

APPROVED



## Da Vinci Schools

### Minutes

#### Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting

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##### **Date and Time**

Wednesday January 25, 2023 at 6:00 PM

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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/99922566262>, Meeting ID: 999 2256 6262, or dial (669) 900-6833.
  2. Agendas are available to all audience members on the Da Vinci Schools website at [www.davincischools.org](http://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).)

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### **Trustees Present**

B. Meath (remote), D. Boston (remote), D. Brann, J. Webber, L. Heimov, R. Santiago

### **Trustees Absent**

R. Ochoa

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

B. Meath

### **Guests Present**

A. Johnson (remote), A. Wohlwerth (remote), Alvin Liu (remote), Amelia Griffin (remote), Anthony Pur (remote), C. Levenson (remote), Daniela Torres (remote), Emma Enriquez (remote), G. Long (remote), J. Hawn, L. Rodriguez (remote), M. Amato (remote), M. Denniston (remote), M. Rainey (remote), M. Wunder, Olivia Griffin (remote), Quinn Schell (remote), R. Stoll (remote), S. Wallis (remote), Saya Wai (remote), V. Bravo (remote), Violet Pena Gomez (remote)

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## **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 25, 2023 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. Webber made a motion to approve and adopt the Board Resolution for Teleconference Board Meetings Pursuant to Special Rules in Government Code Section 54953(e).

D. Boston seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

R. Ochoa Absent

**Roll Call**

D. Brann Aye  
L. Heimov Aye  
D. Boston Aye  
R. Santiago Aye  
B. Meath Absent  
J. Webber Aye

**D. Approval of Agenda**

J. Webber made a motion to approve.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Brann Aye  
B. Meath Absent  
R. Santiago Aye  
D. Boston Aye  
R. Ochoa Absent  
J. Webber Aye  
L. Heimov Aye  
B. Meath arrived at 6:04 PM.

**E. Public Comments**

None

**II. Information**

**A. From the Board**

Dr. Brann announced that it is his 70th year in the Wiseburn area, and shared that he and Dr. Wunder helped judge the Youth & Government Bill Hearing Night at Da Vinci Science, and that he is once again bringing visitors to visit the school sites.

**B. Working Groups' Updates**

Mr. Meath spoke of Wiseburn Board's request to disband the Governance and Finance & Facilities working groups and create a new group in the future. Mr. Santiago added that the Wiseburn board members in the Arts & Athletics group also spoke of convening a new group in the next few weeks.

**C. From the CEO/Superintendent**

Dr. Wunder shared that he looks forward to in-person board meetings in March.

**D. From the COO/Deputy Superintendent**

Dr. Hawn spoke of Da Vinci's partnerships. There are 33 students in the new Da Vinci Choir program. Dr. Hawn thanked the Wiseburn partners who helped move the program forward. She also noted that thanks to the work of Mr. Vicente Bravo and Dr. Steve Wallis in creating a partnership with the military, Da Vinci can participate in a program that will provide a counselor for Da Vinci's military-connected students at no cost to Da Vinci Schools.

Dr. Hawn also noted the Service Academy Day being held at Da Vinci Schools on January 28, hosted by Congressman Ted Lieu.

She also shared that Da Vinci higher education partner Southern New Hampshire University visited and thanked Connect Executive Director Michelle Rainey, Connect High School principal and assistant principal Tami Christopher and Robert Anthony, respectively.

#### **E. Student Board Member Update**

Violet Peña-Gomez gave the Science update, speaking of Youth & Government Bill Hearing Night and Sacramento conference; installation of period machines; wearing blue for human trafficking awareness; the beginning of the FRC robotics season; tours for Dana Middle School students; and CEA Honors Field Trip; and "chiseling," which students practice to keep their school and personal lives in balance.

Olivia Griffin gave the Communications update, sharing events such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day; Spirit Week; an ice skating event at the Toyota Sports Center; and Community Dialogue and Semester Awards.

Amelia Griffin gave the Design report, speaking of Martin Luther King Jr. Day; Dana student tours conducted by Da Vinci students; period machines; and the students' enthusiasm for the new Vocal Choir program.

Milissa Sutton gave the Connect High School update, sharing the college course progress of Connect students; planning for Black History Month; Dana student tours; and Connect High's culture and learning model.

Quinn Schell gave the Connect TK-8 update, speaking of the FAN's Next Annual Rhythm Event, California Distinguished School award, World History Projects, and Persuasive Writing work.

#### **F. Financial Update**

Marcy Kearney, of Christy White Associates, gave the Annual 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Audit Report. The firm gave Da Vinci Schools a clean, Unmodified Opinion, which is the best possible, on the Independent Auditors' Report, as well as on the Financial Reporting, Federal Compliance, and State Compliance reports. She thanked the Da Vinci Schools Business Office and CSMC for their help in making this a smooth audit process.

Mr. Meath thanked Ms. Kearney, Mr. Amato, and Mr. Denniston for their work resulting in the clean audit report.

Mr. Boston inquired about the auditor meeting separately with the board without management, prior to finalizing the audit in order to get a candid assessment. Discussion ensued. Mr. Boston and Mr. Meath clarified that best practice would include the auditor reporting directly to the board going forward.

Mr. Amato shared the November and December financial update, covering the summary balance sheets, and profit & loss statements.

Mr. Amato also shared that Da Vinci has received \$1.7M for the first quarter ERC payroll tax credit. Mr. Amato will bring a resolution before the Board to defer those funds until three years have passed and the IRS has audited and possibly adjusted the funding amount. Brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Amato also spoke of the Governor's proposed 2023-24 budget. Overall there is good news for charter schools such as the proposed 8.135% COLA and no deferral plans. However, Mr. Amato does not expect to see future one-time grants as were seen in the past year.

Mr. Denniston shared that the statutory COLA is 8.13%, the highest statutory COLA ever, and the past year's COLA was the result of a 6.56% statutory COLA and an added discretionary COLA.

Mr. Meath inquired if Mr. Denniston is tracking tax receipts in the State compared to last year. Brief discussion ensued.

## **G. Facilities Update**

Mr. Bravo shared that the Fire/Life/Safety inspection for the new space at 550 Continental Blvd. has been scheduled for early February, and if all goes well, Connect could receive a certificate of occupancy as early as February 8.

The soccer field dirt may be moved by a company which needs it, at a savings to Da Vinci.

The cooling tower has passed DSA, and will hopefully be installed during Spring Break in April.

The coffee bar is in the process of hiring staff.

The CTE Studio RFP will go before the Wiseburn Board in mid-February.

The Certified Nursing Program being conducted in the Skybox is going well, and Dr. Green is discussing possible funding for a second cohort with a program company.

Mr. Bravo thanked Waxie, which provided menstrual product dispensers.

19 new lunch benches were added at the 201 N. Douglas St. campus to alleviate crowding at lunch times.

Mr. Bravo also spoke of the nonviolent crisis intervention training the grounds supervisors and safety officers have taken and implemented. Narcan training is scheduled for February 3, and all sites' front office security has been improved, and critical incident training drills will be held soon. And Mr. Bravo's team is exploring options to help alleviate congestion during pickup and drop off times.

Service Academy Day will be held on Saturday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m., on January 28.

Also coming up are a three-day gymnastics competition in the gym, the FRC L.A. Regionals robotics event, and CARnival event.

Regarding the Involuntary Disenrollment policy up for approval, Da Vinci Schools has resident and non-resident students. There are options to address issues not involving discipline for non-resident students. This is not an expulsion or suspension policy. The policy gives Da Vinci the ability to operate like a regular school district would for permit students, not to treat them differently, but to impose consequences for non-compliance, including for independent study. This policy has been in place for RISE, but not the other Da Vinci sites. It has not been used at RISE, but it could have been helpful in the past. Due process is built into the policy and procedures.

Parents and students have already been informed about the opioid dangers around Halloween. Now, site administrators, grounds and safety teams and others will be trained to use Narcan, and Narcan will be available at all Da Vinci school sites.

If all goes well, the soccer field will be in place by June.

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

#### **A.**

### **Approval of Minutes of the December 14, 2022 Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting**

R. Santiago made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting on 12-14-22.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

D. Brann Aye  
J. Webber Aye  
R. Santiago Aye  
D. Boston Abstain  
L. Heimov Aye  
B. Meath Aye

## **IV. Consent Agenda**

### **A. Accept Da Vinci Schools Payment Register - December 2022**

J. Webber made a motion to accept the December 2022 Da Vinci Schools Payment Register.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

D. Boston Aye  
R. Santiago Aye  
L. Heimov Aye  
J. Webber Aye  
D. Brann Aye  
B. Meath Aye

### **B. Approve Fiscal Year 2021-22 Annual Audit Report**

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Annual Audit Report.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

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

### **C.**

**Approve and Adopt Board Policy and Procedures for Involuntary Disenrollment from a Charter School**

J. Webber made a motion to approve and adopt the Board Policy and Procedures for Involuntary Disenrollment from a Charter School.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

R. Ochoa Absent

R. Santiago Aye

L. Heimov Aye

J. Webber Aye

D. Brann Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Boston Aye

**D. Approve 2021-22 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Communications**

Mr. Boston raised a question about CAASPP test scores. Dr. Hawn shared that she and the team are preparing a report on data and assessments for the February board meeting. Mr. Boston's questions and concerns are shared by the administration. She offered to talk to Mr. Boston and the team to ensure that his concerns are addressed in the data presentation next month.

D. Boston made a motion to approve the 2021-22 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Communications.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

J. Webber Aye

B. Meath Aye

R. Ochoa Absent

R. Santiago Aye

D. Boston Aye

D. Brann Aye

L. Heimov Aye

**E. Approve 2021-22 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Design**

D. Boston made a motion to approve the 2021-22 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Design.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

R. Santiago Aye

L. Heimov Aye

**Roll Call**

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

**F. Approve 2021-22 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Science**

D. Boston made a motion to approve the 2021-22 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Science.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**G. Approve 2021-22 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Connect**

D. Boston made a motion to approve the 2021-22 School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for Da Vinci Connect.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**H. Ratify Amendment to the Agreement with L.A. County Parks & Recreation for Use of Del Aire Facilities**

J. Webber made a motion to ratify the Amendment to the Agreement with L.A. County Parks & Recreation for Use of Del Aire Facilities.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Boston Aye

**Roll Call**

L. Heimov Aye  
J. Webber Aye  
R. Santiago Aye  
D. Brann Aye  
B. Meath Aye  
R. Ochoa Absent

**V. Closed Session**

**A. Conference with Legal Counsel**

Closed session entered at 7:32 p.m.

**VI. Closing Items**

**A. Reconvene for Public Session & Closed Session Reporting**

Public session reconvened at 10:00 p.m.  
Dr. Brann reported that the Board took no action in Closed session.  
The Board then took a vote on the approval of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Annual Audit Report.

**B. Adjourn Meeting**

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

**Roll Call**

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
A. Wohlwerth

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Next Regular Da Vinci Schools Board meeting: February 22, 2023.