

DaVinci Academy of the Sciences and Arts
Board of Directors
MINUTES
2033 Grant Avenue Ogden, Utah 84401
801.409.0700
davinciacademy.org

Agenda/Minutes

Meeting Name: DASA Governing Board Meeting
Time keeper: Eric Amsel
Scribe: Eric Amsel – Secretary
Facilitator: Terryl Miller – President
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2010
Time: 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Location: 2033 Grant Avenue, Ogden, UT 84401

Invitees/Attendees * in attendance, # absent, & excused (may call in), LOA leave of absence

*	Terryl Miller	*	Jordan Jensen
*	Adam Johnston	*	Iain Hueton
*	Eric Amsel	*	Carl Porter
*	Steve Reaves	*	Martin O'Loughlin
*	Lisa Nichols	*	Francis Jensen
*	Jessie Kidd	*	Mark Maxson
		LOA	Stanton Taylor

Meeting Ground Rules

- ⌚ Be on Time
- ☺ Everyone is equal
- ⊗ One Conversation at a time
- ☺ Respect the views of others
- ☺ Keep the discussion relevant

Agenda

Item No.	Subject	Presenter	Time
1.	Quorum Call and Welcome of Guests	Terryl Miller	5 Min
2.	Approval of Minutes from the Last Board Meetings Introduction and Agenda Review	Eric Amsel	5 Min
3.	Student Government Report	Jordan Jensen	5 Min
4.	PTSO Report	Nancy Adams-Leonard	5 Min
5.	Ombudsman Report	Maria Schwarz	5 Min
6.	Financial Report Budget Review and Vote on Revised Budget	Steve Reaves	15 Min

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Item No.	Subject	Presenter	Time
7.	Technology Report	Garen Kidd	10 Min
8.	Open Public Comment		30 Min Max
9.	Open Student Comment		30 Min Max
10.	Director Report	Jessie Kidd	20 Min
11.	President's Report	Terryl Miller	15 Min
12.	Old Business	Terryl Miller	5 Min
13.	New Business a. Committee Reports b. Rigor and Stability of DaVinci STEM Curriculum and Program (via Communications Policy)	Committee Chairs Eric Amsel	5 Min 20 Min
14.	Adjournment	Terryl Miller	

Minutes

Item No.	Subject	Presenter	Time
1.	Quorum Call and Welcome of Guests Welcome quests. Fred, parents, Jayden	Terryl Miller	5 Min
2.	Approval of Minutes from the Last Board Meetings Introduction and Agenda Review Last month's minutes. Standard agenda. Motion to approve SR, LN second. All in favor. (TM AD EA SR LN IH ML FJ MM)	Eric Amsel	5 Min
3.	Student Government Report Jayden vice president of the student body, reporting for Jordan. Student concerns: Dislike for the Dress code. Dislike of the lunch. Time between classes, students would be willing to leave school later to have an extra minute between classes. Inconsistency in rules: dress code, collar shirt, ids, planners. Starting a student forum. Noticing disrespect for teachers in classes, disrespect towards students. Ski trip was awesome and better than last year. Haiti fund raised \$121.48 going to red cross. EA to send comments to student government from satisfaction survey.	Jordan Jensen	5 Min

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4.	<p>PTSO Report</p> <p>With the caucus for teachers, PTSO for parents, student government for students. No part of function to hear complaints from parents. PTO planning to revisit bylaws to better form communication. PTO is having to turn parents away. Feeling like they can't be heard. Dress code issue. Frustration of miscommunication. Ombudsman lacking due process. Student expulsion policy issues. Autocratic hiring firing of principal. Perceived that principal is not accountable.</p> <p>PTO fundraiser: Little Caesar's pizza, buy 3 make pizza at home. 800 towards science, kitchen cart, projectors, movie cameras. Always taking ideas.</p> <p>MO – what's your dream for parent concerns? Always someone there to hear concerns. Parents don't feel coming to the board is welcoming. What's another avenue for parents to be heard?</p> <p>EA – due process: details of the disciplinary policy were based on Ogden City School District, with more flexibility. Review due process provisions in the Discipline Policy.</p> <p>Bottom line parents not feeling heard. Hoping a charter school would have more flexibility to help with that piece of communication.</p> <p>Board adhering to strict rules which need to be communicated</p> <p>MO – we would be terrible a governing body to undermine ED and faculty/staff member. Need to be viligent, fix the current issues not develop new avenues.</p> <p>JK – thanks Nancy applaud being the liaison. Look forward to resolving communication issues.</p> <p>IH – blot diagram, right channels, read at beginning of meeting</p>	Nancy Adams-Leonard	5 Min
5.	Ombudsman Report	Maria Schwarz	5 Min
6.	<p>Financial Report</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Budget Review and Vote on Revised Budget</p> <p>See Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual</p> <p>Cut food services: Kids not eating lunch</p> <p>View adjustments in right hand column</p> <p>Very concerned with lack of available reserve. No contingency asked</p>	Steve Reaves	15 Min

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	<p>Finley to create tiered plan. Can include line of credit.</p> <p>JK – optimistic of the budget.</p> <p>SR – finance committee already looking ahead.</p> <p>LN move to approve, AJ second, All in favor, None apposed</p>		
7.	<p>Technology Report</p> <p>See report</p> <p>New site is up, calendar, twitter account, new contact directory, thankful for suggestions open to more suggestions to help parents. Data connection sporadically drops, no pattern, Qwest problem, UEN problem, fiber problem. Weber is moving data center, working with Tristan and Qwest to resolve the issue.</p>	Garen Kidd	10 Min
8.	<p>Open Public Comment</p> <p>Bill Dowell – concerned about teacher turn over, STEM, disruptive, what the future of the courses. We don’t know about next year, disconcerting. Rigor of the courses is a concern. All classes became honors classes so none are honors classes. Fall back to general. All English became honors. What is the difference? Is DaVinci just becoming another small high school? Told director doesn’t meet with prospective students? How do you know what’s going on old minutes?</p> <p>Jim Peters – 2 students, concerns addressed. What’s being done about high turnover? Concurrent enrollment? Talked to Weber, CTE being dropped? Is there a language daughter can take? Rigor of honors and AP, especially AP bio. Resolving issues we have now not DaVinci of the future. Underwhelmed by meeting with ED over the weekend. DaVinci being a college prep in question.</p> <p>Leslie Garcia – most concerned with concurrent enrollment. Forfeited 3 years of college credit because it affects her future. Future being messed with. Children will not come here if problem not resolved. Not having a chance to meet with ED and counselor. Have questions concerns about children not being in the classes that were requested.</p>		30 Min Max
9.	<p>Open Student Comment</p>		30 Min Max
10.	<p>Director Report</p> <p>Attended monthly meeting. See director report. Submitting application for race to the top. Asked Shumway about disinvite. Receiving super packet. NCLB will stay in place, name will change.</p>	Jessie Kidd	20 Min

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Item No.	Subject	Presenter	Time
	<p>Financial offers to teachers. Review of 180 day plan. Shared survey, brought communication policy to the teachers, productive avenues of communication. Brought up idea of a caucus. UBSCT testing, results to be shared when info is available. Successful ski trip. Review of reenrollment forms. Reach out to students/parents. Working to update HR files, refining gaps.</p> <p>Hired Kathleen Shinaut. Met with Hill and the STEM teachers. Heiner presenting at CTE conference. Next month present students of terms inviting them and teachers. Thank you's to Jack Greene, Michael Burton, Bill Dowell, Joyce Peters</p> <p>Hosting inspirational regional art awards.</p> <p>LN – have students transferred out.</p> <p>Varied reasons for leaving.</p> <p>Shawn Averett joined certified in Principle of Engineering, came from Ogden high. Had eye on school for a long time, likes faculty, environment, and students.</p>		
11.	<p>President's Report</p> <p>First full finance meeting will be held in boardroom the first Tuesday of every month. Current Ombudsman is under weather looking to appoint. Gala is coming up. Time for board to carry out function of evaluation employees. Closed session 5:30 on the 24th to discuss employees, Jessie Kidd and Garen Kidd. Meeting to go over evaluations before the meeting. Getting back on track with meeting. Closed session, no voting. Pass a resolution to be part of educators mutual. SF – formality for EM paperwork, agreement the board has adopted and agrees to use EM. Should have started and end date. Possible push back to EM. Have rep present at next board.</p>	Terryl Miller	15 Min
12.	<p>Old Business</p> <p>Working on completing binder</p>	Terryl Miller	5 Min
13.	<p>New Business</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Committee Reports</p> <p>IH – met at Gala meeting. Major details in place. KS terrific position. Script program, ramping us up. Experience working with event, silent auction specifically. Thirty baskets. Our job is to invite people to come.</p> <p>LN – brand event as recognizing community service heroes</p>	Committee Chairs Eric Amsel	5 Min 20 Min

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	<p>AJ – planning to meet again in 2 weeks (curriculum) 4th wed of month. Review of curriculum as it stands. Based on DASA core ideal plan. Main consensus is that the vision is there, implementation there, better communicate vision. Hard to see how the courses feed into each other. We want to see endpoint, seeing senior capstone as creative work. Junior seminar, 10th art and science history. How is culture integrated? 9th speech debate course, make argument using others idea. Another foundation in 8th, world languages, communication and culture.</p> <p>MO – strategic planning N/A</p> <p>Kari to put together calendar of committee meetings.</p> <p>b. Rigor and Stability of DaVinci STEM Curriculum and Program (via Communications Policy)</p> <p>Communication. Policy allows for anyone to have agd item addressed it attempt to comm.. avenue for someone to come to the board. Range of emotions with the concerns. Disappointment with DaVinci. Not giving them what they thought they were promised. College prep, term implicates courses, honors, specialized, Concurrent enrollment, positioning students for college entrance. Not language of college prep but language of rigor, promoting students. But talk of college prep. 2 tracks or 1? 2 regular on one AP, specialized, concurrent enrollment on the other. 1 track embraces rigor, innovating curriculum, but remediate kids that need remediation. Pretty good at not letting kids fail. Good at identifying them but we don't have 2 tracks. If we want AP etc we need to allocate resources to that. Not just year by year. ED job to hire for those jobs. We need policy.</p> <p>JK – getting back to not what ED want, Teacher can do but what we set out to do. College prep was under marketing not under curriculum.</p> <p>IH – building. Idea was to reach out to students that just not wanted to get thru but do better. If you are not at this level we won't be a good fit.</p> <p>EA – prepared for college?? What does it mean?? Giving students something new, value skills, to fly in college vs earning college credit. Unlearn high school.</p> <p>Skill set vs knowledge base. Have the ability to get to college and be successful but also get excepted, additional offerings. Grades are ground work, extras are interesting. Offering should be based on policy not on people. Specific offering, pick areas, but what we feel important, turnover we can find people to fill spot, someone can pick it up and move forward.</p>		

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Item No.	Subject	Presenter	Time
	<p>MO – not had consistent culture for hiring, not identified standard. Stand behind offerings. ‘College prep’ early discriminator. Why can’t HS be a rewarding experience if you choose college step still fully prepared?</p> <p>JK – take out the detail don’t want to be specific?</p> <p>EA – vote on board outlines asking for clarification about what college prep means in the curriculum. This is what we mean by “college prep”</p> <p>MO – stop the churn, pick course find very very good teachers to teach those courses. Hire people with DNA to survive, implement filter evaluation system.</p> <p>EA – first step, first step what we are? What are we looking for?</p> <p>JK – teachers leaving is painful. Develop DASA standards.</p> <p>MO – you have good teachers because lucky, bad teachers because unlucky, tools out there to be more scientific. Slow the churn when more rigorous. More rigorous when you know what your looking for. Not convinced policy is there. This is the stuff we won’t fail students on. They will all have this.</p> <p>JK – first, scientific process, finally standardizing AE these are the no fail do what we say 2nd I need to be more specific. I know there are tools, would take time 3rd teachers we have are bold, bright, courageous, strong, work with what makes successful for you.</p> <p>MO – start with end in mind, buzz words, 30 questions for interview, your peers not good fits, what could I have asked of them that I didn’t. Get more of you, less of the teachers that had to leave. Ask enough questions to make the candidate uncomfortable vs just excited. Caliber of people left behind. Can’t be more churn based on luck. We must capture what people thought about leaving.</p> <p>JK – Have more conversations of support not conversations of termination</p> <p>IH motion to move to closed session, LN second, All in favor (TM AD EA SR LN IH ML FJ MM)</p>		
14.	Adjournment	Terryl Miller	

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Action Items

Item No.	Open Date	Description	Assigned To	Target Date	Date Closed
AI-1					
AI-2					
AI-3					
AI-4					
AI-5					

Decision Log

Date	Decision/Description	Pass/Failed

Next Meeting Agenda Topics

Item No.	Subject	Presenter	Time
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

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- a) Posting written notice at the principal office, or at the building where the meeting is to be held;
- b) Providing notice to the Standard Examiner, the newspaper with general circulation within the geographic jurisdiction of the public body, or to a local media correspondent.
- c) Providing notice on the web site for DaVinci Academy, when operational.

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