



School Board – SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES for Monday, June 2, 2014 Brick’s Restaurant, 6:07pm

1. Call to order

2. Roll Call

Present	Board Members
x	Ross Meisner - President
x	Mike Hebert – Vice President
x	Doug Hiatt - Treasurer
x	Sunil Unnikrishnan - Secretary
x	Dale Lieb
x	Tom Trempe
x	Debra Lach, Ex-Officio Member

Guests
Cindy Rubin

3. Reading of Mission Statement 1 minute

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. Adoption of Agenda and Addendums 2 minutes

No community comments expected from offsite meeting.

*Mike Herbert move to approve the Agenda
Seconded by: Dale Lieb
Approved by: All*

5. Old Business – Discussion/Action items

5.1 – Welcome Meisner 10 minutes

Meeting kick-off,
Ross Meisner gave introduction and importance of board meeting, decision making process and board member contribution. Stress was given to provide time for board to thoughtfully decide the future of Davinci.

5.2 – Golf Fundraiser update Lieb 10 minutes

Update on June 13 golf fundraiser event status.
75 Golfers signed up and hoping to get more. Dollars for Davinci yielded 3 more sponsors. Mary will continue to support doing the event next year too.

5.3 – Market research for school expansion grant application Lach 5 minutes

Review options, timing, budget, and decide action/next steps.
Debra did not receive proposal yet. More updates in the regular board meeting this month.

6. New Business – Discussion/Action items

6.1 – Board of Directors operations and philosophy Meisner 45 minutes

Discussed Board operations. Ross put up slides on questions to Board members: How we can and should operate? What changes might be needed? What's our vision? Do we have the right resources? Consider how should we best operate?

Do members have the right information?

Sunil brought up the need for information on new member's ability to grasp School related practices and knowledge sharing on School functions. Board agreed that knowledge comes over time and pointed some online resources to gain the knowledge.

Key policies that define Davinci – Four pillars (Arts & Science focus, Enhanced education: Core Knowledge, Differentiated instruction, and Character development)

Yearly schedule - Cindy Rubin suggested home work for kids during summer, however Doug suggested technically it cannot be done. Herbert thinks longer contact days will help.

Uniforms

Enrollment Policy

Student/teacher ratio

Davinci vision/mission: Should we focus stay on Arts/Science? Arts & Science will be unique to Davinci. Stick to the original charter. Sports activities not focused in order to excel in other areas.

6.1 – DaVinci Key Talking Points Meisner/Lach 15 minutes

Discuss the key points to emphasize when board members talk to the community.

Key talking points discussed:

Basic facts (Strong finances, 400+ students, publicly funded charter school)

Key differentiators (Arts & Science, Enhanced education, Character)

Excellent performance (track record of results, reward school 3 years in a row – MCA test score proficiency, sub-group achievements, overall growth)

6.1 – School Administration Structure Meisner 15 minutes

Review our current administration structure & roles, and their alignment to meeting our goals.

Continue with "Coordinator" role within the administration structure.

Debra Lach – School Director and also plays a Superintendent role.

6.1 – Key strategic issues facing DaVinci Meisner 30 minutes

Achieving excellent academic results and meeting state FoE targets. High School/Facility expansion plan. More awareness and participation for fundraising.

6.1 – Selected Developments in Education Meisner 15 minutes

Review various developments in education that may influence DaVinci, such as World's Best Workforce, Next Generation Science Standards. Ross pointed out to new K-12 Science Standards site launch www.nextgenscience.org and emphasized the origin and international benchmark and standards been followed.

Davinci is part of common core knowledge, for MCA. Debra stated that Davinci fell behind few points and wanted to refocus.

5.1 – Friends of Education charter contract renewal Meisner 90 minutes

Ross walked through the Contract notes discussed from our prior Board meeting.

Cover Letter – Reviewed cover letter. No changes required.

Reviewed notes on Contract renewal 2014: Debra suggested conference call with Beth and Ross for changes made on contract renewal. The following changes were identified and discussed.

Goal 3: Sub Goal 3.4 – Tier II was selected.

Goal 4: Additional Measures: Recommended attendance moved to 95%.

New charter academic goals > Explanation / Summary of baseline data:

Davinci Academy:

WHEREAS, the secondary purpose(s) of the School's educational program is/are: Two X are to be selected.

Exhibit A to M document:

"School will maintain a minimum of 25% fund balance." – Page 30

Dale wanted to know if board training, fund raising, grants support is possible from FoE. Debra stated that we are small school and grant support is not achievable from FoE.

Fund Raising – Question on professional fund raising group, which schools like Davinci can use? There might be groups out there but there might a cost.

Wrapped up contract document discussion.

Ross insisted that three members seats to be filled and wanted to spread the word.

Debra - wants board to be for the 8th grade graduation ceremony. 16th June, same day as board meeting.

7. Adjourn Meeting

Estimated end time:

9:03 pm

Dale Lieb move to adjourn

Seconded by: Doug Hiatt

Approved by: All