

Justine Nash Transcript

Attendees

Heather Newcomb, Justine Nash

Transcript

Heather Newcomb: Hello, welcome to the 2026 Da Vinci candidate forum interview process. I'm Heather Nukem, parent teacher seat on the Da Vinci community board on the Da Vinci school board. Would you like to introduce yourself?

Justine Nash: Yeah. my name is Justine.

Justine Nash: I am applying to be on the board also as the parent and then currently I am an HR director for a nonprofit in Alexander House. And I have four children. one that had just left Da Vinci as a incoming high schooler and then I have one that's coming into kindergarten this upcoming school year.

Heather Newcomb: All Thank you. And why are you interested in joining the Da Vinci Academy board of directors?

Justine Nash: Yeah. we have been with Da Vinci since 2020 and with having an incoming kindergartener, we're going to be here for nine more years. So this is going to be such a big part of our lives and...

Justine Nash: I really am looking for a meaningful role to be able to help contribute and this work does kind of align with the work that I'm currently doing.

Heather Newcomb: Thank you.

Heather Newcomb: What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a board member at DBA?

Justine Nash: Yeah. being able to provide governance some strategic planning that aligns with the mission and...

Justine Nash: financial stewardship.

Heather Newcomb: Board members represent all stakeholders in the community,...

Heather Newcomb: including students, families, and staff in all departments.

Heather Newcomb: Many of us serve in multiple roles in the school. How will you manage boundaries while serving differing roles in the Da Vinci community?

Justine Nash: Yeah, I think it's important to know...

Justine Nash: who my audience is at all times and just depending on the conversation,...

Justine Nash: just understanding what that impact could be with what I could possibly be sharing and also if I'm not able to answer a specific question, just being able to offer that additional support, whether it's just listening or sharing what a process could Yeah.

Heather Newcomb: Thanks. What qualities or...

Heather Newcomb: behaviors do you deem non-negotiable for board members to exhibit?

Justine Nash: I think board members absolutely have to have good integrity.

Justine Nash: They have to be active listeners, strategic thinkers, and the ability to be able to be curious and ask questions when needed.

Heather Newcomb: Thanks. If elected,...

Heather Newcomb: what are your top three goals for the school in the next three years?

Justine Nash: Yeah. building more partnerships and community engagement would be one. of course financial stability that's kind of an issue all around that needs help and...

Heather Newcomb: Good morning.

Justine Nash: and then I'm also really interested in the school development area and whether that's looking for more funding or partnerships or things that we can do. and also to increase headcount as well.

Heather Newcomb: Yes. what is your vision for educational equity in this community?

Justine Nash: Yeah, just making sure that all students and staff have the resources that they need to ensure all students and...

Justine Nash: teachers are able to thrive in the space that we offer.

Heather Newcomb: How might you approach a vote on an issue that is the best interest of the school or...

Heather Newcomb: school community even if it is in contrast with your personal views?

Justine Nash: working in HR,...

Justine Nash: I have this a lot where we have to make hard decisions and sometimes those decisions can even impact myself. but I always know, looking at the data and the reason why that we have to make these decisions or changes and always making sure that we're mission aligned. So, just understanding that my role as a board member is to serve the school and the community and,...

Heather Newcomb: Right. Thanks.

Justine Nash: I'm able to put my differences or opinions aside. and then also knowing to if I need a better understanding of how we came to that decision, just making sure I'm asking the right questions to get some clarity.

Heather Newcomb: How do you see yourself involved in the Da Vinci community outside of board meetings?

Justine Nash: Just constantly engaging with the community and looking for different partnerships. I also know there's things that we can do at the capital they just had a advocacy day in the beginning of April for charter schools. those are things that I could look at attending and helping advocate for Da Vinci.

Heather Newcomb: In what ways have you previously engaged with the Da Vinci community?

Justine Nash: As a parent I'm there all the time I feel like with all the different events that they offer and I do try to help out in the classrooms.

Justine Nash: I did help a lot more in the early elementary school age helping with the reading and...

Heather Newcomb: Okay.

Justine Nash: writing. and then I try to help chaperon at least one field trip a year. but yeah, as I will have all my kids in school, I anticipate being able to help more next year with the PTO and stuff. Yeah.

Heather Newcomb: Is there anything else that you feel we should know about you in consideration for this board position that was not already included in the answers to any of the previous questions?

Justine Nash: I wear a lot of hats. meaning if I'm in I also have the ability to do program development and evaluation. I've helped out with finances, and the auditing process for my organization, and I'm pretty comfortable stepping in wherever is needed. and then I do have a strong interest in specifically that school development committee.

00:05:00

Heather Newcomb: All right.

Justine Nash: Interested in helping with grants and grant writing, funding, and all those things. Yes. Thank you so much for having me.

Heather Newcomb: Thank you so much for your time.

Meeting ended after 00:05:32 🙌

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