



**Da Vinci Schools Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2014**

Board Members Present:	Staff Present:
Chet Pipkin, President	Matthew Wunder, Executive Director, Da Vinci Schools
Don Brann, Vice President	Tom Johnstone, Superintendent, Wiseburn School District
Cheryl Cook, Secretary	Chris Jones, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Technology, WSD
Brian Meath, Treasurer	Steve Wallis, Principal, Da Vinci Science
Israel Mora, Trustee	Kate Parsons, Principal, Da Vinci Design
Art Lofton, Trustee	Nathan Barrymore, Principal, Da Vinci Communications
Jennifer Morgan, Trustee	Michelle Rainey, Principal, Da Vinci Innovation Academy
	Tyler Phipps, Dean of Students, Da Vinci Communications
	Kim Merritt, English Teacher, Da Vinci Communications
	Yolanda Saldana-Bautista, Business Manager, Da Vinci Schools
	Carla Levenson, Managing Dir. of External Relations, Da Vinci Schools
	Sharon Coulter, Director of Development, Da Vinci Schools
	Vince Madsen, Director of Facilities Planning, Wiseburn School District
	Miles Denniston, Charter School Management Corporation
	Tex Boggs, President, Antioch University Los Angeles
	Samuel Renteria, Information Technology, Da Vinci Schools
	Jhezrel Valentine, Executive Assistant, Da Vinci Schools

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at **6:09 P.M.** by **Mr. Pipkin**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from February 24, 2014 were approved.

First: **Israel Mora**; Second: **Cheryl Cook**; Motion: **7-0**

BOARD APPROVALS

Addition of Approval item 17

First: **Israel Mora**; Second: **Don Brann**; Motion: **7-0**

Board Approvals items 1-17

First: **Israel Mora**; Second: Cheryl Cook; Motion: **7-0**



FROM THE PUBLIC

A resident from the Los Angeles area wanted to make a statement. Her greatest surprise was to find out that Da Vinci's waiting list contained 2000 students. She spoke about her daughter and how she would hope to get her into Da Vinci. She wanted to know if it was at all possible. Her purpose for attending meeting today was to impress upon the board the importance of schools like Da Vinci. She closed her remarks by stating, "Please help us help the children of Los Angeles, so we can educate the children of South Los Angeles."

Mr. Pipkin responded, stating, "We are delighted that you would take the time out of your busy schedule to let us know how you feel. We share your passion to always explore ways to benefit and help children. We will take your request into consideration. Thank you very much for all of your passion and nudging."

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Robotics Presentation

Presented earlier at 5:30 P.M. by Da Vinci Science's robotics team: Team 4201, The Vitruvian Bots.

Gensler Design

Nathan Kim from of Gensler Design presented a PowerPoint presentation. Stating briefly, "We're just going to go thru the latest design of the project." Mr. Kim stated that Gensler had been working with the principals of Da Vinci to make sure they were on target with what the principals wanted. Further stating that the slides in the presentation will give us a since of what the new building will look like. Mr. Kim went on to show and explain the floor plan and highlights of the new building.

Mr. Pipkin remarks that what Mr. Kim has presented is critical. Further, Mr. Pipkin states that on behalf of the board, "Nathan, we want to thank you and everybody from Gensler. Having the opportunity to "work in one of your design areas, every day, is a good example of what goes into the planning."



Da Vinci/Wiseburn Sub Committees

Mr. Madsen presented by stating that he needed to find out if the sites needed to add one or two portables. He has preliminary numbers and asserts it will take all summer to bring the portables on site.

Mr. Madsen is also working on the DV Communications charter petition. Stating he's really just adding the capacity needed, so when they apply, they'll be able to match capacity to student count. Mr. Madsen continues that K-8 application still needs a little more information. Mr. Madsen states that what they really need to find out is what the real capacity for K-8 is since; the total number of students is never on campus at one time, stating that our consultants are working overtime to figure it out. Mr. Madsen reveals that what he is presenting tonight are the two 9-12 charters. "If the petitions are submitted in April, the goal is to know in November. We all have our *to do* lists to get this application completed."

Mr. Madsen continues, "The bulk of the committee is thinking that *phasing* is not the best option. The community wants all of it and we're trying to figure out a way to make it happen. At this point our committee really wants to build it all."

Enrollment Update

Mrs. Levenson: "We had our first ever electronic lottery on Tuesday and it went very smoothly. We are very happy to use the electronic version. To date we've received 1590 applications. We are on track to receive 2000 by our deadline. Wiseburn residents did not have to go through the lottery."

Mrs. Levenson continues, "Who we are serving has really changed, mostly Wiseburn students." Also, adding that although the lottery is now electronic, it has also gotten more complex.

As of March 17, 2014

2014-2015 Applications

- Total Applications received to date: 1,590
- Applications received by deadline: 1,516
- Lottery Entrants
 - High Schools – 872
 - DVIA – 457
 - DVIA Full Independent Study – 25
- 167 Applications received from Wiseburn residents



- 143 high school
 - 29 Wiseburn residents returning to the District (grades 9-12)
- 24 DVIA
- 111 of 129 Resident Students at Dana applied to DV (86%) +1
- 128 of 178 Non-Resident (Permit) Students at Dana applied to DV (72%) +15
- Out of the 336 available seats for 9th grade, 294 students have a preference. That means there are just 42 seats for 9th graders who have no connection to Wiseburn.
 - We have 152 students with a preference who have selected DVS as their first choice and only 136 seats available
 - Of the 146 students offered spots at DVS, only 14 did not attend Dana or DVIA (most are siblings, children of staff, etc.)
 - Approximately 6 students with a preference who selected DVS as their first choice have been offered their second choice
- In 2012-13, 35% of Wiseburn students at Dana enrolled in a Da Vinci school. For 2013-14, 62% of Wiseburn students at Dana enrolled in a Da Vinci school. In 2014-15?
- Less data entry, more complexity in enrollment process

Annual Giving Update

Mrs. Levenson impresses upon the board that annual giving is really important to continue. Mrs. Levenson further states that it is not a big money maker at this point.

As of March 17, 2014

- \$107,113 received in gifts & pledges
- +\$45K in matching corporate monies (Belkin, Northrop and Chevron)
- Approximately 325 families participated

Wiseburn Community Outreach Update

(List of outreach efforts)

Educator Visits Update

(List of visitors from March 2013-May 2014)



Beyond K-12 Update

Ms. Merritt: “The thinking is that we have set up something amazing here. How do we continue that?”

Da Vinci Alumni Support

- Track student progress from graduation-career
- Organize alumni events
- Engage alumni on Da Vinci K-12 campuses
- Alumni communications

Industry Engagement

- Expand PBL to engage industry
- Connect industry to DV projects
- Interdisciplinary
- Connect students and industry K-Career

Da Vinci Pillar Program

Support of cohort of El Camino students:

- Priority registration
 - Summer bridge
 - Bi-Weekly meetings/tutoring (beginning Fall 2014)
 - Cohort activities
 - Student leaders
- Explore expanding program to other colleges

Da Vinci College Satellite

- Secure classes
 - Bi-Weekly meetings
 - On site mentor/teachers
 - Internships
 - Industry partnerships
 - Project-Based Learning
- Planning begins Fall 2014



Dr. Tex Boggs – President, Antioch University Los Angeles

“Thank you for having me here tonight. We’ve been partners for a little over two years now. There are some components in our missions that are similar. As a consequence, there are many things that fit with that mission.” Dr. Boggs continues with, “There are three categories of students: (1) exceptional students; (2) students from 1-13 years who partnerships with community colleges. People have different skills and different interests: and (3) a cohort, who will enter college while in 10th and 11th grade.

Dr. Boggs concludes by stating that what Da Vinci is creating is very impressive.

Branding Sub Committee Update

Dr. Jones states that “The gist from the Minutes from the two meetings was a real firm interest and desire to maintain both brands and to make sure both brands move forward and to look for opportunity for co-branding.”

Mid-Year Report

Dr. Jones presents a summary of the Mid-Year Report.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Mr. Wilson presented the following:

	November Budget A.	Operating Budget (1st Interim) B.	Actuals To Date (1/31/14) C.	Projected Year Totals (2nd Interim) D.	Difference D-B
A. REVENUES					
Total Revenues	10,968,488	10,809,230	6,520,531	10,969,730	160,500
B. EXPENDITURES					
Total Expenditures	10,951,759	10,991,399	5,157,132	11,306,397	314,998
C. EXCESS (Deficiency)	16,729	(182,169)	1,363,399	(336,667)	
BEGINNING BALANCE	2,899,072	2,899,072	2,899,072	2,899,072	
ENDING BALANCE	2,915,801	2,716,903	4,262,471	2,562,405	



Financial Update continued

Mr. Denniston states he's not aware of any potential problems with us getting Title 1 Funding.

Mr. Denniston further states that "the overall trend *goes down* when we get to June and that's due to state referrals. We're starting to run into the dry times as far as financial help from the state. Governor promises to pay back all of those deferrals."

Compensation Update

Mrs. Saldana-Bautista states that "One thing that came out of the meeting was increasing the base salaries. We just haven't been comparable. We need to increase the starting and maximum salaries. We will be presenting in closed session. It would be ideal to be able to compete against all the other schools." Mrs. Saldana-Bautista states that this may be a time to give back to our staff.

"We discussed health benefits. Each year they rise. It is becoming really difficult for staff to ensure their families. So we're looking at increasing our contribution to employee compensation or benefit package."

Dr. Wunder adds, "We've talked about the great need to revise our compensation structure for 2 years, now. Compensation needs to always be looked at over a period of 2 years."

Dr. Wunder concludes with "We want to thank you, the board, for all that you do. We really thank you very much for all that your do to make things work. The school sites are grateful. Thank you very much."

Mr. Pipkin responds with "We're honored and privileged to be a part of it."

CLOSED SESSION

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

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at **9:12 P.M.**