APPROVED

Da Vinci Schools

Minutes

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

Date and Time
Wednesday October 15, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Location
Mona Lisa, 201 N Douglas St, 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/92066792558 or dial (669) 444-9171 and use Meeting ID: 920 6679 2558.
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
C. Brown, C. McCullough, S. Nellman, T. Johnstone

Trustees Absent
L. Jennings

Guests Present
E. Whalen, J. Crouch, M. Amato (remote), M. Rainey, M. Wunder, N. Lara, V. Bravo

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I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

C. McCullough called a meeting of the board of trustees of Da Vinci Schools to order on Wednesday Oct 15, 2025 at 6:12 PM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Approve the Agenda

S. Nellman made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board Meeting (RISE High) on 09-17-25.
T. Johnstone seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

II. Information

A. From the Board

There was nothing to report from the board.

B. From the CEO/Superintendent

There was nothing to report from the CEO/Superintendent.

C. From the Assistant Superintendents

Assistant Superintendent Erin Whalen informed the board that there will be and upcoming student services meeting on substance use resources that will be shared across the school sites and to create better opportunities for cross collaboration. The student services department continues to move forward with the implementation of CareSolice. Over the course of this next month, the dean of RISE will be participating in the first of many Assistant Principal/Dean meetings to share resources and collaborate across the Da Vinci school sites.

Assistant Superintendent Michelle Rainey informed the board that Da Vinci has hired a former Da Vinci math teacher to support math coaching across all of the Da Vinci schools sites while also addressing the unique needs of each school site, especially RISE. Within curriculum and instruction, there has been a focus on bridging the gap into competency-based instruction and learning while conducting intersectional work across all of Da Vinci as we move toward commonality. Additionally, the focus is that within Da Vinci RISE that the school is more data driven while also not being solely focused on being testing driven. RISE is part of a team across all sites on College and Career Readiness that will share best practices and resources as school sites implement state ethnic studies requirements as well as financial literacy.

D. From the Executive Director of Special Education

There was nothing to report from the Special Education Department.

E. Facilities Update

Assistant Superintendent Vicente Bravo informed the board that Da Vinci recently purchased a new van that can reserved for use at RISE as well as the other school sites. Vicente also informed the board that Da Vinci RISE recently participated in a LACOE facilities visit.

F. RISE High Update

Principal Naomi Lara informed the board that the current enrollment stands at 155 students, with a goal of reaching 185 and maintaining an even split across both sites. The team continues to meet regularly with the Director of Special Education due to a growing population of SPED students. There remains a high number of English Learners (ELs),

particularly at the APCH site, and a deeper dive into the Lexia program is planned next week to further support these students.

The school has recently enrolled new pregnant and parenting students and achieved the highest ADA in the past eight years, increasing from 74.1% in Month 1 to 76.08% in Month 2. An enrollment update from the External Relations Director included ideas such as a friendly student competition for enrolling friends and “Friends and Family Day” events proposed by Board members to encourage organic enrollment. The team is also working with a Digital Media partner to develop new media tools to boost outreach, and a Marketing Class competition was suggested to have students design promotional materials.
Transportation supports remain in place, with students having access to TAP cards and strategic HopSkip carpooling options. The team is mindful of recruitment compliance and avoiding any gifts associated with enrollment. Currently, each site continues to gain 1–2 new students weekly.

Additional updates included progress on NWEA testing, which has increased since last month, and the integration of IXL personalized learning plans based on NWEA scores. The school also shared developments in its partnership with the CPPS Partnership for Teaching and Learning.

G. Financial Update

Michael presented revised budget projections based on lower than expected enrollment and attendance. The board discussed strategies to boost attendance rates, which have a significant impact on RISE's funding. They also explored using additional funding sources like grants and ERC funds to help offset the enrollment-related budget deficit.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approve Minutes of the September 17, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

T. Johnstone made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 17, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.
C. McCullough seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

IV. Action Items

A. Accept August 2025 Check and EFT Transactions Per Management

S. Nellman made a motion to Accept the August 2025 Check and EFT Transactions.
C. McCullough seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

B. Approve Updated Da Vinci Schools English Learner Master Plan

T. Johnstone made a motion to approve the upated Da Vinci Schools English Learner Master Plan.
S. Nellman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

C. Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
C. McCullough seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. Crouch

Next Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board Meeting (RISE High): November 12, 2025