

APPROVED



Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday July 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Location

201 N. Douglas Street, El Segundo, CA 90245

Da Vinci Schools ("DV") welcomes your participation at its Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Trustees ("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. The meeting is accessible online at <https://zoom.us/j/92929398943>, or dial (669) 900-6833 and use Meeting ID: 929 2939 8943.
 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 twenty (20) 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, D. Boston (remote), D. Brann, J. Webber, L. Heimov, R. Ochoa, R. Santiago

Trustees Absent

None

Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened

B. Meath

Guests Present

A. Johnson (remote), A. Wohlwerth, Anthony Pur, C. Levenson (remote), L. Rodriguez (remote), M. Amato, M. Denniston (remote), M. Rainey (remote), M. Wunder, S. Wallis, V. Bravo, V. Rodriguez

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 Jul 26, 2023 at 6:03 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Approval of Agenda

J. Webber made a motion to approve.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

D. Public Comments

None

II. Information

A. From the Board

Ms. Heimov shared that it was nice to see everyone.

Dr. Brann commented on the people he had seen on campus lately were happy, and he believes the Da Vinci culture is healthy. He also noted that Da Vinci has always had a long waitlist, which has always bothered him, since he believes all students would benefit from attending Da Vinci Schools. All Da Vinci sites have a capacity limit, which leaves many students on the waitlist, therefore Dr. Brann's idea is to hold a "second shift" at Da Vinci's high schools, providing time and space for more students. At Dr. Brann's direction, task force has been exploring this idea for the 2024-25 school year.

B. From the CEO/Superintendent

Dr. Wunder encourages everyone to spend time at Da Vinci during the summer, to see how much activity occurs on campus, such as summer camp, summer school, the welding program with partner Harbor Freight Tools, and the aviation program, etc.

Dr. Wunder noted that the Sandbox area of the campus is an ideal area for project-based and career pathway activities, and Dr. Steve Wallis has transformed the space over the summer to facilitate that type of use. In addition, the Da Vinci team will be working on a multi-year expansion of the performing arts program.

Dr. Webber commented on balancing the benefits of the small school dynamic and providing activities at scale that allow the schools to mix.

Dr. Brann shared that he experienced an award-winning arts program called Kaleidoscope 40 years ago which showed him that it's not just athletics that build students' self esteem and teach great lessons.

C. Financial Update

Mr. Amato shared changes to the State budget. The 8.22% LCFF COLA has been retained. Some cuts were made to two one-time grant programs: the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant and Arts/Music Instructional Materials Block Grant have been reduced. Da Vinci didn't use those monies in 2022 when they were first announced, and Mr. Amato purposely budgeted conservatively. Thankfully, the cuts were not as deep as anticipated, and there is now more funding. The Learning Recovery grant will provide \$345K more than Mr. Amato budgeted for, and \$280K more from the Arts Instructional grant, which can actually be used for a broad range of items.

The State also introduced a new source of ongoing funding for the Arts, The Arts Program Per Pupil Funding. Da Vinci will receive \$350K, of which 80% must be used for staffing, and 20% for other arts expenses.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes for the June 20, 2023 Regular Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

R. Santiago made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting on 06-20-23.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Accept Da Vinci Schools Payment Register - June 2023

J. Webber made a motion to accept the June 2023 Da Vinci Schools Payment Register.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

B. Approve 2023-24 Master Contract with Oak Grove Center

Dr. Webber asked how the amount of this contract compares to the previous year. The vendor is new, and Mr. Amato noted that he budgets according to historical spending. Da Vinci does receive reimbursements for up to 80% of the costs for many special education expenses. Dr. Lynn Rodriguez shared that costs are going up because schools are referring more students than ever after the pandemic shutdown, and the residential treatment centers (RTCs) are also charging more than ever for all services. Ms. Heimov shared that in her experience with foster youth and 24-hour, 12-month RTC care, the cost would be even higher than the rate Dr. Rodriguez has negotiated for this Wiseburn resident student.

Mr. Amato offered to send out more detailed projected final costs to the board.

B. Meath arrived at 6:34 PM.

J. Webber made a motion to approve the 2023-24 Master Contract with Oak Grove Center.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

C. Approve 2023-24 Master Contract with Cross Country Education for Audiological Services

J. Webber made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Master Contract with Cross Country Education for Audiological Services.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

D. Approve 2023-24 Master Contract with Siva & Associates

J. Webber made a motion to approve the 2023-24 Master Contract with Siva & Associates.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

E. Approve 2023-24 Master Contract with STAR of California

Dr. Rodriguez shared that the bulk of the cost is for students whose behavioral needs require the services of a 1:1 Board Certified Behavioral Analyst (BCBA), as stipulated on their IEPs. Dr. Rodriguez and her team are working on reducing the cost. Dr. Webber inquired about the cost compared to the previous year, and Dr. Rodriguez shared that the vendor has increased their prices, but that she believes the costs are similar. Mr. Amato shared that he would send the projected costs to the board.

R. Santiago made a motion to approve the 2023-24 Master Contract with STAR of California.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

F. Approve 2023-24 Master Contract with Kayne Eras

J. Webber made a motion to approve the 2023-24 Master Contract with Kayne Eras.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

J. Webber Aye
R. Santiago Aye
D. Boston Aye
R. Ochoa Aye
L. Heimov Aye

Roll Call

B. Meath Absent
D. Brann Aye

G. Approve 2023-24 Master Contract with The Help Group - Westview

J. Webber made a motion to approve the 2023-24 Master Contract with The Help Group - Westview.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

H. Approve 2023-24 Renewal Agreement with Hop Skip Drive

J. Webber made a motion to approve the 2023-24 Renewal Agreement with Hop Skip Drive.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

I. Approve Safety and Transportation Official Position and Pay Scale

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Safety and Transportation Official Position and Pay Scale.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

Roll Call

R. Ochoa Aye
L. Heimov Aye

J. Approve Theater Arts Teacher Position

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Theater Arts Teacher Position.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

K. Approve 2023-24 Kelly Services Substitute Teacher Agreement

J. Webber made a motion to approve the 2023-24 Kelly Services Substitute Teacher Agreement.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

L. Approve Updated Fiscal Policies and Procedures Manual

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Updated Fiscal Policies and Procedures Manual.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

Roll Call

R. Santiago Aye

M. Approve Staff Salary Advances over \$2,000 per Da Vinci Schools Fiscal Policies and Procedures

J. Webber made a motion to approve Staff Salary Advances over \$2,000 per Da Vinci Schools Fiscal Policies and Procedures.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Boston Aye

L. Heimov Aye

R. Santiago Aye

D. Brann Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

B. Meath Absent

J. Webber Aye

N. Approve Updated Da Vinci Schools Employee Handbook

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Updated Da Vinci Schools Employee Handbook.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

J. Webber Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

D. Boston Aye

L. Heimov Aye

D. Brann Aye

B. Meath Absent

R. Santiago Aye

O. Approve 2023-2024 Student and Family Handbook for Da Vinci Connect High School

J. Webber made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Student and Family Handbook for Da Vinci Connect High School.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

J. Webber Aye

B. Meath Absent

D. Boston Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

Roll Call

D. Brann Aye
L. Heimov Aye
R. Santiago Aye

P. Approve Updated Home Hospital Policy

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Updated Home Hospital Policy.
L. Heimov seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

Q. Approve Revised Field Trip Request Guidelines

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Revised Field Trip Request Guidelines.
L. Heimov seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

R. Approve Updated Independent Study Policy

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Updated Independent Study Policy.
L. Heimov seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

S. Ratify Renewal of Arizona State University Universal Learner Agreement with Da Vinci Connect High School

J. Webber made a motion to ratify the Renewal of the Arizona State University Universal Learner Agreement with Da Vinci Connect High School.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

B. Meath Absent

J. Webber Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

L. Heimov Aye

D. Boston Aye

D. Brann Aye

R. Santiago Aye

T. Approve Selection of Lease-Leaseback (LLB) Contractor for the CTE Studio Phase 1 Project

Mr. Bravo shared that the contractors were interviewed by Wiseburn Unified School District program managers Noemi Zamudio and Sheere Bishop-Griego from NAZ Building Program Advisors. Ms. Bishop-Griego shared that the contracting firm recommended by the panel is Erickson-Hall.

She reported that she negotiated a reduction of \$11,500, resulting in a \$29,616 total pre-construction fee. Wiseburn Unified School District, as owner of the property, is the holder of the Lease Leaseback contract. The District will approve the contractor at their August meeting.

Dr. Webber asked if the Lease Leaseback contractor usually goes on to become the general contractor, which Ms. Bishop-Griego confirmed. Brief discussion ensued.

B. Meath made a motion to approve the Selection of the Lease-Leaseback (LLB) Contractor for the CTE Studio Phase 1 Project.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

The Board voted 6-0, with one abstention, to approve.

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

Roll Call

D. Brann Abstain

R. Ochoa Aye

L. Heimov Aye

R. Santiago Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Boston Aye

J. Webber Aye

U. Ratify the Amendment to the Original CTE Studio Project Plan

J. Webber made a motion to ratify the Amendment to the Original CTE Studio Project Plan.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

V. Approve Architectural Work for CTE Studio Phase 2, Shop Building

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Architectural Work for CTE Studio Phase 2, Shop Building.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

V. Closed Session

A. Conference with Legal Counsel

Closed session entered at 6:55 p.m.

VI. Closing Items

A. Reconvene for Public Session & Closed Session Reporting

Public session reconvened at 7:43 p.m.

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

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Wohlwerth

Next Regular Da Vinci Schools Board meeting: August 23, 2023.