

Minutes of the Meeting
The Davidson Academy Governing Board
November 14, 2022

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Davidson Academy was called to order at 2:02 p.m. This public meeting was held by videoconference allowing members of the public to hear and observe the meeting. Members of the public were invited to provide comments by telephone, through videoconference, or by email.

A. Roll Call

Roll call was completed by Meeting Chair, Mark Herron. In attendance were Bob Davidson, Roger Davidson, Annette Whittemore, Lauralyn McCarthy-Sandoval, Brian Sandoval and Brian Krolicki. Also, present were Academy Director, Colleen Harsin; Governing Board Clerk, Aimee Fredericks; and IT Support, Ben Brown. Richard Trachok, Susan Enfield and Jhone Ebert were not present. Following completion of roll call, a quorum of voting members was confirmed.

B. Welcome and Introduction

Mark Herron welcomed Board Members and members of the public in attendance.

C. Public Comment

Mark Herron provided instructions concerning public comment as stated under item C. of the meeting agenda.

Mark Herron stated that this meeting would be held without a physical location, but in compliance with Nevada legislation, was available for visual participation, and audio call-in for public comments. He referenced the public comment details provided in the agenda and confirmed that public comments, if made, would be received by email or by telephone. No comments were received.

D. Approval of Agenda

Mark Herron requested a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Motion was made and seconded for approval of the meeting agenda as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Approval of Minutes

Mark Herron requested approval of the minutes for the meeting of September 28, 2022, included in the board book for this meeting. Motion was made and seconded for approval of the minutes as submitted. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

F. Reports

1. Academy Director

a. General Program Updates

In follow-up to discussion from the previous quarterly board meeting, Davidson Academy Director, Colleen Harsin, reported that the Parent Booster Club, “Friends of the DA”, was creating more opportunities for Academy students through their volunteer efforts. Enrolled Academy students currently range in age from 9 to 18 years. Parent volunteer time has focused on providing supervision for students to be able to be outside and on the University campus more. Students are very excited about these opportunities and have spent time playing outdoor activities in the quad, eating lunch at different dining options on campus or just taking walks on campus. The hope is that these opportunities result in more active students and provide some stress relief during the school day. The Parent Booster Club also recently provided a staff appreciation lunch for all teachers and administrative staff members.

Other successful student activities include the Late-Night Lollapalooza, and the Club Hub which is an event held at the Academy and intended for fun and student club fundraising. Coming up are the middle school dance and high school formal dances. Students continue to be excited about returning and new events.

Bob Davidson asked if Davidson Academy students younger than 16 years continue to be chaperoned. Ms. Harsin confirmed that was still the case with one adult per ten students chaperoned. Brian Krolicki asked how many parents are part of the Parent Booster Club. Ms. Harsin confirmed a core group of five to ten parents organizing the club, however there are many opportunities for parents to be involved as much or as little as they would like. For example, there were up to twenty parents organizing the staff luncheon.

Bob Davidson asked that effort be made in gathering information about Davidson Academy alumni accomplishments and successes. Ms. Harsin indicated she would follow-up on this task.

2. Media and Outreach

Ms. Harsin referred Board Members to their board books for a summary of recent media and outreach activities on behalf of the Academy. Davidson Academy was listed as a 2023 Niche best school as well as a Top 10 School in the College Gazette. The Davidson Academy Print 3D Club recently wrote an article about their contribution in creating prosthetics. Davidson Academy student, Darsh Patel wrote an Op Ed featured in the August issue of *This is Reno*, titled, “Stress is the number one issue facing today’s youth (opinion)”. Website metrics are up across the board with increasing user sessions and page views. The Academy website has been updated with a section for advocating for gifted students. The 2023-2024 application will launch soon.

Lauralyn McCarthy-Sandoval complimented the reported increase in website page views.

G. General Business

1. Ms. Harsin requested Board approval of proposed 2023 Davidson Academy graduates. Mark Herron asked for motion to approve proposed graduates subject to those students satisfactorily completing graduation requirements. Motion to approve was made and seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public at this time.

I. Adjournment

Mark Herron let the Board know that pursuant to Board Member Richard Trachok's request, quarterly board meetings have been moved to Thursdays. Board Clerk, Aimee Fredericks will forward the updated meeting dates to all Board Members following adjournment.

There being no further business coming before the Board in public meeting, Mr. Herron asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Aimee Fredericks, Governing Board Clerk