

APPROVED



## Da Vinci Schools

### Minutes

#### Da Vinci Schools Special Board Meeting

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##### **Date and Time**

Thursday August 5, 2021 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/95145816625>, Meeting ID: 951 4581 6625, 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 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. Boston (remote), D. Brann (remote), J. Morgan (remote), J. Webber (remote), R. Ochoa (remote), R. Santiago (remote)

#### **Trustees Absent**

*None*

#### **Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened**

J. Webber

#### **Guests Present**

A. Johnson (remote), A. Wohlwerth (remote), C. Levenson (remote), J. Hawn (remote), L. Rodriguez (remote), M. Amato (remote), M. Rainey (remote), M. Wunder (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 Thursday Aug 5, 2021 at 6:02 PM.

#### **B. Record Attendance and Guests**

#### **C. Approval of Agenda**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

##### **Roll Call**

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

### **II. Information**

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

Ms. Morgan shared that she was absent at the previous meeting but had read the minutes, and would like to note her approval of Dr. Wunder's employment contract.

Dr. Brann commented that last year, there had been considerably more input from the community than in past years, and that on a few occasions, there was confusion as to where the messages were directed (to the CEO or the staff, only to the board). Dr. Brann commented that customer service is paramount. He directed the board and the staff to come up with a procedure to prevent any community messages from going astray. He would like to hear about a system at the next board meeting.

**B. From the CEO/Superintendent**

Dr. Wunder commented that he had been communicating with Dr. Blake Silvers on reopening plans. Dr. Wunder also shared that he met with Dr. Webber, Dr. Silvers, and Wiseburn Board member Ms. JoAnne Kaneda regarding Wiseburn + Da Vinci coordination efforts on reopening, facilities, technology, and human resources. He added that Dr. Emily Green, Da Vinci's school nurse, is also available to lend her expertise to the District, so things are going well between Wiseburn and Da Vinci, and he will give the Board further information at the next board meeting.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Approval of Minutes of the July 21, 2021 Regular Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting**

J. Webber arrived at 6:10 PM.

D. Boston made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting on 07-21-21.

B. Meath seconded the motion.

Mr. Santiago and Mr. Ochoa, who were absent from the previous board meeting, expressed their support for Dr. Matt Wunder's employment contract. Dr. Brann thanked Mr. Meath and Dr. Webber for their assistance with creating the contract. The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

B. Meath Aye  
R. Santiago Aye  
D. Brann Aye  
J. Webber Aye  
J. Morgan Aye  
D. Boston Aye  
R. Ochoa Aye

**IV. Action Item**

**A. Approve Recommendation for Staff Salary Increase**

Dr. Brann shared that the Board was considering the cost of living increase of 3.75% for staff for the 2021-22 school year. The State is providing a 5.07% cost of living allowance, which it had not done in the previous year. The reason the Board is not considering the full allowance is that there are other costs to the employer, and the Board would like to have a cushion for funding those costs (retirement, worker's compensation, etc.). The Board has a history of rewarding the staff when it is prudent.

Dr. Wunder and Dr. Hawn shared the history of salary increases from 2020 to 2021, including one-time bonuses and the approximately 3% annual salary level increases. The impact of the 2021-22 increase would be just over \$714K, and would necessitate a \$267K adjustment to the Da Vinci budget. Da Vinci spends \$15MM of a slightly more than \$30MM budget on salaries (not including RISE).

Clarifying discussion that the increase would apply to all staff except for Dr. Wunder and the Cabinet ensued. Dr. Hawn reminded the Trustees that a salary increase for the Cabinet would have to be considered in a regular, not special board meeting.

Mr. Boston shared that he is strongly in favor of the proposal, saying that the staff is the foundation of the schools, they are incredibly talented, and work incredibly hard for the students. Da Vinci Schools are a huge benefit to the community with a reputation such that educators come from all over the world to learn from the organization, which has contributed to increased home values in Wiseburn. The staff who have put together these world class schools deserved to be recognized and supported.

Dr. Brann thanked Mr. Boston, and added that spending about half of the budget on people in a people business is not unusual.

Mr. Meath concurred in his support for the increase. Dr. Brann thanked him for working with the staff on the compensation item.

R. Santiago made a motion to approve the Recommendation for a 3.75% Staff Salary Increase.

D. Boston seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

B. Meath Aye  
D. Boston Aye  
D. Brann Aye  
R. Ochoa Aye  
R. Santiago Aye  
J. Morgan Aye  
J. Webber Aye

**V. Closed Session**

**A. Conference with Legal Counsel**

No closed session was needed; Dr. Brann called for a motion to adjourn.

**VI. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

J. Morgan made a motion to adjourn.

R. Ochoa seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

J. Morgan Aye  
R. Santiago Aye  
J. Webber Aye  
D. Brann Aye  
R. Ochoa Aye  
B. Meath Aye  
D. Boston Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Wohlwerth

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Next Board Meeting: August 25 at 6 p.m.