

Minutes of the Meeting
The Davidson Academy Governing Board
February 16, 2023

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Davidson Academy was called to order at 2:01 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 (joined meeting at 2:18 pm), Lauralyn McCarthy-Sandoval, and Brian Krolicki. Also, present were Academy Director, Colleen Harsin; Governing Board Clerk, Aimee Fredericks; and IT Support, Ben Brown. Richard Trachok, Brian Sandoval, 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 November 14, 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

Colleen Harsin reported that students participated in school Spirit Week, which included several fun club events such as the GECKO Club garage sale that raised money for Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, Student Council held potluck in celebration of the Lunar New Year, and a family social and game night was held. A “melting ice” event allowed students to get to know each other better.

Concerning admissions for the 2023-24 school year, Ms. Harsin reported that ten eligible applicants had completed readiness assessments to date. Of those applicants seven were accepted and three were not offered admission. She complimented the efforts of Davidson Institute in supporting applicants to all Davidson programs through their collaboration with Northwestern Center for Talent Development and Khan Academy in offering testing options of a proctored online SAT and local in-person offerings of the PSAT 8/9.

Ms. Harsin reported that all eleven, Davidson Academy National Merit semi-finalists have now been confirmed as finalists. Upcoming competitions include Science Olympiad with a full high school team, a second almost full high school team and a full middle school team. Davidson Academy teams have held second place in Science Olympiad competitions, which is commendable as a small school, as they typically compete against large high schools that have up to four teams of 15. Eleven DECA participants will travel to Florida for the international competition. Math competitions will begin over spring break.

2. Media and Outreach

Davidson Academy “PALs” are working on a school program for conflict resolution. Two student co-editors wrote a student newspaper, “The Phoenix Focus,” included in the board books. The co-editors are completing fundraising efforts in support of future editions of the paper.

Academy staff continues to monitor and improve website metrics for online visibility of the Davison Academy.

G. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public at this time.

H. Adjournment

Mark Herron let the Board know that the Davidson Academy Budget would be presented at the next meeting of the Board on Thursday, May 25, 2023.

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 2:38 p.m.

Aimee Fredericks

Respectfully submitted by Aimee Fredericks, Governing Board Clerk