

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

**2033 Grant Avenue Ogden, Utah 84401
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JUNE 14, 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	Present
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	Present
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1. Meeting Opening, Debbie Legge

Quorum was established at 5:35 p.m. and the meeting was called to order. Guests were welcomed. Paula Dugan motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Eric Matheson seconded. Vote was unanimous to approve the minutes of May 17, 2006.

2. DASA Report, Lewis Reese

Mr. Reese reported that our final student count is 201. 56 new students have been accepted and he is going to review the 4 that have not been accepted after meeting with the state to make sure that we are in compliance with the safe school policies. We had a successful open house last week and 28 packets were given out.

The year-end clearinghouse report has been submitted to the state. We had 333 students enroll last year. That number was used as the projection of 325 for the coming year. 10% of our students say they are not returning next year.

Three teacher contracts were not renewed for next year and three others have chosen not to return. We are looking for replacements for Special Ed, Spanish and a counselor. We are also looking for a chemistry teacher and our EM class is going to be taught through USU. We are not going to replace the History teacher.

Mr. Joseph Batzel was introduced as our new Drama Director. Mr. Batzel told a little about himself: he comes from Box Elder, taught in Florida and Utah. Has 27 years in Box Elder. He was in charge of the High School Theatre Program for 34 years. He is a professional actor and director and loves teaching.

Mr. Reese shared that he and Mr. Batzel have the same teaching philosophy and drama and the place that the program has at DaVinci. He said that we are already working on the Shakespeare Festival and thanked Sheila Brown and Mr. Batzel.

Paula Dugan asked Mr. Reese about hiring a French teacher. He said he is having trouble finding a teacher as we only have about 18 students who are interested. Eric Matheson asked about Sandra Drake and it was explained that she went back into retirement and has plans to move out of the state. Iain Hueton asked why Joel Robins left and Mr. Reese told him he would talk to him later.

3. Community Development, Nancy Jones

Nancy said that she has applied for four grants:

- A. Advanced Placement Grant, \$100,000. Multiple year grant for small schools.
- B. State MESA 3 Year Grant, for minority and females in math and science. \$5000 for each year.
- C. Alternative Language Grant, for small schools, \$50,000 for Russian.
- D. Crisis Management for Disaster Relief Plan through Homeland Security, \$150,000.

Nancy explained that in July, Wells Fargo is doing a tour of the school to decide if they will contribute. We are also waiting to hear from the Shae Foundation. Now that we have a college partner in Eric Amsel, we are eligible for these grants. Debbie Legge asked when we will hear back from any other of the grants that we have applied for. We are waiting to hear about \$250,000. She also asked what Nancy's feelings were about receiving any of these.

4. **Eric Stroup**

Eric explained about the changes in the Board Policies, Policy Number 001, **see attachment #1**. Eric Matheson said that he would get back to Eric Stroup about some of the changes to comply with the provisions. Said we should identify the slots on the board and who sits where. We can have as few as 7 and as many as 21 members. Lewis asked about meeting state law as far as Board membership, e.g. 25% as parents. Eric Stroup suggested that the board read over changes for the next board meeting before voting. Eric Amsel asked about voting on each policy. Eric Stroup said that the policies need to be fluid to be effective and said we should post them on the web site. Paula Dugan suggested we vote tonight. She made a motion to accept the changes in Policy Number 001. Iain Hueton seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Eric Amsel**

Eric produced the steps to proper communication. He said the document is in response to concerns from parents and students. He went through each point, **see attachment #2**. He suggested that we review 3.2.b against board policy. He said he wasn't clear about the president of the board vs. the executive committee as manager of employees over the Director and the Business Manager. Debbie Legge said that 5.7.d clarifies this issue. Eric Matheson said that this issue needs to be reviewed. Eric Amsel said that he thought the weakness in this policy was with the teachers, e.g. faculty caucus. Eric Matheson said that the board voted on a policy—teachers do not have a voice on the board. Eric Stroup suggested that we add the faculty to the chart. He also suggested that the suggestions be put into policy format and brought back to the board for a vote.

6. **Presidents Report, Debbie Legge**

Debbie reported that we have received notification that we are being audited by the state on the 20-21 of this month. We are still having Squire & Son do our annual audit in July. Eric Stroup suggested that we request an agenda for the state audit and that we post results when completed. She reported that our Open House was very successful and that she and Lewis are going to be recruiting at ACELA next week. Paula Dugan mentioned that she passed out all of the flyers at the Air Show and that someone got on the loud speaker and told every one to look into DaVinci for their children.

7. **New Business**

Paula Dugan reported on Strategic Planning and said that she has compiled all of the formal statements and some suggestions. Said she has the goals tied to the Mission Statement, but it is just a rough draft and wants input, e.g. changes by the next meeting to be able to ratify. See attachment #3.

Eric Amsel said that we should congratulate Nancy for being approved to teach Intro to Psychology through concurrent enrollment.

Iain Hueton is concerned about the student numbers. Debbie told him about the recruitment activities that Maggie Hodgson has set up and that we are trying to get a committee to build a float for the 24th of July Parade. Lewis said that Larry H. Miller is donating the truck and a convertible for our use in the parade.

Eric Stroup asked about putting Jack's presentation on the school web site. He also remarked that if we update the Ombudsman policy, that we also need to update how we choose the Ombudsman, for example, having the PTSO vice president as the Ombudsman.

Eric Matheson said that we need new board members and Debbie reported that we have some promising leads. Eric Stroup said we should give applications to anyone who is interested. Eric Matheson asked where we stand with Mount Ogden Scientific Services and asked about getting our microscope repaired. Lewis said that he has spoken to the person who donated it to the school and that he is willing to come from Kentucky to fix it. We just need to find the funds to bring him here. Eric also asked where we stand with our internship program. Iain told him that he needs to meet with Joel Robins to get feedback. He said we need to get students involved, at least 20-25.

8. **Open Public Comment**

Larry Freeze asked the Board what authority we use when we deviate from the Charter; do we, as a board have to adhere to the Charter? Debbie replied that the Charter is a roadmap. Larry also asked Mr. Reese to contact him and to leave his wife (Kelly) out of any information he is seeking.

Sheila Brown spoke and said that she doesn't think the Ombudsman should be a PTSO officer. She asked if anyone knew Gina Gonzales. She (Gina) has offered to do an internship with the school in research pathology. Sheila said that she would like to plan a summer social for the school. She then made a public apology to Mr. Reese, Nancy Jones and Debbie Legge. She reported that according to the by-laws, Lewis did do the evaluations and she recognized that. She told about her experiences with Mr. Batzel when she was a student and said that she was excited to have him here at DaVinci. She suggested that we have a time frame for filing grievances and that we change the agenda to have the public comments first so those persons can leave and don't have to sit through the business part of the meeting.

9. **Open Student Comment**

Adrian Maxson said he was there to represent the student body with student government issues.

- A. They would like an artist on the board.
- B. Suggested that if we want to stay popular with the students, we need a philosophy teacher.
- C. He has a report for student communication that he would like to have on the agenda for the next meeting.

Eric Amsel asked Adrian to distinguish between what goes on in a philosophy class and a philosophical discussion.

10. **Adjournment**

Debbie announced that she would not be here next week. Eric Matheson motioned that the board meet at 5:30 p.m. on June 29th. Eric Stroup seconded, motion passed.

Debbie called for an adjournment. Eric Amsel motioned that we so adjourn. Iain Hueton seconded, motion unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Shirley Shannon