



# School Board Meeting MINUTES for Monday, July 20, 2015 Music Room (001), 6:00pm

**1. Call to order: 6:08 p.m. by Stacey Persons**

**2. Roll Call**

Present	Board Members
x	Ross Meisner – President
x	Stacey Persons – Vice President
	Erin Nelson – Secretary
x	Valerie Slaymaker
x	Dale Lieb
x	Matt Manning
x	Nikki Brown
x	Andy Wallschlaeger
	Mike Keeley

Guests
Debra Lach – Ex-Officio Member
Denise Erickson – Clerk

**3. Reading of Mission Statement**

DaVinci Academy of Arts and Science will awaken a passion for learning through an enriched and individualized approach to education. Students, parents and teachers will work together to ensure positive character development and build a strong foundation for higher education.

**4. Community Comment**

*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. If your item needs follow-up from the board and/or staff or will require research etc., a decision may not be made during tonight's meeting. Thank you for coming this evening.*

No Community Comments

**Adoption of Agenda and Addendums**

Added to agenda:

Andy Wallschlaeger: Policies 536, 514 and 506 need to be reviewed (added as item 9.05)

Debra Lach: Voting on the Minnesota Association of Charter Schools (added as item 9.06)

*Motion for approval as amended by: Andy Wallschlaeger*

*Motion seconded by: Dale Lieb*

*Unanimous approval*

**5. Consent Agenda**

MEETING MINUTES

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 5.1. Board Meetings:                  | tbd (for 2015.06.15) (will approve once Erin Nelson has had chance to edit) |
| 5.2. Finance Committee:               | did not meet  |
| 5.3. Policy Committee:                | tbd   |
| 5.4. Curriculum/Technology Committee: | did not meet  |
| 5.5. HR/Compensation Committee:       | 2015.07.13  |

- 5.6. School Development Committee: 2015.07.13
- 5.7. Facilities Committee: tbd
- 5.8. Ad-hoc Communications Committee: tbd

DONATIONS

- 5.9. Matching donation \$115.33

DOCUMENTS

- 5.10. Monthly Financials June 2015 – Fiscal Year (hard copy during meeting)
- 5.11. Letter from Totino-Grace High School

POLICIES FOR APPROVAL

- 5.12. tbd

*Motion for approval as modified by: Valerie Slaymaker*

*Motion seconded by: Matt Manning*

*Unanimous approval*

Dale Lieb reporting for School Development Committee: School golf tournament most successful financially to date (around \$20K).

*Motion to adopt agenda: Valerie Slaymaker*

*Motion seconded by: Dale Lieb*

*Unanimous approval*

**6. Discussion – Administration Updates – Debra Lach**

**10 minutes**

Enrollment total: 437

MCA test scores still embargoed. Our Qcomp goal for this year was to increase our reading score to 77.2% actual increase was to 78% (up 2%). Able to issue bonuses.

Changing playground from a mud field to an asphalt field with peaceful playground model. Will include grassy area with picnic tables and raised beds for gardening. Basketball hoops will remain where they are. Cost will come out of the community service fund.

Lunch vendor changed. This past year was the first year ever to more than break even on the food service.

Thursday before school starts is designated as an open house for parents/children to stop in and drop off school supplies & forms. New student/parent presentation will be August 6

First through Eighth Grade students start school on Tuesday, Aug. 12. Kindergarteners start Thursday, Aug. 14.

Need volunteers to ride busses with Kindergarteners the first two days. Parents will be asked to fill out a "luggage tag" label for each Kindergartener to remind teachers how they are getting home.

Have received approval on grant and final approval on the grant budget. May look at a new budget in Sept. based on how many are enrolled.

Four new teachers will be joining Davinci for the 2015/2016 year: music teacher, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher, and a replacement for special ed. teacher.

**7. Old Business**

- 7.1. Treasurer's Update

Valerie Slaymaker reviewed financial handout. Some budget item overages can be attributed to

coding. Overall, financial situation is quite healthy.

7.2. Board Operations Update

Bus stops approval and quarterly goals review. Debra Lach: bus stops are essentially the same as last year. Schedule information will be sent out via email by the end of this week.

7.3. CSP grant status

Grant approved.

**8. New Business – Discussion/Action items**

9.5 Policy. Andy Wallschlaeger, on behalf of the Policy Committee, proposed the following changes:

Policy # 536 - see attachments

*Motion to approve – Vallerie Slaymaker*

*Motion seconded by – Stacey Persons*

*No Discussion*

*Unanimous approval*

Policy # 506 - see attachments

*Motion to approve – Dale Lieb*

*Motion seconded by Valerie Slaymaker*

*No Discussion*

*Unanimous approval*

Policy # 514 – see attachments

*Motion to approve – Matt Manning*

*Motion seconded by Nicole Brown*

*No Discussion*

*Unanimous approval*

9.6 Minnesota Association of Charter Schools. Debra urged board to join for advocacy purposes.

They provide leadership training, job posting opportunities, and have a re-licensure service (will keep track of teacher CEU credits). They offer a quarterly meeting for directors. If approved, will add this into the budget revision in September.

*Motion to approve membership – Stacey Persons*

*Second – Nicole Brown*

*No Discussion*

*Unanimous approval*

8.1 Health plan review/approval HR/Comp Comm.

Dale Lieb: Davinci staff are currently receiving health care through Preferred One. The committee took three bids for the coming year. Preferred One is 18% higher than the current year; however, the other two bids are over 100% higher. Recommendation to approve renewal of Preferred One.

*Motion to approve health plan – Stacey Persons*

*Motion seconded by – Matt Manning*

*Discussion – none*

*Unanimous approval*

Dale Lieb: Life & Long Term Disability insurance is currently with Assurant. Recommending a switch to Standard Life – a 40% swing, including a voluntary add-on for staff who wish to purchase more life insurance & Short Term Disability.

*Motion to approve switch to Standard Life – Matt Manning*

*Motion seconded by – Nicole Persons*

*Discussion – STD – Debra: no waiting period if you enroll during open enrollment. Matt: Need 25% participation. Looking for ways to make maternity leave more affordable..*

*Unanimous approval*

Dale Lieb: 403b Plan – voluntary plan can be offered in a Roth or standard IRA. Can put substantially more funds away than in a 401k. The company, AXA can make selections for investments and provide advice – willing to meet individually with employees. Have 12 other charter schools participating. No matching from the school at this time, but the option is there for the future. Recommend school adopt 403b plan with no match.

*Motion to approve 403b – Matt Manning*

*Motion seconded by – Valerie Slaymaker*

*Discussion - none*

*Unanimous approval*

## 8.2 School board calendar for 2015-2016

Some slight meeting time changes made; will be published on website:

School development committee – 5:30 pm

Curriculum tech – 4 rather than 5

## 8.3 Board member transitions

Ross Meisner: There will be a transition as Dale Lieb is leaving effective following this meeting. We have really appreciated Dale's work and insight. One person has expressed interest in the position. We should look at several candidates to appoint to fulfill the rest of Dale's term (he's at the beginning of a 2½ year term). Dale Lieb expressed appreciation for a wonderful experience. Wants to continue to support Davinci and will continue serve on the ABC board. Other members expressed their appreciation for Dale's work.

Executive Director performance and compensation

Ross Meisner: Performance evaluation feedback from the board was all excellent. Matt Manning: recommendation of 8-10% increase in salary and bonus based on education goals. Ross: compensation increase is not significant and director is meeting every goal. No increase was given last year. Ross read evaluation comments from board members – all very favorable. Recommendation to increase the Executive Director's salary by 10% with no change to her bonus, effective July 1, 2015.

*Motion to approve executive director compensation plan – Matt Manning*

*Motion seconded by – Dale Lieb*

*Discussion – None*

*Unanimous approval*

Retention bonus is given every three years. Recommendation to make Debra eligible for retention bonus from the time of her interim start date.

*Motion to approve retention bonus retroactive to interim start date – Dale Lieb*

*Motion seconded by – Stacey*

*Discussion – None*

*Unanimous approval*

## 8.1. School expansion planning

Matt Manning: ad hoc committee met with Jeff Eller and Kou Vang. Recommendation that we indicate to Kou Vang that we would like to engage him for the feasibility and guiding principles with expectation for further engagement.

*Motion to approve – Ross Meisner*

*Seconded – Valerie Slaymaker*

*Discussion*  
*Unanimous approval*

Matt Manning: Walmart on 109<sup>th</sup> & Lexington is for sale. Will make Kou Vang aware of this. Also, looking into the possibility of some school districts having “mothballed schools.”

8.2. Board Development & Training

Friends of Education has invited DaVinci board members to a Minnetonka Lake Cruise dinner – August 5, 3:45 pm (the day teachers return to school). Would be a good way to get to know board members of the FOE. Ross plans to go. Board members should contact Ross if they would like to attend.

If board members want to take a course on how charter schools are financed (or other courses), it will be paid for. Valerie took an online course she thought was excellent. She will share the link.

**9. Adjourn Meeting**

*Motion to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. – Dale Lieb*  
*Motion seconded – Stacey Persons*  
*Unanimous approval*

Meeting adjourned 8:09 p.m.