational expense. Bottom line through April shows that we are close in projections but trending positive. Positives in revenue include the ECF funds, and overages are reflected in the expense areas such as SPED, as we are incurring more than projected.

The current focus is on budgeting for next year, which will be presented at the next Board meeting along with the LCAP. The Governor's budget and May revise provides updated information on what can be expected from the State budget as it affects RISE's budget. Guidance from the State shows an increase of funding with COLA and block grants. There is a projected 6.56% COLA for LCFF, which will boost LCFF funding, and a potential one-time block grant projected at another $1,300 per student. Staff are using the best projections going into the budget, staying conservative in the initial budget. Staff are hopeful with the positive news from the Governor's budget, and the various grants RISE is currently applying for.

Dr. Jennings asked about the timeframe. Mr. Amato shared that the State approval date is June 15th, and Mr. Denniston confirmed that we will know by July 1st. Dr. Jennings asked if the funds are for this upcoming year only or if they will be recurring. Mr. Amato shared that the COLA is one year, but the remainder of the funds is dependent on the timeframe set by the State of when the money can be spent.

D. Facilities Update

Mr. Bravo shared a COVID update. In discussions with Dr. Green and Nurse Lucero, given the recent spike, an increase may continue for a few more weeks before a general

decline. Da Vinci continues to adhere to protocols such as masking, distancing, hand sanitizing, frequent washing, staying home if feeling ill, and avoiding being in close contact. All measures are in place and are holding fast.

Graduation will be taking place at Southwest College. Mr. Bravo thanked staff for participating in graduation meetings to ensure all needs are taken care of. Logistics are taken care of at Southwest College. Da Vinci is prepared to do individualized graduations for RISE if needed for students who cannot attend.

Mr. Bravo shared her experience at the Child Welfare and Attendance Conference and encouraged staff to participate in the trainings and workshops.

Centinela Valley conducted a safety summit. Captain Ishi spoke about services to support the current homeless situation. Lead Safety Officer, Mr. Glenn Noya, reminded Captain Ishi about the Richstone site and requested support for future drills and trainings.

Dr. Jennings asked if staff should be masked during graduation. Mr. Bravo shared that an update will be provided closer to the date. Depending on dialogue with SWC and RISE staff, Mr. Bravo encouraged all attendees to have a mask on hand as SWC will implement their policies.

Dr. Jennings shared her appreciation regarding the preparation of individualized graduations if needed.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. Approve Minutes of the April 20, 2022 Regular Board Meeting

J. Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board Meeting (RISE High) on 04-20-22.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

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

V. Action Items

A. Accept April 2022 Check and EFT Transactions Per Management

T. Johnstone made a motion to Accept April 2022 Check and EFT Transactions Per Management.
C. McCullough 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	Aye
C. Taylor	Aye

B. Approve 2022-23 RISE High School Calendar

C. Taylor made a motion to Approve 2022-23 RISE High School Calendar.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

C. Approve 2022-23 DVLAC Board Meeting Calendar

T. Johnstone made a motion to Approve 2022-23 DVLAC Board Meeting Calendar.
J. Morgan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

VI. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

J. Morgan made a motion to Adjourn Meeting.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
E. Salango