

APPROVED



## Da Vinci Schools

### Minutes

#### Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting

---

**Date and Time**

Wednesday July 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM

---

**Trustees Present**

B. Meath, D. Brann, J. Webber (remote), L. Heimov (remote), R. Ochoa (remote), R. Santiago

**Trustees Absent**

D. Boston

**Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened**

B. Meath

**Guests Present**

A. Johnson (remote), A. Wohlwerth (remote), Chris Howell (remote), J. Hawn, M. Amato (remote), M. Denniston (remote), M. Wunder

---

**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 Wednesday Jul 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

**B. Record Attendance and Guests****C. Special Board Action: Installation of New Board Member**

Ms. Heimov was sworn in as a member of the Board of Trustees by Dr. Brann.

**D.**

**Special Board Action: Approve and Adopt Board Resolution for Teleconference Board Meetings Pursuant to Special Rules in Government Code Section 54953(e)**

J. Webber made a motion to approve.  
R. Santiago seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

D. Brann Aye  
B. Meath Absent  
L. Heimov Aye  
D. Boston Absent  
R. Ochoa Aye  
R. Santiago Aye  
J. Webber Aye  
B. Meath arrived at 6:05 PM.

**E. Approval of Agenda**

R. Santiago made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.  
J. Webber seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**F. Public Comments**

None

**II. Information**

**A. From the Board**

None

**B. Working Groups Updates**

Mr. Santiago commented that the Arts & Athletics working group had not yet met again.

Mr. Meath noted that the Facilities & Finance working group was waiting until after participants' summer vacations to schedule another meeting. He also commented that the Governance working group, saying that he inquired about the charter oversight position for which Wiseburn had hired Monique Ingram, and that he would like to have Dr. Silvers and Dr. Ingram give a presentation to the Da Vinci Board on what her role entails. Improving communications, updating the Lease Renewal scorecard, sharing resources, the potential bond, naming rights for the CTE Studio and soccer field, and the Connect License Agreement for the Del Aire campus are also on their working group's agenda. The group has meeting tentatively scheduled for the last week of July.

**C.**

### **From the CEO/Superintendent**

Dr. Wunder commented that Mr. Bravo was working on obtaining FIFA-approved artificial turf from another organization in the Bay Area at a good price. Mr. Bravo will update the Board in August.

Dr. Wunder also commented on the impact of COVID two-plus years on.

He went on to say that the theme for 2022-23 will be "Safe, Welcome, and Known."

### **D. Presentation: Career-Connected Learning**

Dr. Wunder and Dr. Hawn presented the work being done around Career-Connected Learning at Da Vinci, saying that it's more important than ever that students will be well prepared for life.

The framework for this learning includes Career Awareness (learning about self and work through career days, worksite tours, career-readiness curriculum), Career Exploration (learning for work through mentorships, job shadows, informational & mock interviews), Career Preparation (learning through work including internships, volunteering, pre-apprenticeships, college pipeline programs), and Career Launch (learning in work via Last Mile trainings, certifications, and digital badges). Dr. Hawn credited Crissel Rodriguez, Dr. Allegra Johnson, and Gloria White with their work on this continuum for students.

The "Big Blur" creates new structures and systems to better serve 16-to-20-year-olds in preparing for career and life. As in college where the first years cover general education courses and the later years are for specialization, there are general skills all high school students should have, and more purposeful skills aligned to the individual student's goals. Dr. Wunder would like to push these new structures down into high school and up into post-high school graduate programs.

Dr. Wunder's North Star is to end poverty in all its forms. He knows this is unachievable, but it is a guidepost. Ensuring every student has a reliably stable life is audacious but reachable. Da Vinci's mission is to solve complex educational issues.

Dr. Hawn noted the goal is to help students find their purpose by developing a pathway-embedded career-plan portfolio with badges and credentials so that students leave Da Vinci with a more dedicated and individual sense of purpose than they might have had in a more traditional high school program. Expanding opportunities for students beyond a four-year college admission is another goal. There are other options for students, and Da Vinci wants to honor and validate those student interests.

Da Vinci is looking to pilot a Certified Nursing Assistant program partnered with El Camino College and San Diego College of Continuing Education. Dr. Emily Green is helping to coordinate this work. In addition, Da Vinci is researching establishing an Accounting Certificate program using internships at Nigro Karlin Feldstein, Mr. Meath's firm, because there is a need for junior-level accounting executives. This would accelerate the high school-to-upwardly-mobile career options for students.

Dr. Wunder shared these programs would not use K-12 funding, but instead turn to Da Vinci Schools Fund for startup funding (\$50K). Partnering with the

community colleges offers long-term funding potential if the Certified Nursing Assistant and Accounting Certificate programs become qualified as "non-credit bearing," which would allow them to qualify for State apportionment funding.

Dr. Wunder went on to discuss the partnership with El Camino College and the support of El Camino Board Vice President Ken Brown, a former Da Vinci Board member, and a potential partnership with Harbor Freight Tools.

Dr. Webber commented that she would like the Da Vinci team to look at adding a cybersecurity program, as there is a huge need, there is zero unemployment in that field, and there are very few students coming out of even college with the necessary skills.

Dr. Brann commented that there are other fields for which Da Vinci could create programs, like sports medicine, physical therapy, and home health workers, and he believes that Da Vinci should eventually consider a placement officer to work with the corporations and industries that physically surround Da Vinci.

Ms. Heimov added that in the legal field, there is a desperate need for court stenographers, and that it is a lucrative career with a short training ramp that would appeal to students who are not interested in a Math or Science career.

#### **E. Presentation: Cheer Pilot Program**

Dr. Hawn shared that her role is in supporting the process of piloting the Cheer program. Athletic Director D.R. Moreland spoke about the Cheer program, which has been operating as an informal student-interest club out of Da Vinci Communications. The Cheer students would like to be included in the Athletics program as a cross-site opportunity, since Cheer is now a CIF sport. Athletics would help organize the Cheer pilot for 2022-23, aligning it with the Athletics program for efficiency and providing the group with structure.

In 2021-22, Athletics communicated with the Cheer Club Advisor and Volunteer Coach. In April 2022, a budget analysis was conducted; in May, an information meeting was held; in July, prospective students were surveyed, and now Board approval of the pilot is requested.

46 students expressed interest, but the pilot will be held to 25 students. The Cheer team would support all Da Vinci sports. They would like to fundraise for their uniforms. Startup requires \$8,550, and the program would be evaluated in April 2023 to consider whether or not to incorporate Cheer as a CIF sport at Da Vinci.

Dr. Brann inquired about transportation for the Cheer students. Mr. Moreland responded that if there is space on the athletic team bus, the Cheer coach must be present on the bus. The volunteer coach would be hired as a walk-on coach.

Discussion about the number of CIF sports and the costs ensued. \$600K will be spent on sports in 2022-23.

#### **F. Financial Update**

Mr. Amato presented an update on the budget, now that the State budget has been approved.

The State has approved a 12.84% COLA, which is 6.28% above the 22-23 budgeted figure of 6.56%. This is a permanent increase to the base level of LCFF revenue, which Da Vinci is able to spend in any area needed.

Mr. Amato went on to note that the State has approved a Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant, based on P2 unduplicated pupil attendance numbers. It is a one-time grant, but schools have six years to spend the funds on mitigating learning loss (summer school, tutoring, credit recovery, etc.). Mr. Amato had not budgeted this amount, due to the uncertainty that the State would approve it.

In addition, the State approved a one-time Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Block Grant, which may be spent over four years, and is fairly unrestricted in how the funds may be used. These funds were also unbudgeted. There is a total of \$4,763,628 additional revenue above the 2022-23 Da Vinci Schools budget.

Dr. Brann inquired about the cost of the STRS increase, to which Mr. Amato responded that he will send the final amount to the Board.

Mr. Amato noted that Da Vinci continues to reserve funds for the future in the face of year-to-year unknown State and Federal funding. Another potential additional revenue source is the State's 2022-23 Hold Harmless rules based on a three-year average ADA from pre-pandemic years. Schools across California have seen decreased ADA, so the State is exploring allowing schools to use the higher ADA figures as the calculation base for LCFF funding. Da Vinci may realize a further increase in LCFF revenue.

Dr. Wunder reminded the Board that inflation is at 9%, and that the State has historically had wild swings in funding. Da Vinci doesn't want to use one-time funds for on-going costs, nor does Da Vinci want to give something only to claw it back later. The administration's goal is to spend wisely.

Mr. Denniston mentioned that the Art & Music grant could be spent on operational costs. The current STRS projections are 19.1%.

### III. Approval of Minutes

#### A. Approval of Minutes for the June 22, 2022 Regular Da Vinci Schools Board Meeting

J. Webber made a motion to approve the minutes from Da Vinci Schools Regular Board Meeting on 06-22-22.

B. Meath seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

D. Brann	Aye
B. Meath	Aye
R. Ochoa	Aye
L. Heimov	Abstain
J. Webber	Aye
D. Boston	Absent
R. Santiago	Aye

### IV. Consent Agenda

#### A. Accept Da Vinci Schools Payment Register - June 2022

B. Meath made a motion to accept the June 2022 DA Vinci Schools Payment Register.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**B. Approve 2022-23 Master Contract with Cross Country Education for Student Services**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the 2022-23 Master Contract with Cross Country Education for Student Services.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**C. Approve 2022-23 Siva & Associates Master Contract for Student Services**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the 2022-23 Siva & Associates Mater Contract for Student Services.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**D. Approve 2022-23 Master Contract with Beach Cities Learning Center for Student Services**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the 2022-23 Master Contract with Beach Cities Learning Center for Student Services.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

B. Meath Aye  
J. Webber Aye  
R. Santiago Aye  
D. Brann Aye  
L. Heimov Aye  
D. Boston Absent

**Roll Call**

R. Ochoa Aye

**E. Approve 2022-23 Master Contract with STAR of California for Student Services**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the 2022-23 Master Contract with STAR of California for Student Services.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Boston Absent

L. Heimov Aye

R. Santiago Aye

B. Meath Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

D. Brann Aye

J. Webber Aye

**F. Approve Agreement with Balian Architects for 550 Continental Blvd. Project**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the Standard Form of Agreement Between Da Vinci Schools and Balian Architects, Inc. in substantially the form presented, subject to Da Vinci Schools staff working with Balian Architects to finalize the insurance and indemnification language in Article 7 of the Agreement.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

R. Santiago Aye

D. Brann Aye

L. Heimov Aye

D. Boston Absent

J. Webber Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

B. Meath Aye

**G. Approve Proposal by OMNI for 550 Continental Blvd. Construction Project**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the Proposal by OMNI for the 550 Continental Blvd. Construction Project.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Boston Absent

B. Meath Aye

L. Heimov Aye

D. Brann Aye

J. Webber Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

R. Santiago Aye

**H. Approve Teacher Education Intern Credential Program Memorandum of Understanding with Loyola Marymount University**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the Teacher Education Intern Credential Program Memorandum of Understanding with Loyola Marymount University.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**I. Approve the Student Teaching Agreement with Loyola Marymount University**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the Student Teaching Agreement with Loyola Marymount University.  
R. Santiago seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**J. Approve College and Career Pathway Partnership Agreement with El Camino College**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the College and Career Pathway Partnership Agreement with El Camino College.  
R. Santiago seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**K. Approve New Position: Lead Behavior Interventionist**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the New Position: Lead Behavior Interventionist.  
R. Santiago seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

J. Webber Aye  
R. Santiago Aye  
L. Heimov Aye  
R. Ochoa Aye  
D. Brann Aye  
B. Meath Aye



**Roll Call**

D. Boston Absent

**L. Approve 2022-23 Da Vinci Schools Employee Handbook**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the 2022-23 Da Vinci Schools Employee Handbook.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Brann Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

R. Santiago Aye

D. Boston Absent

B. Meath Aye

L. Heimov Aye

J. Webber Aye

**M. Approve 2022-23 Student and Family Handbooks for Da Vinci Communications, Design, Science, and Connect**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the 2022-23 Student and Family Handbooks for Da Vinci Communications, Design, Science, and Connect.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

R. Santiago Aye

L. Heimov Aye

J. Webber Aye

B. Meath Aye

D. Brann Aye

R. Ochoa Aye

D. Boston Absent

**N. Approve Revised 2022-23 School Calendar for Da Vinci Communications, Design, and Science**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the Revised 2022-23 School Calendar for Da Vinci Communications, Design, and Science.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Brann Aye

D. Boston Absent

R. Ochoa Aye

B. Meath Aye

L. Heimov Aye

R. Santiago Aye

J. Webber Aye

**O. Approve Cheer Pilot Program**

B. Meath made a motion to approve the Cheer Pilot Program.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**V. Action Items**

**A. Public Hearing and Adoption of Updated Independent Study Board Policy**

D. Brann made a motion to approve and adopt the Updated Independent Study Board Policy.

R. Ochoa seconded the motion.

Dr. Brann opened the public hearing, closed it after

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

**Roll Call**

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

**B. Approve Employment Contract Extension - Vicente Bravo**

Dr. Brann noted that this item would extend the Cabinet term to June

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Employment Contract Extension for Vicente Bravo.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**C. Approve Employment Contract Extension - Michael Amato**

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Employment Contract Extension for Michael Amato.

B. Meath seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

R. Santiago Aye  
D. Boston Absent  
J. Webber Aye  
D. Brann Aye

**Roll Call**

R. Ochoa Aye  
B. Meath Aye  
L. Heimov Aye

**D. Approve Employment Contract Extension - Dr. Jennifer Hawn**

J. Webber made a motion to approve the Employment Contract Extension for Dr. Jennifer Hawn.

R. Ochoa seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**VI. Closed Session**

**A. Conference with Legal Counsel**

Closed Session was entered at 7:26 p.m.

**VII. Closing Items**

**A. Reconvene for Public Session & Closed Session Reporting**

Public Session reconvened at 9:09 p.m.

Dr. Brann reported that no action had been taken in Closed Session.

**B. Adjourn Meeting**

L. Heimov made a motion to adjourn.

R. Santiago seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
A. Wohlwerth

---

Next Regular Da Vinci Schools Board meeting: August 24, 2022.