



**Da Vinci Schools Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2013**

Don Brann, Vice President	Matthew Wunder, Executive Director, Da Vinci Schools
Brian Meath, Treasurer	Tom Johnstone, Superintendent, Wiseburn School District
Cheryl Cook, Secretary	Chris Jones, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Technology, WSD
Art Lofton, Trustee	Dave Wilson, Director of Budget & Accounting, WSD
Israel Mora, Trustee	Tom Cox, Chief Financial Officer, Da Vinci Schools
Jennifer Morgan, Trustee	Yolanda Saldana-Bautista, Business Manager, Da Vinci Schools
	Miles Denniston, Charter School Management Corporation
	Steve Wallis, Principal, Da Vinci Science High School
	Kate Parsons, Principal, Da Vinci Design High School
	Michelle Rainey, Principal, Da Vinci Innovation Academy
	Nathan Barrymore, Principal, Da Vinci Communications High School
	Carla Levenson, Enrollment/Communications, Da Vinci Schools
	Kim Merritt, Teacher, Da Vinci Communications
	Rebecca Murday, Teacher, Da Vinci Science
	Scott Weatherford, Teacher, Da Vinci Science
	Jhezrel Valentine, Executive Assistant, Da Vinci Schools

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:31 P.M. by Dr. Don Brann.

Dr. Brann requests comments from the public. There was no response.

Dr. Brann introduces Dr. Matt Wunder, who introduces Art Lofton.

Special Presentations

- On behalf of Northrop Grumman, Art Lofton presents \$100,000 check to Da Vinci Schools, taking a moment to acknowledge how truly honored and pleased he is to have this moment. Citing the many opportunities for the students, “the future leaders of tomorrow,” this contribution will afford. Mr. Lofton cites the high school internship program (Northrop Grumman HIP Program). Stating, “Thirty-one Da Vicians, last year, have already had the opportunity to be exposed to what we (NG) do as a business, through this program.” Mr. Lofton also highlights that the graduating Class of 2013 saw 100% of its students accepted into college, with 78% of the colleges being four year colleges. Mr. Lofton concludes that it’s easy to see the value of the partnership with Da Vinci through the successes of its students. Concluding that it is the high school, industry partnerships that make Da Vinci so successful.



Dr. Brann, on behalf of Da Vinci Schools thanks Northrop Grumman for their enormous contribution and continued support.

- Mr. Barrymore introduces a presentation, one of about 26 student Tedx Talks put on and sponsored by Da Vinci Communications High School. Ninth grade DVC student, Brianna Willis, performs a thought provoking monologue challenging our perceptions of the casual usage of derogatory language.

From the Board

- Mrs. Cook shares that she is very sorry she was not able to attend the Open House at 201 N. Douglas, but was out of town.
- Mrs. Morgan shares that she was able to tour DVC and DVS and how thrilled she is at the amazing projects in which they're engaged. She stated the students and teachers are all doing a really good job and how happy she is that they are the future.
- Mr. Mora speaks about the Exhibitions that are going on at Science and how exciting they are. Further stating, he expects a certain level of effort by the juniors and seniors, but was really impressed by the freshman. Mr. Mora shares that a week ago they had an Open House for 201 N. Douglas and it had an excellent turnout. In particular, he was blown away by the number of community members who turned out.
- Mr. Lofton states that he is looking forward to continuing amazing things to happen with Da Vinci and that he is honored to be a part of the Da Vinci team.
- Dr. Brann shared that the previous week's 201 N. Douglas walk-through was "just amazing." Noting there was a huge interest from the community wanting to know more about the project. Dr. Brann added that 201 N. Douglas is one of the most exciting projects going on in the United States right now. That the notion of taking an unoccupied industrialized building and turning into a school, is exciting. Further, noting that it's going to be great in 2016-17, having an opportunity to see the "after affect."

Approval of Minutes

November 18, 2013 meeting Minutes:

First: Israel Mora; Second: Brian Meath; Motion carries (6-0)

Board Approvals

December 16, 2013 Board Approvals:

(Approvals #1 – #4 & #8-#18)

First: Israel Mora; Second: Jennifer Morgan; Motion carries (6-0)

(Approval #5 – Polled)

First: Jennifer Morgan; Second: Cheryl Cook; Motion carries (6-0)

(Approval #6 & #7 – Polled)



First: Israel Mora; Second: Brian Meath; Motion carries (6-0)

Financial Update

Mr. Denniston states that he’s worked hard with Da Vinci and Wiseburn teams on Funding Determination for DVIA. DVIA, as a non-classroom based school, has to go through the funding determination process to make sure the independent study funds being received by DVIA are being spent on educational related items. Mr. Denniston is happy to report that DVIA did go through this process and passed all thresholds required, and should receive 100% of funding, although, theoretically, lower amounts can be recommended, though not expected.

Mr. Cox posed the question: With regard to our next meeting’s Da Vinci Schools audit report findings, would the board prefer the state sends a representative to present, or a Da Vinci/Wiseburn staff member?

The board agreed that a staff member may present the findings at our next board meeting.

Mr. Cox and Mr. Wilson report the following 2013-14 First Interim Report:

UNRESTRICTED/ RESTRICTED	CURRENT (Nov Budget A.)	ACTUALS 2 DATE (10/31/13 B.)	PROJECTED (YEAR TOTALS C.)	DIFFERENCE (C-A)
A. REVENUES				
TOTAL REVENUES	10,968,488	2,471,359	10,809,230	(159,258)
B. EXPENDITURES				
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	10,951,759	3,004,713	10,991,399	29,640
C. EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)				
ENDING BALANCE	2,915,801	2,365,718	2,716,903	

Presentations continued

▪ **Post Grade 12**

Mr. Barrymore assisted by Ms. Merritt and Ms. Murday report what’s happening to our students after grade twelve and present three different options with ways to support our students after grade twelve. They are:

- Courses after 12th grade
- Partnering with colleges
- Legislation and legal hurdles



- **Compensation Committee**

Mr. Eynon reports that the compensation committee all agreed how important it is to keep in mind that when creating the compensation matrix, key components are creating an equitable and sustainable matrix for all. Mr. Eynon acknowledges that the job of restructuring the pay scale is a very complex task and they all feel honored to be given such an opportunity. It was also noted that Da Vinci teachers work 18 days more than their counterparts.

Dr. Brann comments that he does not think Da Vinci teachers' salaries are high enough based on the amount of hours they work compared to their counterparts.

- **Common Core**

Dr. Jones explains that Common Core money is one-time money that can be spent any time in this school year or next school year. It's close to \$200 per student that can be spent in one of three areas: technology, professional development, or materials. Dr. Jones further states that although within those options there are a lot of ways to spend the money. Dr. Jones states that looking at what we need, the overwhelming response was that this one-time money should and needs to be invested in technology. Concluding that "what we've done with the very limited technology resources is nothing short of phenomenal."


Dr. Brann announces that at this juncture we now enter into a Public Hearing. There was no discussion from the audience.

Closed Session

Meeting entered into Closed Session at 8:00 P.M.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

 Denotes *Action Items* – there are no Action Items.