

**Da Vinci Schools Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2010**

Open Session Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Chet Pipkin, President
Don Brann, Vice President
Cheryl Cook, Secretary

Staff Present:

Matt Wunder, Executive Director
Tom Cox, Wiseburn Chief Business Official
Nicole Temple, Principal

Visitors Present:

Susan Andriacchi, Recording Secretary Marshall Vallelunga, Da Vinci Parent

Motion to approve minutes from March 10, 2010.

First: Brann; Second: Cook; Motion carries.

Information from the Board.

- From Don Brann - perception of students is that Design school is not as recognized and has less opportunities than Science school. Part of this is the aerospace company involvement in Science school and there is more press generated, and part is that there is no high visibility partner for the Design school yet.
- Marshall Vallelunga recommends combined effort on LA County Science fair from both schools.
- Chet Pipkin reports that the same issue has been raised in the Strategic Planning Committee; Belkin is more of a design company than a science company. Northrop Grumman sees itself as Design and Science integrated. It would be easy for Belkin to create some balance in the public perception.
- Matt Wunder reports that Nicole Tempel is planning focus groups for Design School students.

Discussion Items

Strategic Planning Process – Matt Wunder and Chet Pipkin

- Have defined the data requirements, and will start collecting.
- Have also worked on the guiding questions: What impact do we want to make on kids? What difference do we want to make?

Executive Director Report – Matt Wunder

- Thinking differently about public/private partnerships – given our location we have an opportunity to align our curriculum with the skill sets that corporate partners want. Would like to see industry influencing the kind of projects the kids work on.
- Website redesign – Carla Levenson, parent at Anza, volunteering her skills.

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- Enrollment update (handout) – 256 total enrollment in 9th grade for 2010-11, Free and Reduced Lunch percentage is decreasing.
- Development update – Chevron will present check for \$60k on April 8th.
- Eisner Foundation application – Da Vinci lines up with their giving guidelines; requesting \$300k over 2 years to fund the counseling and guidance program; see student wellness/needs survey from 3/23/10.

Financial Report (handout) – Tom Cox

- 2nd Interim Financial Report indicates that Da Vinci is being well-managed. Highlights are summarized in memo to Board.
- Auditors from Nigro, Nigro & White are auditing Da Vinci this week, will audit the attendance on Thursday 3/25; attendance rates have been very high; an audit of the consolidated financial statements will be performed in November 2010.
- Why is nothing budgeted under capital outlay (pg 3 of report)? There are various options for financing a new facility; but nothing is decided yet.

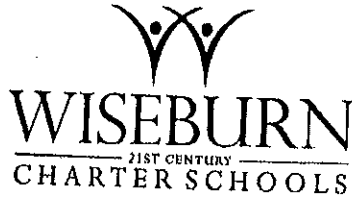
Motion to approve 2nd Interim Financial Report for 2009-10 school year.
First: Brann; Second: Cook ; Motion carries unanimously.

New Facility/Response to WSD Facility Plan (handout) – Don Brann

- Wish to locate Da Vinci Design in Skyview Campus anchored by Gehry Partners and Otis College on the northwest corner of 135th and Aviation; part of plan for Design District in eastern El Segundo. Not sure if Gehry Partners are aware of our desire to co-locate; will try to meet with them in April or May.
- Not willing to use eminent domain to acquire sites; would prefer to utilize partnerships.
- Phase II could include acquisition of additional properties in the Utah Industrial Park.
- Science school would remain at existing site, whereas WSD wants both schools to be moved.
- Recommend another joint meeting with the Wiseburn Board in the next two weeks.
- Tom Cox can present the response to WSD as it is currently written, with the caveat that this is not the final plan.

Update on Instructional Differentiation and Rigor (3 handouts) – Nicole Tempel

- Discussion of next year's schedule; changing to an 8 period day instead of 6 period day,
- Modified block schedule – 4 periods per day, but alternate periods by days, similar to college schedules.
- Humanities periods 1-2, math/science periods 3-4, electives periods 5-6; adding periods 7-8 allows for more electives, college-level courses, and internship time.
- Schedule also raises teacher prep time from 1 hour per day to 1:40.
- Da Vinci Site Calendar 2010-11 (yellow is staff development, grey is pupil-free), tried to schedule professional development to address teacher burnout.
- Calendar is 198 days for returning teachers, 202 days for new teachers. Matt, and Nicole will continue to review with Tom Cox and auditors.



Action Item

Motion to approve agreement for consultant services with EduServe Inc.
First: Brann ; Second: Cook ; Motion carries.

Upcoming Events

Next Board meeting will be in April 2010, schedule tba.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Agenda Items for next time:

Advisory Council Proposal – Matt Wunder

Update on Comprehensive Counseling and Guidance Plan – Matt Wunder

Strategic Compensation Matrix – Don Brann