

**DAVINCI ACADEMY OF THE SCIENCES AND ARTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES**

**2033 Grant Avenue Ogden, Utah 84401
801.409.0700 davinciacademy.org**

JULY 13, 2006

DASA BOARD MEMBERS

Debbie Legge, President	Present
Eric Stroup, Vice President	Absent
Eric Matheson, Treasurer	Present
Dan Earley	Absent
Eric Amsel	Present
Iain Hueton	Absent
Joe Oliva	Absent
Paula Dugan	Present

DASA Director of Academic Services

Lewis Reese, Principal	Present
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DASA Community Development Director

Nancy Jones	Absent
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1. Meeting Opening, Debbie Legge

Executive quorum was established at 5:41 and the meeting was called to order. Guests were welcomed.

Debbie asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 14th and June 29th. Eric Amsel requested that his statement in paragraph 5, 7th sentence from June 14th be changed to: *that he thought the weakness in this policy was with the parents and students, but not the teachers having voice to represent them*. Eric Matheson suggested that: *to the end of the meeting*, be stricken from the minutes of June 29th in paragraph 1. Eric Matheson then moved that the minutes be approved as amended, the motion was seconded by Debbie, and the vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

Debbie then asked for approval to change the format of the agenda and put the public comment on top. The board approved without motion.

2. Open Public Comment

Denise Bingham voiced her concern about not letting first time seniors enroll at DaVinci next year. She would like the Board to consider allowing them to come as they might be lost in another environment and DaVinci could help them as it has helped her son.

Kelly Freeze, passed, expressing her desire to speak only when the full board was present. Larry Freeze asked what happens if the building is sold. Debbie said it wouldn't change our fifteen year lease. Eric Matheson explained that there are two boards: Riverside Technology and DaVinci. Debbie noted that she called the president of Riverside Technology to ask about the article in the paper concerning the sale of the building but, was referred to Scott Brown and has been unable to reach him and he isn't returning her calls. Eric Amsel asked Mr. Freeze if he would like to comment on the allegations made in the emails he has sent to parents and some members of the board. Mr. Freeze said that he was fine with things the way they stand.

3. DAS Report, Lewis Reese

Mr. Reese told the board that he just got the benefit package today so he isn't able to report on it until the next meeting. He reported that the student numbers this morning were 273 and he interviewed and accepted 2 more students this afternoon; which brings the numbers to 275. As of today, we haven't hired math, science or Spanish teachers. But he is reviewing resumes. He is looking at two candidates for special education and explained the new program the state is offering to anyone with a Bachelors degree who is interested in earning a special education certificate while teaching at the school. He told the board that he is trying to contact Brooke Robbins, a former DASA teacher. He interviewed a candidate for counselor today and was impressed. She is highly qualified. He is interviewing another on Friday. Mr. Reese said he is still waiting for approval from the Board of the Wellness policy and the calendar. He told about the 5-K run that Christine (Patten) Jauchler has planned. He then took a moment to explain to Ms. Bingham about allowing

(or not) seniors for the first year. He said there are three different certificates for graduation starting this year: 1. Certificate of completion for those who were just in attendance regardless of grades or testing 2 Certificate of Completion for those who attended school and didn't pass the UBSCT. 3. Certificate of Graduation for those who met the requirements and passed the UBSCT. Kelly Freeze answered this explaining that students with special needs may try and never pass the UBSCT and without the new considerations from the state would never be able to graduate from high school.

4. **Strategic Plan, Paula Dugan**

Paula gave a presentation of the plan she has been working on and mentioned that it is crucial we get it together. She said that she would like approval tonight so it can be added to the handbook. She read a rough draft of the Vision. There was some discussion of the wording. Debbie said she thought it was too long and thought that some of the statement of the vision could be dropped down into the mission statement, more discussion. Paula suggested that we adopt the amended version, *Inspiring individual potential in a safe, supportive environment* and email it to the absent board members for approval. She then moved on to the Mission Statement, after some small changes, see Attachment, Eric Matheson moved to adopt the Mission Statement and Vision as amended, Debbie seconded, motion passed. Paula suggested the Mission Statement be broken down into 5 goals for strategy and we will need an oversight committee to meet short and long term objectives and to record status and report to the board. Lewis mentioned that we have to have 5 goals for our accreditation and thinks they will work well with the strategic planning goals. Debbie told the board that it is important to get this done as they (the board) have let the school down and that it is struggling financially because of it. She explained that their responsibilities lie in funding, facilities and expansion.

5. **Agenda Item: Student Presentation**

Ashley Passey thanked the board for allowing the students to make a float for Pioneer Day Parade. She submitted a drawing by Emily Szalay and explained that they would like to have T shirts made with the drawing on the front with the words, "Stepping Up to Expectations of Education" and with the sponsors names on the back. She said that she could get 60 for \$279 and that would come out to about \$5 per shirt for those who wanted to buy them, and mentioned that they would like to give a shirt to each of the sponsors. Debbie Legge offered to fund the up front cost. Eric Matheson moved to purchase 60 shirts with the dragon design and sponsors for \$279, to be reimbursed through the sale to students by Ashley. Debbie seconded, motion carried.

6. **New Business**

Student Handbook: Eric Matheson mentioned that the charter says the Board will approve the calendar. He doesn't think our calendar is a good one for our community. He would like us to follow Ogden's calendar. However, he thinks ending the semester before Christmas break is good. He would like us to match UEA in October. It was decided to put the vote off until the board has a quorum. He reported that Iain Hueton thinks the Honor Code should be further back in the book.

Teacher's Handbook: Paula Dugan mentioned that our Organizational Chart should be changed to: The Board, The Administration and then the Staff and Teachers. Mr. Reese said the retirement has been changed and should reflect 5% instead of 10%. Eric Amsel asked that the Project Based Learning approach be either added to the handbook or put in a separate booklet.

Eric Matheson moved that the handbook with changes, minus the calendar, be accepted; Debbie seconded. Motion carried.

Fee Schedule: Eric Matheson thinks the locker and computer fees are too high. Debbie explained that we are trying to recoup what the school put out for the lockers. He suggested we bump the other fees and charge less for the lockers. He is afraid that the parents who worked so hard to raise money through the spaghetti dinner with think \$30 is too much. It was decided to make the locker fee \$20 and the Student fees and ID \$35. Eric Matheson moved to accept the fees as amended, Debbie seconded, motion carried.

7. **President's Report, Debbie Legge**

Debbie said she was happy with the float and the hard work that had been put into it. It was mentioned that we have also entered it into the Roy Days Parade. She announced that Mr. Reese has received his Masters degree earning a 3.88 GPA while working full-time for DASA. She said that he is raising the bar for all administrators of charter schools. Paula asked about setting up new committee structure with so many of the board resigning and accepting new members Debbie said that she sent out emails to all those who have shown an interest in being on the board.

8. **Old Business**

None

9. **Adjournment**

Debbie announced that our next Board meeting will go back to Wednesday, July 26th at 5:30 p.m.
Eric Matheson made the motion to adjourn, Debbie seconded, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Shirley Shannon