



WISEBURN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT / Da Vinci SCHOOLS

Joint Board Meeting Minutes – Approved Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Black Box Theatre
201 North Douglas, El Segundo, CA

6:00 p.m. - Special Session

CALL TO ORDER

6:01 p.m.

Wiseburn Board Members present:

Neil Goldman, President
Roger Bañuelos, Member
JoAnne Kaneda, Member

Administration present:

Blake Silvers, Superintendent
Aileen Harbeck, Assistant Superintendent
Nisha Dugal, Assistant Superintendent
Peggy Mazzarella, Dir. Psych. Svcs.
Monique Ingram, Counselor Coordinator

Da Vinci Board Members present:

Don Brann, President
Jennifer Morgan, Vice President/Secretary (remote)
Brian Meath, Treasurer
Raul Ochoa, Member
Ray Santiago, Member
Jo Webber, Member

Administration present:

Matthew Wunder, Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent
Jennifer Hawn, Chief Operating Officer/Deputy Supt.
Michael Amato, Chief Financial Officer
Allegra Johnson, Executive Director, Ed Services

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Upon a motion by R. Bañuelos, seconded by J. Webber, and a vote of 8-0, the Regular Agenda was adopted as submitted

OPEN SESSION

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Opening Remarks – WUSD/Da Vinci Board Presidents

Dr. Brann spoke of Da Vinci's high Net Promoter Score, growing enrollment, and the opening of the new Da Vinci Connect High School campus on February 7, 2022.

Dr. Goldman commented on the goals and opportunities before the boards, and recognized the organization's interdependence.

FROM THE PUBLIC (Brian Meath arrived at 6:09 p.m.)

Mr. Israel Mora, outgoing Wiseburn Board member, spoke about the history of Wiseburn's school district unification, the Wiseburn Da Vinci relationship, and the construction of the 201 N. Douglas Street campus.

DISCUSSION

1. Previous Joint Board Meeting (September 2021): The board members gave their takeaway comments and thoughts on the previous Joint Board Meeting in September 2021.
2. WUSD-Da Vinci Articulation: Staff from both organizations spoke of ongoing collaborative work, saying that the work was mutually beneficial for the organizations and for all students in the District.
3. Athletics and Arts: Discussion centered around the importance of the programs and the balance of athletics, arts, and academics both in funding and in the school day. Dr. Goldman would like the community to be informed of what the organizations have already accomplished, but perhaps a new oversight role or model should be considered. Dr. Brann commented that since his main goal is to have students develop into successful citizens with great careers and happy lives, he would like to see students focus on academics and careers, with sports and arts on the side.
4. Governance: The boards discussed State Senate Bill 126 and its impact on the Wiseburn and Da Vinci boards, the need for a governance model that reflects the responsibilities of both boards, the differences between a publicly-elected public school district board and an appointed independent charter school board, and the uniqueness of the Wiseburn-Da Vinci relationship.

5. Facilities: Funding and Finance: Brief discussion on CTE Studio project grant and soccer field progress ensued. Discussion on the difference between Da Vinci and Wiseburn's understanding of the deferred maintenance portion of the Facilities Use Agreement and the necessity of updating the agreement.
6. Special Education Funding: Discussion of the enormous complexity of special education funding ensued.
7. Other: Board members of both boards commented on their willingness to work together to solve complex problems. Brief discussion ensued on certain frustrations inherent in working on difficult, specific issues.

NEXT STEPS

1. WUSD/Da Vinci Board Member Follow-up Meetings
 - a. Board members discussed creation of working groups to deal with specific areas.
2. Next Board Meeting Dates
 - a. The next joint board meeting will take place in May, 2022.

CLOSING COMMENTS

District and Da Vinci board members made closing comments.

ADJOURNMENT

7:54 p.m.