

**Minutes of the Meeting of
The Davidson Academy of Nevada
Governing Board**

January 16, 2007

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Governing Board was called to order at 2:25pm in Classroom #2 of The Davidson Academy of Nevada.

Roll Call

Chairman Bob Davidson, President Jan Davidson, Members Brian Krolicki, Keith Rheault, Mark Herron, Hon. Bruce R. James and Clerk of the Board, Stacy Colwell were present at roll call. Sen. Richard H. Bryan was present via telephonic conferencing. Members Milton Glick and Annette Whittemore were not present.

Welcome and Introductions were completed by Chairman Bob Davidson and President Jan Davidson.

Approval of Minutes for Meeting of November 27, 2006

Motion for approval of minutes from the November 27, 2006, meeting was made by Hon. Bruce James and seconded by Mark Herron. Clerk of the Board, Stacy Colwell indicated that a typographical error existed on page 2 of the minutes wherein Hon. Bruce James' title would be amended to read as "Hon." instead of "Sen." Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Hon. Bruce James for approval of the Agenda. It was seconded by Mark Herron. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Stacy Colwell, Director of The Davidson Academy of Nevada, reported that she had begun to draft school policies for the Davidson Academy. She referenced the California School Board Association's comprehensive list of policies and indicated that the first policies to be drafted and reviewed by legal counsel will include Discipline, Safe Schools, Graduation Requirements, Residency, Admission, Attendance, Online courses, Credit by Examination, Transfer of Credit and Independent Study of Courses. President Jan Davidson indicated that the first policies need to be drafted and presented prior to the next Governing Board meeting. Hon. Bruce James requested that the Board packets be delivered to members at least two weeks prior to the next meeting for review of the drafted policies.

Ms. Colwell continued her report with a General Program Update. She advised that student semester projects created through their Project Development Course during the Fall semester will continue into the Spring semester. Students will have the opportunity to present their projects and petition for semester credit. The Academy was in the process of completing an Intersession time which will continue to be scheduled for the first and last two weeks of the Academy's semester. This time corresponds with the beginning and ending of the University's semester schedule. The Academy will be using this time for short courses in art, science and a collaborative learning program, as well as working with students and families on their ideas for upcoming Intersession time periods. Member Keith Rheault advised that Story County incorporates an Intersession in their school year and the time is used for remediation and special programs. Ms. Colwell confirmed that the Academy semester courses will begin on January 22, 2007, in conjunction with the University. Several students will be taking a variety of courses at the University this semester.

Julie Dudley, Director of Communications reported a summary of Media Impressions and Highlights for 2006. She advised that CNN was the largest media placement in the last year and that most media exposure centered at the time of the Academy's opening in August of 2006. Time Magazine and a segment on Nightline are still being considered.

Katie Graham, Director of Outreach reported outreach efforts through circulation of over ten thousand brochures in several counties in Nevada and the general public. Electronic outreach is also being accomplished through on-line gifted programs. Keith Rheault confirmed that outreach efforts appear to be successful in that he was at recent meeting and the State Superintendent of Tennessee asked him for further information about the Academy; he was very surprised to learn that the Davidson Academy is a public school. Chairman Bob Davidson commented that he was please that the school is being recognized as public rather than private. He also added that he and President Jan Davidson had completed a segment of Nevada Newsmakers that day which will air later in the week.

Colleen Harsin, Director of Admissions reported that January 16, 2007 will be the last day to submit applications for acceptance to the Academy. This date was shortened primarily due to limitations in instructional space at this time. The Academy will be accepting up to twenty additional students for the Fall 2007 Term. Twenty applications had been received with fifteen of those being strong candidates. In the Fall of 2008 the Academy will relocate to a thirty-five thousand square-foot space which will allow for Spring enrollment possibilities.

Member Keith Rheault asked whether student graduation dates could be predicted through their Individualized Learning Plans. Ms. Colwell confirmed that yes, graduation could be predicted and that currently our oldest student is fifteen years old. Chairman Bob Davidson advised that social and emotional readiness for graduation is much more critical at this point, as academically most Davidson Academy students were likely ready for college or university.

Mark Herron, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, reported that Fall of 2008 is the target for occupancy of the Davidson Academy in the space currently occupied by the Jot Travis Student Union. The new Crowley Student Union needs to be completed before the Davison Academy can relocate. Nevada State Public Works governs construction of space on the University of Nevada campus. Member Brian Krolicki suggested that legislation referred to as Turnkey Lease-Purchase be researched. This legislation allows for expediting of the construction processes. This may assist in assuring that the Jot Travis Student Union Space is ready for occupancy in the Fall of 2008. Chairman Bob Davidson confirmed that his and President Jan Davidson's substantial monetary pledge to the University was made with receipt of promise that the Davidson Academy would receive thirty thousand square-feet of space in the new Math and Science Center. After the fact, it was agreed that the Davidson Academy would instead move to the Jot Travis Student Union space. President Jan Davidson suggested that more needed to be done to be sure that the Davidson Academy would take possession of the Jot Travis Student Union space in the Fall of 2008. Mr.

Herron confirmed that we are currently narrowing the issues for renovation of the Jot Travis Student Union space and making good progress.

The Legislative session will take place in approximately one month. Mr. Herron advised that he is working with Alfredo Alonzo and UNR legislative advocate Bob Dickens and sponsor Bonnie Parnell. Sen. Richard Bryan suggested that Alfredo Alonzo outline a legislative strategy and report what the Davidson Academy staff or Governing Board needs to do to facilitate.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence at this time.

Public Comments

There was no public comment at this time.

Review of Meeting Schedule for 2007

The next meeting of the Governing Board was confirmed for Monday, June 11, 2007 at 2:00pm

The following dates were proposed for future Governing Board meetings:

Monday, September 10th at 2:00pm
Monday, November 19th at 2:00pm

At this time Hon. Bruce James resumed program discussion focused on fundraising, community support/involvement and corporate sponsorship of the Davidson Institute Fellows Program.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the members of the Governing Board in public meeting, Chairman Bob Davidson declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Colleen Harsin, Clerk