

1. Call to order @6:05PM

2. Roll Call

Present	Chair	Board Members
X	G	Melanie Persellin - President
	C	Community Member Seat
X	I	Idara Uko - Vice-Chair
X	A	Sara Sweeney
NP	B	Brenda Maulik
NP	F	Sana Soussi
X	E	Durowaa Agyeman - Secretary
X	D	Jacob Stith
X	H	Emily Uhl - Treasurer

Guests
Holly Fischer - Exofficio
Julie Kresh - Policy Chair
Amy Erendu - Academic Director
Ruqiya Ahmed
Brittani Qassem
Nadia Soussi
Zach Arco
Jason Ulbrich
Afreen Khatoon

Guests	Guests	Guests
Jeilan Kedir	Hayat El Hilali	El Mustafa Achbor
Elias Hamu	Mona Soussi	Stephanie Severson
Abeeha Syed	Julie Kresh	Eman Ahmed
Kulan Tura	Sanaa Malaki	Slah Mkhinini
Amna Soussi	Fatima Elhaddi	Walid Shadi
Vijay Koya	B Khan	Ibrahim M.
Mohamed A.	Haiut Mussa	Danijela Dovernjak
Muktar Omar	Ioha Hassan	Nejat Mussa
Lynn Peterson	Torri Sauve	Chala Ahmed

3. Reading of Mission Statement and Real Life Examples

1 minute

DaVinci Academy of Arts and Science will cultivate a passion for learning through an enriched and individualized approach to education. The DaVinci community will work together to ensure positive character development and build a strong foundation for continuous learning.

- Idara judged the science fair and the students did an awesome job showcasing their foundational working knowledge of science operating in real life.
- 2nd graders studied Scandinavian folk tales, wrote their own folk tales and made stuffed toys that were shared with their families.

4. Community Comment

10 minutes

Community Comment is the only open forum portion of tonight's meeting and is an opportunity to present an issue or concern to the Board of Directors. There is a maximum of ten minutes set aside for Community Comment. Each presentation should be limited to no more than two minutes. I invite you to review DVA policy 206 in regard to the procedure followed to assure open and orderly public discussion as well as to protect the due process and privacy rights of individuals under the law. Similarly, per DVA policy 206 except as determined by the School board to be necessary or in an emergency, the school board will not take action at the same meeting on an item raised for the first time by the public. There is a countdown clock/timer that will be in place and used to provide each individual permitted to speak with a visual of their permissible time.

Thank you for coming.

- Ruqiya Ahmed - Presented about concerns regarding lack of staffing and differentiated education for Special Education this year.
- Brittani Qassem - Spoke about concerns regarding the LGBTQIA+ topics addressed in supplemental curriculum.
- Nadia Soussi - Presented to the Board about concerns regarding the direction of the school, specifically about teacher retention.
- Zach Arco - Expanded on last month's comment about parental rights and appealed to the Board again to appoint a Community Board member that prioritized parental rights in schools.
- Jason Ulbrich (Executive Director at Eagle Ridge Academy) - Expressed gratitude for the DaVinci leadership and states that many schools are going through the same issues that DaVinci is going through now. Believes that if the Board leads according to our mission, the school will continue its strong standing in the community.

5. Adoption of Agenda and Addendums 2 minutes

- Motion to approve the December Board meeting agenda as amended by Durowaa, seconded by Sara, it passes.

6. Consent Agenda

6.1 DONATIONS

Unrestricted donations: available for viewing in the office

Restricted donations:

Check #	Name on Check	Restricted?	Company Donation	Give to the Max	Boosterthon
EFT	MightyCause	Y		\$750.00	
EFT	Amer Online Giv Reversal	Y	-\$762.33		
EFT	Mastercard Impact Corporate	Y	\$250.00		
EFT	Amer Online Giv	Y	\$762.33		
EFT	CNA Corporate	Y			\$250.00
EFT	UKOGF Foundation	Y	\$0.03		
EFT	General Mills	Y			\$242.95
EFT	Booster	Y			\$140.00
	Total:		\$250.03	\$750.00	\$632.95
	Monthly Donation Total:		\$1,632.98		

6.2 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 27, 2023 Board Meeting

- Motion to approve the November Board meeting minutes as amended by Sara, seconded by Emily, it passes.

7. Discussion- Administration Updates: Fischer 15 minutes

Update regarding enrollment, activities and events at school, open positions for employment, and community involvement. Review of the questions presented at the November 27, 2023 Board meeting regarding family exit surveys, enrollment, waitlist, Facebook campaign for enrollment with the new rebranding.

- DaVinci students were on Kare 11 News to showcase their success with their Toys for Tots drive. As student Lydia said, “we totally crushed it”!
- Middle school band students played The Nutcracker for first grade students.
- Ms. Arboleta made an activity floor for students which helps with cognitive function and encourages activity.
- We honor the leadership that Ms. Debra Lach provided and her legacy is remembered by many in the DaVinci community.
- We celebrate Jack Shields for being awarded the 2023 North Suburban Division Leadership Award.
- In total, we have had 114 students that have left the school, and we have replaced them with above 50 students. AmazeWorks is listed as a major reason for leaving (57 students).
 - We have had 11 students that have left DaVinci and returned.
 - Holly presented the advertising campaign to boost enrollment numbers. Families can help by reposting these advertisements on social media.
 - Social media ads will run heavily until the end of January when lottery applications are due.
- Our staff retention rate is 14.5% teacher turnover (from over the summer to now), which is better than the 28% teacher turnover rate across districts last year.
 - We have retained a higher percentage of teachers than the last few previous years.
 - There is a national and state shortage of SPED professionals currently, and this has affected DaVinci as well.
 - We are in need of a SPED Coordinator (instead of a director), 2 SPED teachers, and 3 or more paraprofessionals.
 - We are having challenges with hiring an in-house SPED director due to two directors leaving during the middle of the year.
 - We welcome parents and community members to tap into their network on the behalf of DaVinci, and we currently have applicants for a SPED opening.
 - In-house substitute teachers and contract services are used to fill in with SPED support.
- Holly presented about the need for psychological safety for all students, including LGBTQIA+ students and urged the Board to take a stand on our pillar of equity.

8. **Academic Update:**

Erendu 15 minutes

MAP testing is forthcoming after the Thanksgiving break. An academic update regarding data driven instruction, professional development, and curriculum review cycle.

- On November 27th, staff completed the following professional development sessions: cultural competency, vertical alignment, math in focus, MAP, and will look forward to interim assessments in January.
 - On January 2nd, teachers will be trained in vertical alignment, MAP fluency (K-4), and review interim assessments
- Students just finished MAP testing, and teachers will continue training to analyze results to promote data-driven instruction.
- Curriculum review for science
 - November 27th - Elementary will no longer consider FOSS and Amplify Science. Middle school will no longer consider Amplify Science.
 - February 24th - Curriculum review to introduce Twig Science
- MCA Test scores
 - For reading and math, test scores are not at the same level as pre-COVID, but are still significantly higher than Anoka-Hennepin and the state.
 - This is consistent for students of color and free/reduced meal students.
 - The achievement gap reduction is relatively small for free and reduced meal students and nonexistent for students of color.

9. Committee Updates and Review Committee Minutes Board 30 minutes

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>MEETING DATE</u>
9.1 Finance Committee & Treasurer’s Update: Review monthly financial report.	December 13, 2023

**The Audit, which was scheduled to be presented at the December 18, 2023 Board meeting has been rescheduled for the January 22, 2024 Board meeting. Jim Eichten from MMKR will present at the January 22, 2024 Board meeting. **

- We will make the state deadline for December 31st for the audit and have taken an extension for FOE.
- Fund balance is at 28.10% and the audit is not finalized due to auditor staffing issues. This is a state-wide issue and some charter schools are even having issues finding an auditor.
- We made a bond agreement with the projection for 1046 students which may be a bit high. The Board must discuss this further at the off-site and fundraising efforts must be vigorous to bridge that gap.
- The Board would like to see the 5-year projections at the off-site or January Board meeting with a student projection between 948-1000 students.

9.2 HR/Compensation Committee: Not held

9.3 School Development Committee: December 13, 2023

- Discussed the logistics of the gala and encouraged the Board and community to be involved in finding auction items and sponsorships.
- The Student Development Committee will create and send items for the Board to aid in seeking sponsorships.
- The Student Development Committee will consider creating a link for reviewing potential auction items.

9.4 Policy Committee: December 8, 2023

- The next policy committee meeting will be Friday, January 12th.

10. Old Business

10.1 Second Review of School Board Policies Kresh 30 minutes

Board review of DVA policies for consideration and approval as initially presented at the November 27, 2023 Board meeting.

- Policy 601 School District Curriculum and Instructional Goals
 - The Board will look at this policy when considering the long-term strategic plan as a whole during the off-site.
 - Motion to approve Policy 601 School District Curriculum and Instructional Goals by Durowaa, seconded by Emily, it passes unanimously.
- Policy 604 Instructional Curriculum
 - Motion to approve Policy 604 Instructional Curriculum by Emily, seconded by Sara, it passes unanimously.
- Policy 604F Curriculum or Supplemental Learning Material Opt-Out Request Form
 - The form will be revised to state who the form should be submitted to (the Academic Director).
 - We ask that families submit this form if they have made a blanket opt-out request and not for specific materials. This will be communicated to families.

- Motion to approve 604F Curriculum or Supplemental Learning Material Opt-Out Request Form as amended to add where the form should be submitted by Jake, seconded by Idara, it passes unanimously.
- Policy 616 School District System Accountability
 - Motion to approve Policy 616 School District System Accountability by Emily, seconded by Sara, it passes unanimously.
- Policy 806 Crisis Management
 - Motion to approve Policy 806 Crisis Management by Durowaa, seconded by Emily, it passes unanimously.

11. New Business – Discussion/Action items

11.1. Initial Review of School Board Policies Kresh 30 minutes

The following policies will be presented to the Board for final approval at the January 22, 2024 Board meeting.

- Revisions to 515F Public Notice and Request for information
- Revisions to 522F Student Report Form
- Revisions to 606 Textbooks, instructional Materials, or Library Materials
- Revisions to 606.1- Formal Request for Reconsideration of Textbooks and Other instructional Materials
- New 606.2 Formal Request for Reconsideration of Specific Library Collection Materials
- Abolish policy 720F Fundraising Event Application

These policies follow Minnesota Statutes. As set forth in each policy, the supporting law, Federal and Minnesota state law, is referenced in each policy.

11.2. Appointment of Seat C: Community Board Member Seat Persellin 20 minutes

Seat C is vacant due to the community member becoming a parent of a student at DaVinci. Thus, pursuant to Section 7, the Board will provide to fill the vacant community member seat by appointment, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 317A.227. Vacancies on the Board of Directors caused by death, disqualification, resignation, disability, removal or such other cause may be filled by appointment of a new director by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors, even if less than a quorum. A director filling a vacancy shall hold office until the term of the replaced Director expires, or until his or her successor has been duly elected and qualified, subject to his or her earlier death, disqualification, resignation or removal.

Applications will be due no later than January 8, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. Applications submitted after January 8, 2024 will NOT be considered.

- Motion to extend the application deadline to February 16th, 2024 by Melanie; seconded by Sara; votes in favor by Emily, Melanie, Durowaa, and Sara; votes against by Idara and Jake, no one abstains, it passes.

11.3. Executive Director Evaluation Brenda Maulik 30 minutes

The Board will close the meeting pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.05, subd. 3, which permits the Board to close the meeting to evaluate the performance of an individual who is subject to its authority; namely Ms. Holly Fischer, the Executive Director. The Board will summarize its discussions at the next open meeting. The Executive Director has the option to have all evaluation meetings open to the public. This meeting will provide an **overview of results of the**

HR committee staff survey regarding the performance of the Executive Director which was conducted in September, 2023.

- Board closed the meeting at 8:04pm and reopened the meeting at 9:17pm.
- The ED performance evaluation will be sent out to the community on or around January 2nd, 2024 and will be due on January 15th, 2024 to be reviewed by the Board during the winter off-site meeting.
- Sara and Brenda will revise the performance evaluation form from last year to include changes including the addition of an Ethical and Inclusive Leadership section to reflect our equity pillar.

12. Meeting Assessment and Closing Thoughts **Persellin** **5 minutes**

Did we spend our time effectively today? What could we do better?

What do we, as a board, need to be focusing on for the next meeting?

13. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn the December meeting at 9:18pm by Melanie, seconded by Durowaa, it passes.

Estimated end time:

9:30 pm

Actual end time:

9:18 pm