



DUAL IMMERSION ACADEMY

DIA Board Meeting Minutes, August 11, 2020

Began at 6:02 pm

Board members: Gabriela Benitez, Danielle LeCourt, Rich Stowell, Mac Newbold
DIA Staff: Angela Fanjul, Rocio G. Fuentes
Other: Nate, Red Apple

Financial Report:

Budget Report

Nate Adams from Red Apple

Nate shared the financial reports with the board via e-mail. The majority of expenses were in the DIA Summer Camp. In October we will reassess the budget to see where we are and plan accordingly should any adjustments are needed.

Administrative Report:

Director's Report

Approval of any policies that left from last meeting

DIA Early Literacy Plan SY 2020-2021

Because we had no new data from the end of the 2019-2020 school year, we have been directed by the state to choose two (2) goals from last year and continue to work on and track them this school year. As we only had two goals last year, and due to COVID-19 we will continue to work on these goals from last years approved plan.

Goal 1

By June 2021, DIA will increase the percentage of 1st grade students' proficiency on DORF-Accuracy from MOY to EOY by 22% by implementing direct phonics instruction, as found in 95% and Wonders and by continuously monitoring progress in PLC every 2 weeks. This goal was chosen because we continue to see a drop in 1st grade data from MOY to EOY.

Goal 2

By June 2021, DIA will increase the percentage of 3rd Grade students at or above grade level according to Acadience composite from BOY to EOY by 2% implementing direct phonics and vocabulary instruction, as found in Wonders, continuously monitoring progress in PLC every 2 weeks. This goal was chosen because we want to maintain the students coming into 3rd grade at benchmark or above, and move 2-3 students below benchmark to at or above.

Motion to Approve the DIA Early Literacy Plan SY 2020-2021 as presented above.

Motion by: Rich Stowell

Seconded by: Mac Newbold

Motion passed unanimously

Summer school program ending update

The program ended officially and overall the program went very well. We shut down once due to COVID-19 and were able to safely continue the program after closure. We never had more than 18 students in a group. Even though we had a brief closure, we had expenses. It was a great opportunity that helped us learn how to best solve issues due to COVID-19 and prepare for the reopening in the fall.

Fall return plans

DIA will reopen in the fall and we will conduct a soft opening, meaning that two weeks prior to the full opening date, we will have no more than 50 students per day for 3 hours. Teachers will help students walk through the new routine and safety procedures at DIA from the time students arrive to parent pick up time at the end of the school day. In addition, students go through assessments to see where they are academically.

We also had a zoom meeting with parents to inform them about school reopening date, procedures and protocols that will be in place to ensure the safest environment for all students at school. We will continue to inform parents for not all participated in the zoom meeting. We will also provide training for parents to ensure they know how to access all of our on-line platforms. We recently ended parent technology-training sessions to address this and it was helpful to those in attendance.

DIA parents receive school and COVID-19 information through Instagram, Facebook and Class Dojo, being the last one the most used application by DIA parents.

Discussion regarding mental health issues due to COVID-19. DIA will have a mental health therapist available to provide social emotional learning support for students and for parents as needed.

In addition, there are two teacher openings at DIA for a middle school science teacher and RT.

Enrollment

Currently we have 464 students registered and out of those students, 141 chose on-line learning from home. We have 10 children who dropped out and will be home schooled. DIA parents with children on on-line learning can opt out of on-line learning to in-person learning at the end of each trimester.

Closed Session

Closed meeting under UT 52-4-205 (as needed)

Re-open the meeting for board vote (as needed)

None.

Board Business: Report, information, discussion, and relevant votes (if any) (25 min)

Board Brief

Official Board Legal Statement regarding DIA Reopening in the Fall

Danielle will draft a letter and send it Erin for his review and recommendations.

Annual Board Training

Rich Stowell

Tabled for the next board meeting.

Research/Topics

Danielle LeCourt

Danielle will send the board a full report on research related to police brutality and the impact on Blacks and Hispanics. The research shows impact in missed school attendance, GPA, high school dropouts and unfinished college education.

DIA director indicated that during the DIA's summer camp, DIA students did writing about police brutality, which she will share with the board, maintaining student's names confidential.

Candidates for Board Membership

Gabriela Benitez

Gabriela reminded the board Teri Nielsen sent the board an e-mail including her interest in joining the board, her career experience and abilities that she believes can be of benefit to the board and DIA. Board members expressed their agreement in Teri Nielsen joining the board. Gabriela will ask her to join the next board meeting to propose her and vote her as a new member. In addition, Gabriela indicated that Teri is recruiting a CPA that may be interested in joining the board.

Teacher Appreciation

DIA director expressed the board her appreciation for her staff and the willingness to reopening in the fall and all the work they are doing in preparation to school opening. The board suggested each member to do a 15-second video thanking the staff for all their hard work and dedication, especially during the pandemic. The board members will send Danielle their 15-second videos and she will put them together in one for DIA staff.

Motion to Approve the July 14, 2020 and July 21, 2020 Board Minutes

Motion by: Gabriela Benitez

Seconded by: Danielle LeCourt

Motion passed unanimously

Meeting concluded at 7:30 pm

Next meeting: 6:00 pm on Tuesday, September 8, 2020