

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

September 29, 2008

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Governing Board was called to order at 2:05 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 Clerk of the Board Colleen Harsin. Chairman Bob Davidson, President Jan Davidson, Mark Herron, Annette Whittemore, Eugene Paslov, Hon. Bruce R. James, Keith Rheault, Hon. Brian Krolicki and Milton Glick were present. Paul Dugan was not present.

B. Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions were completed by Chairman Bob Davidson.

C. Approval of Minutes for Meeting of January 14, 2008

Chairman Bob Davidson requested approval of the Minutes for the meeting of June 16, 2008. Motion was made by President Jan Davidson for approval of the Minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Hon. Bruce R. James. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Bob Davidson requested approval of the Agenda as submitted. Motion was made by Mark Herron and seconded by Annette Whittemore. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Reports

E.1. Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

a. Jot Travis Building Construction Update

Mark Herron, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer reported that construction of the Jot Travis Building is complete and the punch lit items are close to completion.

E2. Academy Director

a. Student Comments

Colleen Harsin, Director reported that the Davidson Academy Student Counsel Elections were held and the following student officers were elected:

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President – Cody Nolan
Vice President – Melanie Malinas
Secretary – Benjamin Lokshin
Treasurer – Misha Raffiee

Ms. Harsin then introduced student officers Melanie Malinas and Misha Raffiee. The students reported that the main goal of student counsel this year was to be recognized by the University's ASUN. They are planning a fall festival, spirit week in conjunction with the University's Homecoming, fundraising activities and a winter dance. They are also looking into making the Davidson Academy more environmentally conscious through expanding recycling opportunities.

b. Non-Regulatory Guidelines

Ms. Harsin referred the Board to TAB 2 of their Board packets for a copy of the recently signed Non-Regulatory Guidelines by Keith Rheault (attached hereto by reference). Ms. Harsin thanked Dr. Rheault for his review and approval.

c. Staffing Updates

Ms. Harsin advised the Board that the Academy's Guidance Counselor had recently left the Academy due to her husband being transferred out of the area. The Academy has one guidance counselor presently and is also receiving counseling and advising support for students from the Family Consultant team through Davidson Institute for Talent Development.

d. General Program Update

Ms. Harsin reported that the Academy is offering twenty-six courses this semester and has a much larger Jazz Band with try-outs in place. The Academy's current enrollment is 70 students with 3 possibly entering later in the year. The State Attendance Audit is scheduled for October 21, 2008.

Student orientation took place prior to the start of school on Wednesday and Thursday, August 20th and 21st. Back to School Night is scheduled for September 30th. Parent Group Officer elections were recently completed and the new officers are to be announced during Back to School Night. A very successful fire drill was completed, a shelter in place drill is to be scheduled, the Davidson Academy Emergency Plan is going through final updates and student personal safety training has been completed.

Consultant Deborah Claymon will visit the Academy on November 4th and conduct a college essay writing seminar and a question and answer opportunity for students.

National Merit Scholar Semifinalists were recently announced and include the following Davidson Academy Students: Rachel Ellison; Kelsey James; Melanie Malinas; Cody Nolan and Andy Wei. Kelsey James is no longer an Academy student but was at the time she applied for the National Merit Scholarship.

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e. Application and Admissions

The updated application was made available to the public on September 2nd. Five applications have been received. Julie Dudley and Kristin Busse deserve a lot of credit for their work on the application updates. Mark Herron confirmed that the new application was also review by counsel.

3. Media and Outreach

a. Update

Katie Graham, Director of Outreach reported that the Academy's Open House event took place on August 19th; 140 guests attended along with all three local Reno television stations and the Reno-Gazette Journal. Academy student Casey Acklin is an entrant for the Discovery Science Challenge and is moving on to the next round of competitions. The National Merit Finalists were recently announced in the Reno Gazette Journal and Board member Annette Whittemore is featured as Alumni of the Year in the University's magazine *Silver & Blue*. We now have 200+ subscribers to the Explore The Davidson Academy e-Newsletter. Three tours for prospective students are scheduled on a monthly basis through the end of the year and the Academy continues to accommodate individual tour requests with the assistance of Davidson Institute for Talent Development. The Academy's Annual Report is going through final edits and should be available by the next Board meeting. Direct mail outreach is being completed and the Academy will be purchasing the Talent Search lists.

F. Correspondence

There was no correspondence at this time.

G. Public Comments

Public comments were made by Pat Silverstein, Thea Gochicoa, John Wade and Eugenia Larson.

H. Consent Calendar

There were no Consent Calendar items at this time.

I. General Business

There were no General Business items at this time.

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J. Adjournment

a. Review of Proposed Meeting Dates for 2009

The following dates were approved for Governing Board meetings in 2009:

Monday, January 26, 2009 at 2:00pm

Monday, June 15, 2009 at 2:00pm

Monday, October 5, 2009 at 2:00pm

Monday, November 16, 2009 at 2:00pm

Hon. Brian Krolicki requested to return to General Business items and suggested that further discussion should occur concerning identifying important issues possibly affecting the Academy in the upcoming State Legislative session.

Motion for meeting adjournment was made by Mark Herron and seconded by Annette Whittemore. There being no further business to come before the members of the Governing Board in public meeting, the meeting was declared adjourned by Chairman Bob Davidson at 3:10pm

Respectfully submitted by
Colleen Harsin, Clerk of the Board