

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

Agenda/Minutes

Meeting Name: DASA Governing Board Meeting
Time keeper: Terryl Miller
Scribe: Terryl Miller – Secretary
Facilitator: Paula Dugan – President
Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2008
Time: 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM (Open Session)
Location: 2033 Grant Avenue, Ogden, UT 84401

Invitees/Attendees * in attendance, # absent, & excused (may call in)

*	Paula Dugan, (PD)	*	Iain Hueton (IH)
*	Eric Amsel (EA)	*	Mark DeCaria
*	Terryl Miller (TM)	#&	Adam Johnston (AJ)
*	Carl Porter (CP)	#&	Eric Matheson

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, Approval of Minutes from the Last Board Meeting	Paula Dugan	2 Min
2.	Introduction and Agenda Review	Terryl Miller	3 Min
3.	Student Government Report	Student Government	15 Min
4.	PTSO Report	PTSO Presidency	5 Min
5.	Technology Report	Garen Kidd	5 Min
6.	Ombudsman	Maria Schwarz	__ Min
7.	Open Student Comment		30 Min Max

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Item No.	Subject	Presenter	Time
8.	Open Public Comment		30 Min Max
9.	President's Report	Paula Dugan	10 Min
10.	Director Report Discussion on Uniforms Discussion on approval for funding for Assistant Director	Jessie Kidd	20 Min
11.	Old Business – Action Items	Terryl Miller	5 Min
12.	New Business Committee Reports	Each Board Member	30 Min
13.	Adjournment from board meeting		
14.	State of the School Address		

Minutes

Agenda Item No.	Main Points, Conclusions/Discussions, Decisions, Next Steps
1	Quorum is called at 5:35. Eric A. motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting, Mark seconded it. All were in favor, none were opposed.
2	Terryl motioned to add a couple of things to the agenda. First, to add a New Board Member introduction. This was seconded by Mark. All were in favor, none were opposed. This was added to the agenda. Second, Terryl motioned to add a discussion and vote on a petition amendment to the student government constitution. This was seconded by Eric A. All were in favor and none were opposed. This was added to the Student Government Report section. Paula reviewed the rest of the agenda.
3	Student Government Report: David Amsel- He announced to the board that he was now Student Body President. He had been elected Vice President but the student government impeached Jason Adams, who was the elected student body president and as per their constitution, David then took over as president. He then turned the time over to Jayden Heim and Joel Linford to talk on the issue of uniforms. Jayden Heim – 9 th grade Senator spoke on the negative side and Joel Linford, a 12 th grade Senator spoke to the positive side. The board was informed that 50% of the student body responded to a survey that the student government was asked to distribute by Mrs. Kidd. 85% were against uniforms and 15% were for uniforms. Jayden went through the negatives: uniforms take away freedom, uniforms cause many financial issues among students; uniforms will remove many aspects of the student identity and lessen creativity; uniforms will result in a loss of students and lessen the number of registering students; uniforms will not solve the broken dress code situations; uniforms are not a general part of public school; uniforms will change the school

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	<p>atmosphere; uniforms will give the impression that the school, in all things is uniform; uniforms will cause more centralized exclusive groups of students; uniforms will accomplish nothing; students want to wear their clothes and not be the same as everyone else; uniforms will result in a negative changing of attitudes; uniforms will result in a more time lost in correcting dress code violations; uniforms violate the vision and mission statement; uniforms will hinder school spirit; uniforms will make DaVinci the equivalent of a private school. If uniforms are required, the students would like to see these changes as well: allow for more piercings; allow for choice in clothing items and colors for uniforms; allow for free uniforms; and allow for hats.</p> <p>Joel went through the positives: uniforms will make the students look professional; would support a better learning environment; will create less distractions concerning the dress code; will create less bullying on account of the clothes that people wear; uniforms open the possibility of more funding for the school; uniforms will provide DaVinci with more respect; they show that we are serious about our standards and quality of education; they would potentially provide unification among the students as clothing would no longer separate groups of students. If uniforms are required they would like to see more piercings allowed, allow for more colors in hair, i.e. more than natural hair colors, and they would like to see no IDs.</p> <p>Stirling Miller – Jr. Class Senator – he came before the board to inform the board of changes to the constitution. Bills that were passed by the student government were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. They voted to separate the VP and Pres elections and have them run on a separate ticket. 2. They are in the process of outlining the transition of student government including a new election time frame. 3. They passed a bill that clarified the responsibilities and exercise of those responsibilities of that for President and his ability to delegate. 4. They informed the board of a new petition process they would like the board to approve. It would include the process of having a petition committee which would include the student government advisor, a board member, the director of DaVinci and the Counselor of DaVinci. The student government will serve as a mediator for those proposing a petition. <p>Eric A. didn't feel that it was something that the board necessarily had to be involved in. Discussion was had about why they needed petitions at all. The students feel that that is a way their voice can be heard. After further discussion, the board felt that it did not need to vote on this issue and that it should be looked at further.</p> <p>Stirling also informed the board that the juniors won the Penny Wars and that \$320.55 was raised.</p>
4	No PTSO Report
5	No Technology Report
6	No ombudsman
7	<p><u>Open Student Comment:</u></p> <p><u>David Taylor:</u> he is concerned about DaVinci adopting uniforms. He attended MOPA for 2 years and he feels the cons outweigh the pros. His number one concern is the attitude of students. Parents may think with uniforms their discipline problem children would do well at this school and so we may get more problem kids coming here.</p> <p><u>Zach Matheson:</u> As an alumnus he opposes uniforms as he feels they kill the spirit. He brought a proposed curriculum for a class that ideally the counselor would teach. He and three other people did this for a project for College. Iain asked if it is even realistic to add this to the schedule. Zach said they created this curriculum to be implemented with a 25 minute a day, 5 days a week for one semester. He just wanted the board to look at it.</p>

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	<p><u>Jen Thompson:</u> She wanted to give a faculty perspective on the uniforms. She has always been a proponent of uniforms. She feels uniforms can help build confidence and boost community perception. She had some conversations with students, about 30 of them.</p> <p><u>Jayden Heime:</u> He is concerned about the cost of uniforms as well as the restriction of creativity of what to wear.</p>
8	<u>No open public comment.</u>
9	<p><u>President's Report:</u> First the nomination of a new board member was done. Paula turned the time over to Michael who introduced Steve Reaves. He has two 9th graders coming to DaVinci next year. Michael has known him for a long time and he is a good friend. He is a detective with the Ogden City Police Department. He is very reliable and would be a great addition to the board. Steve talked to his reason for bringing his kids to DaVinci. He feels that they have been shuffled around and fallen through the cracks in their present school. He is currently the Chief Negotiator with the City of Ogden Police Department. He likes what DaVinci stands for and he would like to help.</p> <p>Paula asked him if he was prepared to separate his parent hat from his board hat?</p> <p>Steve said yes that he is prepared to do that.</p> <p>Terryl asked him if Michael had informed him of the time involved?</p> <p>Steve responded that yes, Michael did tell him about the time involved.</p> <p>Mark then talked to the fact of how great a guy Steve is. That he has known him in a professional capacity for years now and feels that he would be a great asset to the board. Iain moved to add the vote to the agenda and Mark seconded it. All were in favor of adding the vote to the agenda, one were opposed. Mark then motioned to add Steve Reaves as a board member and Terryl seconded it. Paula then called the vote on adding Steve Reaves to the board. All were in favor, none were opposed. Steve Reaves joined the board.</p> <p>Paula also thanked Michael and Terryl for their hard work for the fund raiser.</p>
10	<p><u>Director's Report:</u> Jessie Kidd: A discussion was held on whether or not to approve funding for an Assistant Director. Jessie talked to the fact that the state has given parity with administration and so we now have 19,000 towards the budget extra. She would like the board to approve up to \$55,000 plus \$10,000 in benefits for a new Assistant Director of Students. She feels this will produce longevity for the school and give the teachers more support and scaffolding. Terryl motioned to approve the funding and Carl seconded it. Discussion: Iain stated that it was always understood that this would be necessary so that there was one to be the face of DaVinci and one to be the support of the teachers and students. Jessie would like to go outside to find someone, not internally. Eric asked for a job description to be brought to the board to clarify positions. Mark called the question. All were in favor of the funding, none were opposed.</p> <p>Jessie thanked the board for approving the funding for the assistant director. She also thanked the benefit committee and the parents who were involved for the success of the benefit. She brought up that she would like the board to consider a change in the dress code policy to go to uniforms. This has been discussed for many years. She feels that uniforms set a foundation. The teachers have asked to move to uniforms to create uniformity and to create a good academic environment. She did do research and talked to other principals about uniforms. She did not get one negative comment from the principals about uniforms. She feels that it makes it a safe school. There could be free dress days. Uniforms bring a sense of decorum. This issue is not just a Utah issue and she feels very strongly about it.</p> <p>Paula asked for studies on school uniforms before making a decision.</p> <p>Eric A. stated that he didn't know how this fixes the problem, but just papers over it. It doesn't</p>

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	<p>get to the underlying issues of disrespect and a better academic environment. Paula asked the board members and Jessie to do research on uniforms and bring it to the next board meeting.</p> <p>Iain: He stated that he wore uniforms for 8 years. He feels that respect for teachers and the institution is based on control not on clothing control. We have a middle ground, maybe we have a problem enforcing our dress code. He feels that having an Assistant Director will go a long way to help his. Are we looking at this because of new schools and concerns about losing students?</p> <p>Mark: He would like to look at studies to see if they would help us determine if we would be losing or gaining students? He feels it may be difficult to get uniforms and enrollment trend information. There are a lot of variations of uniforms. They are not all identical. If there is a uniform policy for the students would there be a policy for the teachers?</p> <p>Steve: What is driving it? Why are you (Jessie) bring this to the board?</p> <p>Jessie: This is not a reaction but an academic builder she feels. It is about prevention, it is about laying a foundation.</p> <p>Steve: Do you think this will stop arguments?</p> <p>Iain: Why are they not sent home if they come in slippers and pjs? Why is the current dress code policy not being upheld?</p> <p>Carl: I am not sure uniforms would bring what we want to achieve?</p> <p>Terryl: I am on the fence. I like uniforms and they are cheaper, but I don't know about here.</p> <p>Paula: Please review the charter, give it good consideration and come to the next board meeting prepared to discuss the issue of uniforms.</p>
11.	<u>No old business.</u>
12	<u>New Business:</u> Covered above.
13	Terryl motions to adjourn the meeting. It is seconded by Carl. All were in favor, none were opposed.

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

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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.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing assistance or auxiliary services for these meetings should call the DASA office giving at least three working days notice.