APPROVED

# Da Vinci Schools

# Minutes

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

**Date and Time**
Wednesday July 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM

**Location**
201 N. Douglas Street El Segundo, CA

**Trustees Present**
C. McCullough, C. Taylor, L. Jennings, T. Johnstone

**Trustees Absent**
A. Montes-Rodriguez

**Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened**
C. Taylor

**Guests Present**
E. Salango, E. Whalen, L. Rodriguez, M. Amato (remote), M. Rainey (remote), M. Wunder (remote), N. Lara, V. Rodriguez (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 Jul 17, 2024 at 6:01 PM.

**B.**

**Record Attendance and Guests**

### C. Approval of Agenda

T. Johnstone made a motion to Approve the Agenda.
C. McCullough seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

| **Roll Call** | |
|---|---|
| C. Taylor | Absent |
| L. Jennings | Aye |
| A. Montes-Rodriguez | Absent |
| C. McCullough | Aye |
| T. Johnstone | Aye |

### D. Public Comments

None.

## II. Information: Board Comments and/or Administrative Reports

### A. From the Board

Dr. Jennings is excited to see everyone and hear updates.

Dr. Johnstone shared that Mr. Steve Wallace, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services for Da Vinci Schools, impressed members with his presentation at a recent Rotary meeting.

### B. From the CEO/Superintendent

None.

### C. From the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

Mr. Whalen noted that more staff will attend DVLAC Board meetings due to their increased support for RISE this year. He introduced Lynn Rodriguez, the Director of Special Education, Michelle Rainey, the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, and Steve Wallace, the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services.

Mr. Whalen shared that Da Vinci RISE is a recipient of the Peer-to-Peer Youth Mental Health High School Pilot Demonstration grant. This funding is awarded by The Children's Partnership in collaboration with the California Department of Health Care Services. RISE has been awarded a total amount of $540,805 over three years. The grant is focused on developing a peer-to-peer mentorship program at RISE. Mr. Whalen noted that his role allows collaboration with the other Da Vinci schools that will continue to benefit and support RISE.

### D.

**RISE High Update**

Principal Lara shared that RISE had a successful two-week summer school program. Many New Earth students attended classes at the Richstone campus, allowing us to test transportation plans. The students did great work, and a parent shared that the student was happy with her summer school experience. Twenty students at Richstone earned 2.5 credits or more in Humanities or STEM, and 11 students at APCH successfully passed and earned credits. ESY was also offered; one student attended every day and participated in athletics camp.

Staff have been working closely with the Office Managers on registration and re-enrollment. Our Attendance and Re-engagement clerk is starting early and will focus on registration, re-enrollment, and in-person assistance. Another focus has been prepping and planning for the beginning of the year staff PD during the first weeks of August.

RISE has hired two SPED teachers for Richstone and APCH each. The new staff will start on August 5, and all returning staff will return on August 8. The first day of school is August 19.

**E. Financial Update**

Mr. Amato provided an update to the 2024-25 budget. He shared that the Peer-to-Peer grant is $540,000 over three years. It is a combination grant that provides additional surplus above the budgeted bottom line and will provide new experiences for students. A portion of the funds will cover at least half of one Case Manager Counselor position, and RISE will have to hire a new staff member with a specific credential. Staff are still working on the details. The PTP and Golden State Pathway grants will fund this new position. Another portion of the grant will cover the APCH partner fee and extra student field trips. More money will be spent on student field trips, but the grant will cover those expenses. RISE was also awarded a $20,000 grant from Cotton-on that was not budgeted for.

Mr. Amato noted that we submit an attendance and enrollment report, P2, to the state in March each year. This school year, when our report was submitted, enrollment was 197, and ADA was about 93. This report is what LCFF revenue is based on and what determines projections for the year. The ensuing school year's budget is approved in late June, and the year-end attendance and enrollment report, P3, is submitted after the budget is approved. There are not typically any significant changes from P2 to P3, but there was a notable bump this year due to staff efforts on enrollment. The final P3 report was 8.5 ADA higher than P2, which counts as the following year's revenue. RISE did not budget for an 8.5 variance, about $115,000 extra. Even though this is related to the 2023-24 budget, this amount will be part of the 2024-25 revenue. Mr. Amato shared that staff are hoping for good news regarding a grant from the upcoming meeting with Boeing.

Mr. Amato noted the agenda items for approval: The updated DV Fiscal RISE policy. The change is authorization levels: adjusting titles and making it more concise and clear.

### F. Facilities Update

None

## III. Approval of Minutes

### A. Approve Minutes of the June 20, 2024 Regular Board Meeting

T. Johnstone made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board Meeting (RISE High) on 06-20-24.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

| | |
|---|---|
| A. Montes-Rodriguez | Absent |
| C. Taylor | Absent |
| C. McCullough | Aye |
| T. Johnstone | Aye |
| L. Jennings | Aye |

C. Taylor arrived at 6:23 PM.

## IV. Action Items

### A. Accept June 2024 Check and EFT Transactions Per Management

C. McCullough made a motion to Accept June 2024 Check and EFT Transactions Per Management.
T. Johnstone seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

| | |
|---|---|
| A. Montes-Rodriguez | Absent |
| C. McCullough | Aye |
| C. Taylor | Abstain |
| L. Jennings | Aye |
| T. Johnstone | Aye |

### B. Approve DV Fiscal Policy Update

T. Johnstone made a motion to Approve DV Fiscal Policy Update.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

| | |
|---|---|
| T. Johnstone | Aye |
| C. Taylor | Abstain |
| C. McCullough | Aye |
| A. Montes-Rodriguez | Absent |

**Roll Call**

| | |
|---|---|
| L. Jennings | Aye |

### C. Approve Updated Independent Study Board Policy

C. McCullough made a motion to Approve Updated Independent Study Board Policy.
L. Jennings seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

| | |
|---|---|
| L. Jennings | Aye |
| C. McCullough | Aye |
| C. Taylor | Abstain |
| A. Montes-Rodriguez | Absent |
| T. Johnstone | Aye |

## V. Closing Items

### A. Adjourn Meeting

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

**Roll Call**

| | |
|---|---|
| T. Johnstone | Aye |
| L. Jennings | Aye |
| C. McCullough | Aye |
| A. Montes-Rodriguez | Absent |
| C. Taylor | Abstain |

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
E. Salango