



**Meeting of the Board  
Board of Trustees**

**Meeting Minutes  
Monday, January 25, 2016**

Chet Pipkin, President	Matthew Wunder, Chief Executive Officer, Da Vinci Schools
Don Brann, Vice President	Tom Cox, Chief Financial Officer, Da Vinci Schools
Brian Meath, Treasurer, via phone	Nathan Barrymore, Principal, Da Vinci Communications
Art Lofton, Trustee, via phone	Michelle Rainey, Principal, Da Vinci Innovation Academy
Israel Mora, Trustee	Steve Wallis, Principal, Da Vinci Science
Jennifer Morgan, Trustee	Kim Merritt, Director, Da Vinci Extension, Da Vinci Schools
Roger Bañuelos, Trustee	Scott Weatherford, Director, Da Vinci Institute, Da Vinci Schools
	Natasha Morse, Director, Real World Learning, Da Vinci Schools
	Rocio Ansari, Executive Assistant, Da Vinci Schools
	Chris Jones, Deputy Superintendent, Wiseburn Unified School District

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM.

The meeting began in a different order than listed on the Board agenda. Da Vinci Board President, Chet Pipkin, introduced the newest member of the Da Vinci Board, Mr. Roger Bañuelos. The new term for Mr. Bañuelos began January 25, 2016 and will run until January 25, 2019. His son, Eric Bañuelos, was brought in to swear-in his father. Eric led the *Oath of Office* and Mr. Bañuelos made his promise to fulfill the duties as a Board Trustee of Da Vinci Schools.

**Mr. Lofton arrived telephonically at 6:06 PM.**

All of the Board members and Dr. Wunder welcomed Mr. Bañuelos to the Board and said they are grateful for his service. Mr. Bañuelos thanked everyone and stated that is has been a tremendous journey and he looks forward to working with such a positive community. He said he appreciates the opportunity to serve both the WUSD and Da Vinci Boards.

**From the Board**

Ms. Morgan shared that she attended College Night at DVC for the 11<sup>th</sup> graders. It was an informative meeting during which students and parents learned more about how to prepare for the ACT and SAT exams.

On Tuesday, January, 19<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Brann attended a meeting of the El Segundo City Council. He shared that their first action item was approval of the pool for WUSD. This was approved unanimously.

Mr. Mora shared that the California School Finance Authority approved WUSD/Da Vinci Schools for \$31.5M in financing for the new campus at 201 N. Douglas Street. If final approval is granted and everything goes as planned, Mr. Mora believes we should receive these funds in July. Construction is continuing and he can arrange for tours if desired.

Mr. Cox added that we may not necessarily receive the funds in July, but we will have a better idea of where we stand then. The State must sell bonds in order for this to actually happen. Bonds are sold twice a year by the State; this was good news overall.

Mr. Lofton shared that the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo- Northrop-Da Vinci partnership is going well. He said we need to ensure best practices are followed to maintain this relationship.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from December 14, 2015 were approved with no changes.

**First: Mr. Mora                      Second: Ms. Morgan                      Motion carries: 6-0**

**Mr. Bañuelos abstained since he was not present at last month's Board meeting.**

### **Board Approval**

**Item # 1- 24**

**Approved as follows:**

**First: Mr. Mora                      Second: Ms. Morgan                      Motion carries: 7-0**

### **Board Approvals Pulled**

None

### **Audit Report (by: Marcy Fimbres)**

Dr. Wunder introduced Marcy Fimbres, the auditor and Director of Christy White and Associates. She attended the meeting to provide us a brief overview of the audit report. First, she discussed the financial statement of opinion. Overall, there is no indication of improper use of accounting principles and no adjustments are required. Per Ms. Fimbres, it was a good clean audit opinion for the 2014-2015 school year.

As discussed at December's Board meeting, there were two small findings. The first item was a coding error (overstating ADA) in our attendance software at Da Vinci Design. This was a result from the Presentations of Learning schedule and a discrepancy with our attendance report. The second finding was the reporting of the number of English Language Learners in CALPADS. Students who are English Language Learners were not re-classified.

### **Real World Learning Update (by: Natasha Morse)**

Ms. Morse has transitioned into this new role as she still holds her position as a Resource Specialist. She is working to re-vamp and expand the Real World Learning program altogether. Her goals are to facilitate internships and work experience opportunities that are more in line with of our schools' career pathways.

She is currently working to create internship opportunities for this summer and looking to expand industry partnerships. Furthermore, Ms. Morse is trying to making sure that the internships are aligned with the real world, real jobs, and career pathways.

Ms. Morse plans to connect Da Vinci teachers with industry partners to best plan work experience related projects. This will allow teachers to develop lessons with real job demands in the workforce.

Currently, all internship opportunities are posted on the school blogs, announced in advisory, and shared in the classrooms. Ms. Morse will eventually have a Real World Learning blog connected to the Da Vinci website (all of the internships will be posted there).

### **DV Institute and Fellowship Update (by: Dr. Scott Weatherford)**

Dr. Weatherford has been working with different educators from LAUSD. Their teachers have a real interest in learning more about project-based learning and the Da Vinci career pathways. They have asked us to work with their instructional coaches and target best practices.

The Institute is exploring hosting a summer conference and partnering with Schools That Can. If more than 12 people are registered, this would be profitable for the Institute. There are a lot of interested people, so he believes this will likely happen in summer 2016

The Fellowship Program is also doing well. Da Vinci's Fellow, Kari Croft, continues to work on the book she is writing for Da Vinci Schools. Currently, she has drafted eight chapters outlining the Da Vinci culture and best practices. Da Vinci is working to expand the Fellowship model to small teams of educators interested in opening up their own charter schools.

Dr. Weatherford shared that he applied for a position as a Government/Economics teacher at Da Vinci Communications for the first 12<sup>th</sup> grade graduating class. He also applied to teach the college writing class and he is interested in doing a job share with a teaching assignment at Da Vinci Communications and helping with the Institute.

### **Financial Update (by: Tom Cox)**

The one-time state money for educator effectiveness has an estimated entitlement of approximately \$134,921. For these funds, a Board pre-approved plan is required and we will have three years to spend the monies.

These one-time expenditures are not ongoing. January's proposal is proposing another \$200 per student. The state owes money to schools from Proposition 98. Assuming we get those monies, it would

add up to an additional \$300,000. Mr. Cox believes this will be the last year in which we see an increase since the governor is paying down debt.

Mr. Cox believes we are doing fine on the budget and he will present any new projections to the Board in the Second Interim. We are on target with payroll and benefit costs.

The Classified Retirement Plan was Board approved earlier this date. A three percent (3%) match will be contributed to those employees who work 30 hours or more per week and on benefits (if they choose to participate). The Da Vinci match will be made in January of each year. This will help with budgeting on the fiscal side.

#### **Closed Session**

Meeting entered into Closed Session at 7:24 PM.

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting reconvened from Closed Session at 8:20 PM.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.**