APPROVED

Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday May 22, 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/94354046705, or dial (669) 900-6833 and use Meeting ID: 943 5404 6705.
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
D. Boston, J. Webber, L. Heimov, R. Ochoa, R. Santiago

Trustees Absent
B. Meath

Guests Present
A. Wohlwerth, B. Silvers, C. Levenson, L. Rodriguez, M. Amato, M. Denniston (remote), M. Rainey, M. Wunder, V. Bravo, 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 May 22, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Approve the Agenda

R. Santiago made a motion to Approve.
L. Heimov seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

Roll Call
R. Santiago Aye
L. Heimov Aye

D. Public Comments

Kelly Schumacher addressed the Board, saying that her son graduated from Da Vinci Science. He joined the Da Vinci Archery team during his high school career and experienced many valuable benefits. Da Vinci's team has won State tournaments and one of its members just won Nationals. Ms. Schumacher advocated for keeping the archery practice and storage space on campus while installing the soccer field.

II. Information

A. From the Board

Mr. Santiago commented that the Choir performance was all over Instagram, and the Boys' Volleyball team did really well, making it to quarter finals, a good showing for jumping up two divisions. Malakai Tuakoi made the Boys' U19 national team, which won Gold at the 2024 NORCECA Continental Championship. The Staff vs Student and Boys vs Girls Volleyball games were very exciting.

Dr. Webber noted that Prom was a fantastic experience for the students, with amazing last-minute work by Matt and the team to pull it off. She also seconded Ms. Schumacher's comments on the Archery Team and Sarah Nitsos. She also commented on the Senior Night and the number of happenings at the end of the year.

B. From the CEO/Superintendent

Dr. Wunder commented on the national and regional challenges that seep into schools. The ripple effects of the pandemic (learning loss, mental health issues), economic, racial, and political issues affect our schools. California is facing declining enrollment, it's not a popular time in California to be a charter school, and there's greater complexity for Da Vinci Schools. Yet, our relationship with our authorizer Wiseburn USD is stronger than ever, and every day our schools work hard to serve students. The Wiseburn community is open for changes that benefit students. He appreciates Christina Joubert and Carla Levenson's leadership in this area.

Mr. Amato, Mr. Meath and the Board have financially positioned Da Vinci Schools well. The Central Office supports the schools in ways that haven't been seen before. Dr. Wunder is appreciative of the Board's approval of the new Central Office reconfiguration that will help our schools, students, and families.

He thanked the Board for their service to Da Vinci Schools.

C. From the Chief People Officer

Ms. Rodriguez commented that this year, she and her team have been working on staff sustainability initiatives funded by a grant from Charter School Growth Fund in order to support Da Vinci's hardworking staff. The team has been making policy changes, launched an organization-wide Staff Wellness Committee, held a Health & Wellness Fair, and held monthly staff workshops on retirement, home ownership, financial literacy, etc. that will continue into the next school year.

D. Student Board Update

Dr. Webber noted that several of the students are seniors, and asked them to indicate their plans after graduation. Milissa Sutton, Coordinator, introduced the update, thanking the Board and sharing that she will be graduating and going to University of California, Berkeley on a full-ride scholarship, to study African American Studies, Education, and Creative Writing.

Aaron Peters gave the Connect K-8 update, speaking of the Medieval Times field trip, Middle School Dance, POLs, talent show, Sports Night, and upcoming 8th grade graduation.

Liya Nartey thanked the coordinators and said that it has been a wonderful experience. She shared Connect High School's update, noting Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) month, the POL Professional Clothing Drive, the installation of gardens on campus, Blood Drive, Exhibition Night, Senior Prom, and the upcoming Pride Month and Summer Fest events.

Communications Senior Isabella Dimeo, who is headed to UC Davis with an eye toward becoming a psychiatrist, gave the DVC update, noting Career Day, Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Spirit Week, Staff and Teacher Appreciation Week, College and Career Signing Day and Senior Awards Night, and last, the Photography Seminar Showcase on May 23 in the Black Box Theater.

Design Senior Kaden Schneider shared that he will be going to USC to study Architecture. He appreciated the opportunity to work on his presentation skills before the Board of Trustees. He gave the DVD update, commenting that a Design student organized the Band Bash for four all-student bands, AAPI Heritage Month Community Dialogue, the 10th Grade Honors Art Show, Decision Day and Senior Awards Night, and the Design Senior Showcase happening concurrently with the Board meeting.

Sydney Parsons gave the Science update, speaking of the Cal Poly SLO and other college tours, Senior Prom, AAPI Community Dialogue, Teacher Appreciation Week, Senior Week's Awards Night, Beach Day, and Decision Day. Students also visited Loma Linda University School of Allied Health, enjoyed the Evolution Choir performance, and a blood drive, and mental health awareness activities.

Mr. Santiago thanked the students, saying he'd love to see more students get involved with the Board updates next year.

Dr. Webber also thanked the students for sharing their happenings and work over the past school year.

E. Community Initiatives Update

Ms. Carla Levenson spoke about the Wiseburn community events in which Da Vinci students have participated, such as the Wiseburn Middle School Movie Night & Tour, Community Aviation Day; Rock Around the Block, and Spring into SWE. Over 500 students were out in the community, engaging with incoming students and families. The monthly newsletter her team creates has also been spreading the word about Da Vinci Schools and the good work students have done.

Ms. Christina Joubert spoke about Wiseburn Unified, Da Vinci, and Wiseburn Education Foundation meetings, the latest of which will be focused on seminar offerings, and reviewing the results of a survey of incoming Wiseburn Middle School students and families.

She also shared that the new Summer Athletics Camps, created in partnership with WUSD and WEF, are currently 55% enrolled. Marketing has been tailored for the various age groups, co-managers hired, and outreach to current and incoming families continues. She anticipates that enrollment will increase closer to the sign up deadlines.

Dr. Webber thanked Ms. Levenson and Ms. Joubert for their work. Ms. Joubert thanked Ms. Valerie Green for her assistance.

Dr. Wunder acknowledged the assistance of Mr. Gary Wayland, who has decades of experience in putting on these types of programs for kids.

F. Financial Update

Mr. Michael Amato shared the April balance sheet, P&L, and an update on the Governor's May Revision. He noted the organization's ending balance is normal for this time of year, noting that much of the funding the Da Vinci receives comes in at the end of the year.

He went on to cover the Year to Date Actuals. Second Interim Year End projections are on track to be higher than expected, offset by some expenses due to Financial Literacy certifications for a staff member in order to expand the Financial Literacy course offerings.

Mr. Amato also spoke of the Governor's May Revise, saying that there was less detail than expected, but there are no further negative changes. There will be a 1.07% COLA,

which while smaller than previous years, has not been removed. The thinking among other charter school Financial Officers with whom Mr. Amato meets is that the true challenges for public education funding will bear out in 2025-26.

Brief discussion ensued about the the new positions being factored into the budget.

G. Operations Update

Mr. Vicente Bravo spoke of the day's walkthrough with the contractor for the Soccer Field. Work will commence on May 28. The anticipated completion date is October 10. Neighboring businesses have been notified. Brief discussion on the 850 seats in the bleachers ensued.

Dr. Wunder shared that all costs to construct the field itself will be paid by Wiseburn. The Da Vinci Board has not yet committed to bleachers, stands, and scoreboards.

Mr. Bravo noted that once construction begins, the DV team will be meeting weekly with the construction team.

Mr. Bravo shared graduation ceremony information, including the layout for the Gym.

Cafe paperwork has been sent to the Department of Health. The kitchen is still being worked on.

Mr. Bravo shared that the miracle prom was achieved through the generosity of Mr. Richard Lundquist and Mr. Bob Tarnofsky of Continental Development Corp.

Dr. Webber was very excited to see the soccer field construction commencing. She thanked Mr. Bravo, Dr. Wunder and the team for their work in moving the prom at the last minute.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes of the April 24 2024 Regular Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

R. Ochoa made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting on 04-24-24.
L. Heimov seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

Roll Call

D. Boston Aye

IV. Consent Agenda

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

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

Roll Call

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

B. Approve Cost of Play Structure at Da Vinci Connect TK-8

D. Boston made a motion to approve the Cost of the Play Structure at Da Vinci Connect TK-8.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

C. Approve Updated Student Use of Technology Policy, Acceptable Technology Use Agreement, and Code of Conduct

D. Boston made a motion to approve the Updated Student Use of Technology Policy, Acceptable Technology Use Agreement, and Code of Conduct.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

D. Approve Connect High School Experiential Field Trip to Costa Rica

Ms. Heimov asked a clarifying question on cost of the trip being fundraised. Dr. Wunder noted that Da Vinci would incur costs for substitute teachers, and the costs of the trip itself would be paid for by the families and fundraising.
D. Boston made a motion to approve the Connect High School Experiential Field Trip to Costa Rica.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

E. Approve Varsity Boys' Basketball Winter Tournament Trip to San Diego

D. Boston made a motion to approve the Varsity Boys' Basketball Winter Tournament Trip to San Diego.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

F. Approve Boys' Beach Volleyball as a WDV Sport (Non-CIF)

Mr. Boston inquired about the general strategy for adding sports. Mr. Bravo shared that it is a non-CIF sport that was piloted, and the cost was examined. At this time, it is a club sport.

Mr. Boston inquired if there is a strategy for adding sports. Dr. Wunder noted that if there is enough interest, the sport is piloted and brought to the Board.

Dr. Webber requested an update on which sports are being evaluated, how many clubs there are, etc. Mr. Boston agreed that he would like to know how many clubs could be expected to be brought to the Board for addition to the Athletics program.
R. Santiago made a motion to approve.
D. Boston seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

G. Approve the 2024-25 Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting Calendar

D. Boston made a motion to approve the 2024-25 Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting Calendar.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

H. Approve Revised Pay Scale for Director of Special Education Position

D. Boston made a motion to approve the Revised Pay Scale for Director of Special Education Position.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

I. Approve Revised Pay Scale for Principal Position

D. Boston made a motion to approve the Revised Pay Scale for Principal Position.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Ochoa Aye
J. Webber Aye

Roll Call

L. Heimov	Aye
D. Boston	Aye
B. Meath	Absent
R. Santiago	Aye

J. Approve Pay Scale for Paraeducator II Position

D. Boston made a motion to approve the Pay Scale for Paraeducator II Position.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

K. Approve Pay Scale for Director of Curriculum and Instruction Position

D. Boston made a motion to approve the Pay Scale for Director of Curriculum and Instruction Position.
R. Santiago seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

V. Closed Session

A. Conference with Legal Counsel

Closed session entered at 7:12 p.m.

VI. Closing Items

A. Reconvene for Public Session & Closed Session Reporting

Public Session reconvened at 9:40 p.m.
Dr. Webber reported that no action had been taken in Closed Session, and adjourned the meeting.

B.

Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:41 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Wohlwerth

Next Regular Da Vinci Schools Board meeting: Tuesday, June 18, 2024.