APPROVED

Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday April 24, 2024 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://davincischools-org.zoom.us/j/94644241637, or dial (669) 900-6833 and use Meeting ID: 946 4424 1637.
2. Agendas are available to all audience members on the Da Vinci Schools website 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, J. Webber, L. Heimov, R. Ochoa, R. Santiago

Trustees Absent
None

Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened
B. Meath

Guests Present
A. Wohlwerth, C. Levenson (remote), C. Rodriguez (remote), E. D'Souza (remote), L. Rodriguez (remote), M. Amato, M. Denniston (remote), M. Rainey (remote), M. Wunder, R. Stoll, T. Christopher (remote), V. Rodriguez

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I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

J. Webber called a meeting of the board of trustees of Da Vinci Schools to order on Wednesday Apr 24, 2024 at 6:05 PM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Approve the Agenda

D. Boston made a motion to approve.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

D. Public Comments

None

II. Information

A. From the Board

Mr. Santiago noted that the Boys' Volleyball team made it to the CIF Finals.

Ms. Heimov acknowledged that the day was Denim Day, which aims to increase sexual assault awareness. She also noted that she was looking forward to seeing "The Addams Family" musical on the weekend.

Mr. Ochoa commented that he had met with Mr. Steve Wallis regarding Real World Learning happenings at Da Vinci Schools.

Dr. Webber commented that The Addams Family production was fantastic, and that Theatre teacher Diane Feldman does an amazing job with the students. Dr. Webber encouraged everyone to see the musical. She also gave a shout out to the Archery Team, which performed well at the State Championships in Chula Vista, and was headed to the national championships on the weekend.

B. From the CEO/Superintendent

Dr. Wunder thanked Ms. Carla Levenson for her successful grant writing work.

C. From the Chief People Officer

Ms. Rodriguez noted that it was hiring season; in February, she was seeking 12 teachers, and has already hired five for the 2024-25 school year. In addition, after a very long search, not one, but two Physics teachers have been hired, one for Design and one for Connect. Ms. Rodriguez has been attending hiring fairs which she feels has been helpful. She thanked the principals for their work in conducting hiring symposia.

D. Student Board Update

Milissa Sutton, coordinator, noted that the update covered March and April, due to the cancellation of the March board meeting.

Senior Okiki Ogunnaike gave the update for Communications, noting Student-Led Conferences (SLC's), SAT testing day for Juniors, Marketing Pathway's DECA Career Development Conference attendance, and the Leadership Ice Skating fundraiser at Toyota Sports Center. Exhibition Night, a USC college field trip, and CAASPP English Language Arts testing rounded out his update.

Devin Ponciano shared the Science update, speaking of the FIRST Robotics Competition's Regional tournament hosted for the fourth year at Da Vinci, the Coachella-inspired Davinchella, featuring DVS club booths and musical performances, SLCs, Aviation Day, Exhibition, College Prep workshops, Senior Soak Day (where students vote for the top 10 seniors they want to soak with water), and Neurodiversity Celebration Week.

Kimora Evans gave the Design update, noting the Women's History month Community Dialogue, SLCs, Alumni Day for the Classes of 2013 through 2023, Exhibition Night, March Madness Jersey Spirit Day, Advisory Smallest Daily Average Screen Time competition, and college tours to El Camino College, Cal State Dominguez Hills, La Verne, and Pepperdine, SAT testing, and Senior Project work.

Cecily Barnes gave the Connect K-8 update, sharing SLCs, Aviation Day, Learning Log submissions, Parent Educator Conference, the Steam Carnival, Belkin field trip, Exhibition Nights, State Testing, and the upcoming WASC visit. The Odyssey of the Minds team made it to the world championships, and is fundraising at the Toyota Sports Center on April 29.

William Bleier shared the Connect High School update, speaking about SLCs, Class of 2024 college acceptances, and Pathway Day, where students dress in the attire of the college they were accepted to or the uniform of the career path they want to pursue. Other events were the Black Student Union's Women's History month meeting, Neurodiversity Awareness month, Connect Literary Club and Film Club movie night, and State testing for 11th and 12th graders.

Dr. Webber thanked the students, commenting that she liked seeing the college acceptances, and
Mr. Boston agreed that the college acceptances should be celebrated for all of the Da Vinci high schools. Ms. Heimov was happy to see that chosen career paths are being acknowledged in addition to college acceptances.

Conversation with Milissa Sutton on her college decision ensued. She has not decided on Spelman, Howard, Berkeley, or Xavier University. Mr. Stoll shared that Kimora Evans committed to UCLA for Fall 2024; Kimora was congratulated by the Board.

E.

Presentation: Real World Learning Update

Ms. Crissel Rodriguez shared that she was presenting on behalf of both the Real World Learning and Da Vinci Institute teams, which have facilitated tours and visits from the community and educators around the globe, including Canada, South Korea, Australia, and the Czech Republic.

The Career Connected Learning Gathering was hosted by Transcend and Da Vinci Schools in February, to bring together like-minded practitioners to share best practices around student supports and provide transformative work-based learning experiences.

Community Aviation Day, held in March, featured industry partners, allowed the public to learn about the world of aviation, and was covered on Channel 5 news.

The Real World Learning team is working with Connect K-8 leadership to integrate additional career awareness practices into their curriculum. The Connect K-8 STEAM Carnival was a successful event with industry exhibitions, student showcases, and the assistance of Da Vinci Science Society of Women Engineers and Charles Drew University.

More than 230 students across all of Da Vinci Schools participated in the Trades Fair organized by the RWL team, which showcased local programs in the automotive, aviation, beauty, health, military, and music production industries.

Partners Belkin and Portal Learning approached the Real World Learning team with their proposal to host the Belkin Spring Fling, a sort of "career fair on steroids" featuring industry leaders, speakers, and hands-on workshops. Connect High School assisted in producing the event, and 80 students including Connect middle schoolers attended. The event offered the students hands-on workshops in product management, resume building, and design.

Ms. Rodriguez gave some Real World Learning highlights at the various Da Vinci Schools sites.

- DVC's Computer Science Pathway visited Snap Inc.; Multimedia Journalism students collaborated on a project with Afro LA.
- Connect High School students engaged in the Portal Learning program at Belkin.
- DVD's Architecture students generated ideas for the design of a facade and interior of a new building for the Western Museum of Flight.
- RISE students participated in a Cold Call Event to connect with professionals over the phone, and participated in a Career Development partnership with Sharefest. The South Bay Workforce Investment Board has offered internships to RISE students.

- DVS Biomedical students participated in Grand Rounds with Torrance Memorial Medical Center, and Civil Engineering students constructed a coffee cart in support of ICAN's goal to provide job training for their disabled clients.

Ms. Rodriguez shared that her team's goal is to improve student support systems including Diversity & Inclusion, Access, personalized support (office hours and career coaching sessions) and opportunities for exploration. RWL Information is distributed to students via their school website dashboard.

More than 200 companies and organizations are supporting Da Vinci's Real World Learning; including individual supporters, the number grows to more than 300. These industry partners provide student volunteer and internship opportunities, guest speakers, and project collaborations.

Ms. Rodriguez regularly shares network, job, and internship opportunities with the Da Vinci Alumni Network on their new LinkedIn page.

This summer, the RWL team is offering Summer Career Training Clinics in areas such as advanced manufacturing, aviation, live talk show and red carpet hosting, and new workshops by the L.A. Urban League, the Reinvention Lab, and a "Futures Rewired" workshop for female and gender-expansive youth.

The RWL team is working with the Da Vinci Data team to track the work: 1,239 students have participated in RWL engagements; 2,455 student interactions with industry partners; 102 industry partner classroom and field trip experiences, over 30 teachers/staff connected to industry partners, and 283 students coached by RWL Coordinators.

The Board thanked Ms. Rodriguez. She shared that the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools grant has made possible the Advanced Manufacturing summer career training clinic. The grant will support the hiring of David Kemp. Fabrication Lab Coordinator at Cal Poly SLO, to help develop the curriculum. Da Vinci is the only one of the schools HFTFS supports that is offering an Advanced Manufacturing summer program. Ms. Rodriguez invited the Board members to come and take a look at the summer programs.
B. Meath arrived at 6:36 PM.

F. Financial Update

Mr. Amato shared the financial statements through March 31st.

Da Vinci is well positioned financially. Accounts Receivables are about $800K lower than they were last year in March. Deferred revenue of $4.4M comes from various grants and other funding that has not yet been spent; some will be applied this year, some next year. Net assets have decreased $769K, which is normal for this time of year due to most of State and Federal funding being disbursed in the the last three months than the first nine months of the year.

The Profit & Loss statement shows the actual financials versus the second interim year-end projections for the first nine months. Since the Second Interim projections were just completed, there are few variances. Da Vinci will receive an additional $232K in LCFF funding due to the CDE's final certification process and schools reporting in. This is a prior year item that is always on a delayed timeframe, and is not predictable. Another positive variance of $40K in local revenue is due to an increase in interest income and the market value of a stock investment that was donated to Da Vinci Schools a long time ago. Mr. Amato is anticipating a $350K positive net change for the year.

Brief discussion on year-end projections and discretionary vs. fixed costs ensued. Mr. Amato projects conservatively, with a lot of knowledge and information about P2 numbers.

Mr. Meath inquired about staffing at the end of the year. Mr. Amato noted that he and Ms. Rodriguez work together for budgeting for the following year's staffing expenses.

Mr. Amato shared the P2 Attendance update, noting the enrollment, ADA percentage, and ADA figures through the end of March. Mr. Amato's projections will end up very close to the State ADA revenue.

Lastly, Mr. Amato commented on the food service management contract renewal. Although Chartwells has been approved as Da Vinci's food service manager for a five year term, the contract is required to be renewed annually.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes of the April 12, 2024 Special Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

R. Santiago made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Special Board Meeting on 04-12-24.
B. Meath seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Accept the Da Vinci Schools Transaction Register - March, 2024

L. Heimov made a motion to accept the Da Vinci Schools Transaction Register for March, 2024.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B. Approve Renewal of Food Service Management Company Contract for 2024-25 School Year

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Renewal of the Food Service Management Company Contract for the 2024-25 School Year.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

C. Approve Communicative Disorders Program Agreement with California State University Fullerton School of Education

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Communicative Disorders Program Agreement with California State University Fullerton School of Education.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

V. Action Items

A.

Approve Recommendation for Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

B. Meath made a motion to approve the Recommendation for Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction.
D. Boston seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B. Approve Recommendation for Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Recommendation for Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

C. Approve Recommendation for Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

R. Ochoa made a motion to approve the Recommendation for Assistant Superintendent of Student Services.
B. Meath seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

VI. Closed Session

A.

Conference with Legal Counsel

Closed session entered at 7:05 p.m.

VII. Closing Items

A. Reconvene for Public Session & Closed Session Reporting

Public session resumed at 7:50 p.m.
Dr. Webber reported that no action was 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 7:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Wohlwerth

Next Regular Da Vinci Schools Board meeting: Wednesday, May 22, 2024.