



## Da Vinci Schools

### Minutes

#### Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Wednesday September 28, 2022 at 6:00 PM

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Da Vinci Schools ("DV") welcomes your participation at its Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Directors ("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. Teleconferencing will be conducted through Zoom. Join Zoom meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/97960168537>, Meeting ID: 979 6016 8537, or dial (669) 900-6833.
  2. Agendas are available to all audience members on the Da Vinci Schools website at [www.davincischools.org](http://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 fifteen (15) 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.
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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).)

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**Trustees Present**

B. Meath (remote), D. Brann, J. Webber (remote), L. Heimov (remote), R. Ochoa (remote), R. Santiago

**Trustees Absent**

D. Boston

**Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened**

B. Meath

**Guests Present**

A. Johnson (remote), A. Wohlwerth (remote), C. Levenson (remote), C. Rodriguez (remote), G. Long (remote), J. Hawn, L. Rodriguez (remote), M. Amato (remote), M. Denniston (remote), M. Wunder (remote), Monique Ingram (remote), R. Stoll (remote), S. Wallis (remote), V. Bravo (remote)

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**I. Opening Items**

**A. Call the Meeting to Order**

D. Brann called a meeting of the board of trustees of Da Vinci Schools to order on Wednesday Sep 28, 2022 at 6:01 PM.

**B. Record Attendance and Guests**

**C. Approval of Agenda**

R. Santiago made a motion to approve.  
J. Webber seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

J. Webber Aye  
B. Meath Absent  
D. Boston Absent  
R. Santiago Aye  
L. Heimov Aye  
D. Brann Aye  
R. Ochoa Aye  
B. Meath arrived at 6:03 PM.

**D. Public Comments**

None

## **II. Information**

### **A. From the Board**

Dr. Webber spoke of her son's trip to Catalina Island, saying that all the students looked tired and happy upon their return. She commended the Da Vinci Connect staff for making such a phenomenal trip for the students.

### **B. Working Groups' Updates**

Mr. Ochoa commented that the Arts and Athletics group had no update. The group will reconvene soon.

Mr. Meath shared that there is an October 6 meeting for the Funding & Facilities working group, and that the spreadsheet from Wiseburn is being updated. The Governance working group meeting will occur on October 14.

### **C. From the CEO/Superintendent**

Dr. Wunder noted that the data dashboard created by the Data & Accountability team of Gloria White and Chris Miller has been shared with the trustees. He also noted that it was shared with Dr. Silvers and Ms. Harbeck at Wiseburn, and that the Da Vinci team offered build additional dashboard views for Wiseburn if they desired. Dr. Wunder also shared that he is in Chicago for the Educational Results Partnership Workshop, meeting with the Gates Foundation, Charter School Growth Fund, Transcend, and Intrinsic Schools.

He also shared that he had hosted Wiseburn PTA presidents and that outreach and communication to Wiseburn continues.

Carla Levenson presented an Enrollment update, sharing that the current Enrollment team consists of Carla, Laura Nilsson, Ebony Bobadilla, and Christian Navarro.

She went on to say that Da Vinci is fully enrolled. The team over-enrolls, like the airlines, since they never know who will show up. There were fewer than ten 9th grade no-show students at each of the Communications, Design, and Science high schools. Da Vinci has enrolled over 700 new students across all five charters.

Mr. Meath requested disaggregated data for grades K-12 to show which districts the students come from.

Dr. Brann noted the high number of students LAUSD has lost. Ms. Heimov inquired as to the number of zip codes within Wiseburn attendance boundaries.

Dr. Brann responded that there are three zip codes, including a part of Inglewood near the courthouse.

### **D. Presentation: Real World Learning Update**

Crissel Rodriguez presented the update. Dr. Brann noted that the Real World Learning program was largely halted by the pandemic.

The RWL program aims to prepare students for success after high school and financially stable lives. One aspect of the program is Life Design, helping students identify strengths, passions, career paths, and leverage social capital. Ms.

Rodriguez is working with Da Vinci counselors to develop a career exploration scope and sequence.

She is also developing work-based learning initiatives like internships, certifications, badges, and apprenticeships in trades. Ms. Rodriguez sends out weekly updates to students with internship and volunteer opportunities. She has curated a "Power to Fly" career readiness curriculum and collaborated with El Camino College to develop an opportunity for students to explore Ophthalmology and Cloud Computing as careers.

She also shared the Project-based Learning and CTE Pathways support opportunities with partners like Belkin, Sci-ARC, and El Camino College, among others.

Ms. Rodriguez noted that the Da Vinci Institute supports Teacher Professional Development, and that she is working on expanding Da Vinci's network of partners.

Dr. Webber commented that it is exciting to see the work Ms. Rodriguez has accomplished in a short time.

Mr. Ochoa shared that he has spoken to Ms. Rodriguez to see if his company can bring in Da Vinci students to intern.

Mr. Meath inquired about measuring and tracking student success post-high school. Ms. Rodriguez spoke of tapping into the alumni network. The Certified Nursing Assistant program starting in the winter is targeting alumni.

## **E. Financial Update**

Mr. Amato gave the update, sharing Da Vinci's assets and liabilities and current strong cash position.

He noted that restricted net assets funds from CTEFP grants and others previously received may now be spent on designated items. Unrestricted assets are sources of funds the board has designated for deferred maintenance, the soccer field, etc. Brief discussion on delayed In Lieu of Property Taxes (ILPT) payments ensued. Mr. Amato noted that Wiseburn has requested the payment from the County, so the August and September payments will be received in October.

Profit and Loss statements were also covered. Da Vinci schools are exceeding their enrollment expectations. In addition, expected LCFF revenue increased by about \$2M since central budget expectations were forecasted by the State of California. As the enrollment figures are reported to the State at the end of the year, the funds will be realized. Mr. Meath inquired about the number of prior years for which school districts with declining enrollment can attempt to recoup funds. Mr. Denniston responded that three years (2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23) are eligible. Brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Amato went on to note that Da Vinci is over initially projected budget for federal revenue because of grants, COVID relief funds, and National School Lunch Program assistance funds which were learned about after the budget was created. State revenue for an Ethnic Studies Program was also unexpected.

Mr. Amato commented on the Employee Retention Credit is a pandemic-related tax credit. More schools are taking advantage of the credit. Mr. Amato is working

with a consultant that a Long Beach charter school used in their successful application for the credit, and Mr. Meath. Due diligence has been conducted with Da Vinci's law firm, a tax firm, and other entities. Mr. Amato is estimating about a \$3.7M credit if approved. The funding is subject to an IRS audit within a three year window, therefore Mr. Amato recommends reserving any funding unused during the window, in case of an audit changing the amount of funding. If Da Vinci is denied funding, the consultant will be owed no payment.

## F. Facilities Update

Mr. Bravo shared the soil testing results from the soccer field site. The dirt has been classified as Class 3 Non-hazardous soil, which clears it to be moved to one of a number of disposal locations.

Regarding the CTE Studio, Mr. Bravo will know on Monday the status of the project and whether or not an extension is needed. On October 13, the Wiseburn board will consider a revised RFP for approval, in time for the October 27 submission deadline.

The Cooling Tower project's re-submitted notes are undergoing review at DSA. Once the review is completed, which is expected in two to three weeks, Emcor can begin construction and replacement of the cooling tower.

The Café project is 95% complete. A stakeholder meeting is being set up to bring the project to completion.

The 550 Continental construction is underway. An additional E-occupancy permit application has been submitted.

Marissa Crook, the new Athletic Director, is finishing up onboarding, and will be starting on October 10. She has come from a charter school in Palmdale.

## III. Approval of Minutes

### A. Approval of Minutes of the August 24, 2022 Da Vinci Schools Special Board Meeting

J. Webber made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Special Board Meeting on 08-24-22.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

D. Brann Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

L. Heimov Aye

R. Santiago Aye

D. Boston Absent

J. Webber Aye

B. Meath Aye

### B. Approval of Minutes of the August 24, 2022 Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting

J. Webber made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting on 08-24-22.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**C. Approval of Minutes of the Da Vinci Schools September 15, 2022 Special Board Meeting**

J. Webber made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Special Board Meeting on 09-15-22.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**IV. Consent Agenda**

**A. Accept Da Vinci Schools Payment Register - August 2022**

L. Heimov made a motion to accept the Da Vinci Schools August 2022 Payment Register.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**B. Approve Employee Retention Credit (ERC) Consulting Agreement**

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) Consulting Agreement.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**Roll Call**

R. Santiago Aye

**C. Approve Resolution regarding Education Protection Account Funds for Da Vinci Communications**

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Resolution regarding Education Protection Account Funds for Da Vinci Communications.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Boston Absent

D. Brann Aye

R. Santiago Aye

B. Meath Aye

J. Webber Aye

L. Heimov Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

**D. Approve Resolution regarding Education Protection Account Funds for Da Vinci Design**

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Resolution regarding Education Protection Account Funds for Da Vinci Design.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

B. Meath Aye

D. Boston Absent

L. Heimov Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

J. Webber Aye

R. Santiago Aye

D. Brann Aye

**E. Approve Resolution regarding Education Protection Account Funds for Da Vinci Science**

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Resolution regarding Education Protection Account Funds for Da Vinci Science.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

L. Heimov Aye

J. Webber Aye

D. Brann Aye

D. Boston Absent

R. Santiago Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

B. Meath Aye

**F. Approve Resolution regarding Education Protection Account Funds for Da Vinci Connect**

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Resolution regarding Education Protection Account Funds for Da Vinci Connect.

J. Webber seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**G. Approve Agreement between Da Vinci Design and California State University Northridge for Student Internship Program**

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Agreement between Da Vinci Design and California State University Northridge for Student Internship Program.  
J. Webber seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**H. Approve Memorandum of Understanding between Luminarias Institute and Da Vinci Schools**

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Luminarias Institute and Da Vinci Schools.  
J. Webber seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**I. Approve 2022-2023 Report of Alternative Authorization of Teacher Assignments**

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the 2022-2023 Report of Alternative Authorization of Teacher Assignments.  
J. Webber seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

D. Brann Aye  
R. Ochoa Aye  
J. Webber Aye  
B. Meath Aye



**Roll Call**

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

**J. Approve Extension of Paid Sick Leave for COVID-19**

L. Heimov made a motion to approve the Extension of Paid Sick Leave for COVID-19.

J. Webber seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**V. Closed Session**

**A. Conference with Legal Counsel**

Closed session entered at 7:13 p.m.

**VI. Closing Items**

**A. Reconvene for Public Session & Closed Session Reporting**

Public session reconvened at 8:22 p.m.

Dr. Brann reported that no action was taken in Closed.

Raul Ochoa has left the meeting.

**B. Adjourn Meeting**

J. Webber made a motion to adjourn.

L. Heimov seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
A. Wohlwerth

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Next Regular Da Vinci Schools Board meeting: October 26, 2022.