

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, March 3, 2010
Time: 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM (Closed Session)
6:30 PM to 8:45 PM (Open Session)
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 move to closed session	Terryl Miller	5 Min
2.	Closed Session Personnel Discussion Discussion on new organizational and reporting structure.	Terryl Miller	60 Min
3.	Welcome of guests and approval of Minutes from the Last Board Meetings Introduction and Agenda Review	Terryl Miller and Eric Amsel	5 Min
4.	Student Government Report	Jordan Jensen	5 Min

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Item No.	Subject	Presenter	Time
5.	PTSO Report	Nancy Adams-Leonard	5 Min
6.	Ombudsman Report	Maria Schwarz	5 Min
7.	Financial Report Budget Review and Vote on Revised Budget	Steve Reaves	10 Min
8.	Technology Report	Garen Kidd	5 Min
9.	Open Public Comment		30 Min Max
10.	Open Student Comment		30 Min Max
11.	Director Report	Jessie Kidd	15 Min
12.	President's Report 1) Review and vote on new organization/reporting structure for board and DaVinci staff/teachers. 2) Final evaluation and vote on Executive Director for 2010/2011 school year.	Terryl Miller	25 Min
13.	Old Business	Terryl Miller	5 Min
14.	New Business a. Committee Reports	Committee Chairs	3 Min per com.
15.	Adjournment	Terryl Miller	

Minutes

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3.	<p>Welcome of guests and approval of Minutes from the Last Board Meetings Introduction and Agenda Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - review of special board minutes, last board minutes are on the way. -SR motion AJ second all in favor (TM AJ EA SR IH CP MO FJ MM) 	<p>Terryl Miller and Eric Amsel</p>	<p>5 Min</p>
4.	<p>Student Government Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Valentines Dance was a success Basketball: boys 7th girls 4th. Assembly fundraiser to kiss a goat made \$50.80 towards go green week. Winning class award. Student Government and Student Council are planning together. 41 activities thru out the week. It is going to be fun. 15-19th -Issues concerns. Reports of aggressive behavior. Requesting help from teachers and maybe organizing an assembly. Concern about the weakening of bond between students at DaVinci. -Kevin Lemon – second floor aggressive play. 	<p>Jordan Jensen</p>	<p>5 Min</p>
5.	<p>PTSO Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome Fred. Meeting is tomorrow night. Movie night next Friday all are welcome. Science fair was fabulous with PTSO support. NEAL – thank you. Committee together to assist Clark with 5k. Use it as a fundraiser. Little Caesars fundraiser sitting in teacher lounge. Fri the 12th pizza delivered to the school funds for teacher appreciation. Class that sells the most gets \$75, \$50 to the second place. PTO supporting gala as volunteers. -TM – thanks PTO for pizza dinner 	<p>Nancy Adams- Leonard</p>	<p>5 Min</p>
6.	<p>Ombudsman Report</p> <p>n/a</p>	<p>Maria Schwarz</p>	<p>5 Min</p>
7.	<p>Financial Report</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Budget Review and Vote on Revised Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asked for revised budget due to state cuts in SPED funding. State made mistakes in SPED for everyone not just DaVinci. Asked to come up with solutions for the 85,000 deficit. Cuts were discussed. Requested board for moratorium on discretionary spending, Need board approval to suspend privilege for the rest of year. - Extended discussion centered on short and long term budget strategies. - SR – motion to accept moratorium on discretionary spending, IH second, All in favor (TM AJ EA SR IH CP MO FJ MM) 	<p>Steve Reaves</p>	

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8.	Technology Report n/a	Garen Kidd	5 Min
9.	<p>Open Public Comment (3 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deb Neal – came from st joes teaching for 10 years, excited about being part of year. Departures are not unusual at the beginning. Need consistency, different is not always better. If we don't have Jessie it will be bad for school. This is what Jessie does: Interacts with students, was at the science fair, works with budget, funding from hill, filled all vacancy which is unheard of. First 3 years are hard, for teachers and administration. Can't replace Jessie's passion and encouragement. I was a member of first board. Vision and perspective. She is the idea of Davinvi. What she sees for the students and faculty is something we can't replace - Simon Post – history teacher. It has been a difficult year for DASA, baffled to hear talk about DASA going down the tubes. Worry about image of school if there is a change over. Mistakes are made but we learn and move forward. Fully supporting and offering new ideas and connect with students. Don't envision future of DASA without Jessie. Switching is not always best thing. Fully respect Jessie as my boss and give her 2 thumbs up for the job she has done. Rough year but things are getting better. Feel like a family going thru a little bit of drama. - Clain Udy – Son Christian is a 7th grader. Share a success story. Voice strong support for Jessie Kidd. At 6am we leave Centerville for school, hangs out with me at work after school, we have a school within 5 minutes but we choose to come here for the unique experience. Operation excellence and academic excellence other schools have that but I think it is the concept and the culture here that is special. Walked in the lobby and DASA resonated with us. For teachers, it's not about their credentials but about the people. Jessie is the driving force. But what I see is the effect. My son is happy so don't change anything - Kevin Lemon – Christian is a success story. The 7th and 8th graders need the stability, common thing, predictable, know the routine. Seen Christian go from withdrawn student, peaks up participate. Comes back to Jessie. When I first met Jessie, after leaving messages. Blown away, energy, passion and joy almost intimidating. It drives the school, we need that. If we lose, we lose knowledge, and the force she brings, taking on and getting thru hard issues. Hard year growing pains. If we choose to go thru that again it would be the worst decision. - Hunter Brown – learned a lot taking care of brother, treated 		30 Min Max

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	<p>differently. Found davinci, I'm here at 7 here until 5. Mrs. Kidd is energetic, has great ideas, I mean it with the most respect when I say she doesn't listen, mind all made up. Ideas overlooked, not listening well, I feel like I'm back there. I really love Mrs. Kidd. Don't think we need change but we need someone who will listen. Started clubs and committees, Mrs. Kidd can't give us that direction.</p> <p>- Serena Makin – 2nd year here, agreed with hard year, last year was the best year, but this year is the worst year. Family bond been gone with all the teachers leaving. They were part of my family and they were gone. I don't know the 7th and 8th graders, hard thing for them to be here. I don't think it was a good thing for the upperclassmen. No one pays attention. Suppose to be arts and science, not a lot for us to grow the way we want to. Less requirements and more choice. If I want to learn in science I need more options. School is hard, 7th and 8th grade not the best thing. No opportunity to learn who they are.</p> <p>- Tatiana Nikolaev – 11 page doc, and addendum. Stricter, every student. Not a performance review, her environment, principals, less number of PTC, not bringing kids back because of current leadership. Found Jessie failed all objectives.</p> <p>- Nicole Hooker – heart breaking, child suffer so much in family life, my son is thriving, teachers are keeping son happy, daughter feels robbed and disrespected. Saw Jessie as a teacher as amazing and caring, and now power happy, control, great personality, school about more than just you. Students, parents, Jordan Jensen works hard. She is the family love. But things are not about teachers and kids it's about money. No communication between kids, I just want it to be happy family again. Seniors being robber.</p> <p>- Mike Kelly reading on behalf on Michael Cooper See letter.</p> <p>- Jen Slotter – At last school 50% teacher turnover, 75% attendance on a good day, ghost town when last bell rang. Thought Vice Principal was the Principal because he was locked in office all day. Here I actually feel appreciated. Not all Jessie's fault students feel unappreciated. Easy to look at 7th and 8th graders more because they need more attention. Upperclassmen are more composed, easier to not watch them. Growing pains. Exactly what school is going thru, called pains because they hurt but come out of it with growth. I am very happy here.</p> <p>- Mike Kelly – living in Taipei, moved here because of this job, fell in love with this place. Want to stay, community place, school is political, teachers have egos, we all want to change the world. We are a crowded</p>		

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	<p>fish tank. Family connecting being created with basketball, communal love being created by programs Jessie oversaw. Trusting us to be professionals. Never heard Jessie complain, but seeing it among faculty, a lot of back stabbing, see wrong doing in hallway, teachers complaining in hallway. Not a Jessie issue, it's a teacher issue. Let us put a plan in place. Replacement is not going to work, growth will work.</p> <p>- Ivonne Cruz – been here from the beginning. I love Jessie but I hope the new teachers are not butt kissing. Seen her as a teacher, kids loved her. Always rooting for her, but I've seen a big change. To lose students. If Jessie stays my kid may leave. Not board introducing, Fred. Doesn't feel the same anymore. Cold to come into the building. She talks about the DASA experience, but they are not having it. Should have seen kids the first year. Had the support of the teachers, you say you love Jessie and I do to but this is not the position for her.</p> <p>- Nancy Adams-Leonard – daughter considering not coming here. How she feels she can fall between the cracks. For her to say, a lazy person, to go somewhere else, is a big statement. Don't think Jessie, is right for the job. Agree that it is a fabulous place. Is there a divide between why teachers like and don't like. Better than public schools but I think we are wanting, but after 6 years this school should be stable.</p>		
10.	Open Student Comment		30 Min Max
11.	<p>Director Report</p> <p>- SEE report</p> <p>- JK - sitting in office thinking about start of DASA we say 'back in the basement'. Because in that basement came together parents, teachers, and board members. Came to the idea of DASA. I didn't know what pride was until this moment. Took risk and invest in the idea, took it out of a basement, do this, try this, going to be successful. First year was awesome, now we can do this and we can do that. Risk I took coming into this position because committing to greatness. Potential to do more good, spread thin, introduce Fred Donaldson.</p> <p>- Gala event, SCRIP, concern of students leaving,</p> <p>- EA – are numbers accurate?</p> <p>- JK – accurate for mine, Ms. Ross, and states numbers</p> <p>- MO – gut feel of recruitment during the year</p> <p>- JK – 30 new since October 1.</p>	Jessie Kidd	15 Min

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MO – request, number on the turnover to report every month. Stop rumors. - JK – begun exit questionnaire, majority of those are geographic reasons. Meeting with board report about statistics, reactionary to rumor mill, teacher driven addition so we can be better prepared. Tragedy to hear no getting attention, growth of school have the think about the budget. Graduation projections where kids are at everyone projected to graduate. Get email to be added, feedback from PTO parents. - Kari updating employee files, a bit OCD. - Fred, working on door issues - Concerned with already tight budget, hurting teacher classrooms. - Working on term policy with Fred IH – ongoing process - Communication. More avenues for comm., developing clearer picture for problems, issues and gratitude - Basketball was amazing support to school SEE Chad’s letter - Thanks to PTO for support, Deana’s classes for management 		
12.	<p>President’s Report</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">3) Review and vote on new organization/reporting structure for board and DaVinci staff/teachers.</p> <p>AJ – in closed we figured out what that means. Problems evaluating Mrs. Kidd. How things are managed? Are personnel issues, strengths and weakness with Jessie but also structural issues. Expansion is spreading things thin. Some on Jessie’s shoulders, most on board. Committee run by Eric Amsel for restructuring the school, how are things managed. Looking at new positions, restructuring of positions. EA looking for input, no restriction on anyone who wants to be involved meet every wed at 4 o’clock. Done by mid April. Need to figure out best structure so HS issues taken care of and MS issues are taken care of. DASA is unique and think of structures to ensure problems are effective and locally. Marry the 2, uniqueness and effectiveness. Make minutes available, make transparent. Board recognizing we did not think thru this process. Complaints against Jessie can be peeled off to structural issues.</p> <p>MO – to Jessie’s credit and detriment, convinced she could do it all</p> <p>EA – not in position to hire/rehire because of lack of structure, not voting</p>	Terryl Miller	25 Min

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	<p>tonight</p> <p>IH – saw what didn’t work, need to make something that does work, bit of chicken and egg, figure that out it 3-4 weeks, teacher input is important</p> <p>Deb Neal – when you ask for help, ask</p> <p>EA – fix the structure first, as part of meeting try to identify goals and questions, homework, part of minutes.</p> <p>TM – grateful willing to come and speak. Often only here negative, important to hear anything at all. If we have no input we govern on what we know. We will make mistakes can’t expect perfection. Board does not have a great reputation. We care about school, and kids, we don’t want students and teachers to leave. Growing pains and we want as many people to stick around as possible.</p> <p>4) Final evaluation and vote on Executive Director for 2010/2011 school year.</p> <p>n/a</p>		
13.	Old Business	Terryl Miller	5 Min
14.	<p>New Business</p> <p>a. Committee Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gala – number 1 is head count, awards handled, donations needed. Nice to have more art, questioning live auction, got to have big items. Time to revamp up details. - Curriculum – continuing to implement best, needs to meet with structural committee - MO/JK – invited teachers to strategic planning, want as much help we can get - MO – skydiving, flying, risk of death, are those actionable? 	Committee Chairs	3 Min per com.
15.	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>JA motion to adjourn, second SR, all in favor</p>	Terryl Miller	
16.			

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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:

In compliance with the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act, not less than 24 hours' public notice of the agenda, date, time and place of each of its meetings will be given by:

- 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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