

Minutes of the Meeting
The Davidson Academy Governing Board
November 7, 2016

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Governing Board was called to order at 2:03 p.m. in the Tahoe Room of the Davidson Academy of Nevada located at 1164 N. Virginia St., Reno, Nevada, 89503.

A. Roll Call

Roll call was completed by Chair of the Meeting, Bob Davidson. Roger Davidson, Mark Herron, Bruce James, Marc Johnson, Brian Krolicki and Colleen Harsin were present. Steve Canavero, Annette Whittemore, Traci Davis and Kathleen Sandoval were not present.

B. Welcome and Introductions

Bob Davidson welcomed Board members present as well as individuals attending from the public.

A motion was made that the meeting be recessed in order to hold an attorney-client non-meeting pursuant to NRS 241.015(2)(b)(2) to receive information from an attorney retained by the Davidson Academy regarding potential litigation. The motion was seconded, there was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously. Legal counsel Rebecca Bruch of the law firm of Erickson, Thorpe & Swainston, Ltd. Joined the meeting. Members of the public and staff, except for Academy Director Colleen Harsin were excused from the room at 2:05 p.m.

The recess concluded at 2:37 p.m. and members of the public and staff re-entered the room.

C. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public at this time.

D. Approval of Minutes for Meeting of Sept. 12, 2016

Bob Davidson requested approval of the minutes for the meeting of Sept. 12, 2016, under Tab 1 of the Board book (incorporated herein by reference). Motion was made and seconded for approval of the minutes as submitted. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

E. Approval of Agenda

Bob Davidson requested approval of the Agenda as submitted to the Board. Motion was made and seconded for approval of the meeting Agenda. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

F. Reports

1. Academy Director

a. General Program Updates

Davidson Academy Director, Colleen Harsin, referred Board Members to Tab 2 of their Board books for a copy of her annual memo due by December to Dr. Steve Canavero, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, regarding the Academy's revised, non-traditional calendar (incorporated herein by reference). This memo was in response to a request to Dr. Canavero to amend the approved calendar for the 2016-2017 school year to reduce the school year by two days based on adherence to the University of Nevada, Reno schedule.

Ms. Harsin directed Board Members to the Tab 3 of their Board book (incorporated herein by reference) for details involved in having students pre-register for next year's Academy courses. This process is part of each student's Personalized Learning Plan (PLP) and making course placement decisions based on a student's ability.

Under Tab 4, Ms. Harsin referred to letters from the Society for Science & the Public, Jostens and DECA (incorporated herein by reference). In their letter, Society for Science & the Public congratulated an Academy student for being one of 30 finalists in the 2015 Broadcom MASTERS science fair competition. Jostens recognized the Academy's yearbook for its "ultimate inclusivity" representing every Academy student at least three times in last year's book. DECA acknowledged the Academy team for building leadership among its members with two Davidson Academy students being elected as State Officers this year, one of which is the first-ever State President from Northern Nevada.

b. College Planning Updates

Under Tab 5, Ms. Harsin referred to the Academy's list of 2017 National Merit Semifinalists, which includes 19 out of the 25 students in this year's graduating class as well as one commended student.

Twenty students, out of a total of 25, in the Academy's Class of 2017 have submitted early action college applications to their first-choice schools.

2. Media and Outreach

Julie Dudley referred Board members to the Media and Outreach report in the back pocket of the Board book for a summary of updates (incorporated herein by reference) and showed the Board members the new Academy logo on the public website, along with the new "Online" section of the website.

G. Correspondence

Mark Herron reported that Kathleen Sandoval had resigned from the board via an email from her assistant.

H. Public Comments

An Academy parent thanked the board for allowing 10 students to travel to the Model United Nations (Model U.N.) in Los Angeles to compete. This will be the first time an Academy team has traveled to participate in the Model U.N.

I. General Business

1. Graduates, Class of 2017

Academy Director, Colleen Harsin referred Board members to Tab 6 with a list of proposed 2017 graduates (incorporated herein by reference). She advised that this was a strong class and included 25 students on track for completion of requirements for graduation. Ms. Harsin requested Board approval for graduation of the listed students subject to completion of all requirements. Motion was made and seconded. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Proposed Meeting Dates for 2017

- Monday, Feb. 27, 2017 - 2 p.m.
- Monday, May 15, 2017 - 2 p.m.

- Monday, Sept. 18, 2017 - 2 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 6, 2017 - 2 p.m.

J. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board in public meeting, motion was made and seconded for adjournment; motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.



Respectfully submitted by Julie Dudley, Clerk of the Board