

Peter Newman, Principal

Da Vinci Charter Academy Advisory Board

1400 E 8th Street, Davis, CA 95616

Wednesday, 13th of March, 2024

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Members: Addison Weaver, Adela Johnson, Allison Powell, Calvin Laurenson, Foster Griffith, Kait Sangster, Mallak Younis, Matthew Weaver, Peter Newman, Scott Stephen Bell, Summer Lee.

Minutes:

1. Inclusive Opener- One thing you are looking forward to over spring break
 - a. Good things that are happening- Game night, new recruits, parent feedback on 7th grade onboarding, 8th grade awards night ceremony, helping Emerson build schedule.
 - b. Areas of concern- students who refuse to do work, why aren't some moving on to the HS?
 - c. JH is largely missing due to project tonight
2. DVCA Admin Updates
 - a. Enrollment: DVCA hosted a lottery today. We remain under enrolled from where we are now. 10 students fewer than when we started this year. Some students are still in the application process. No cut off for enrollment- if there is space we will take them. In smaller programs, we have limited capacity, so there is a waitlist for those programs
 - b. Registration: Counselors are working to get students signed up for classes. Next up is the building master schedule. Challenge is aligning to partner schools- must wait for them to be done. Currently over staffed but there have not been staffing cuts making space for more electives and support work- opportunities! Not sure about some of the course offerings- Honors Chem and double block Math 1. How can we better support Math 1 during the day? Answer is a double block.
 - c. Budget Update: DVCA is in a good spot (surplus compared to DJUSD's deficit). Much of this comes from Block Grants being used to save gen ed dollars. Attendance rates are/ will continue to impact budgets. Questions about money assigned to each student and each day of attendance. Messaging has increased use of independent study which has improved attendance rate (second time this year where we have improved our attendance rate). Lower allocated rate for next year.
 - d. Apprenticeship Grant: Denied this grant which would have paid for apprenticeships over the summer. We asked for the max like DSHS but we do not have as many kids and did not get it.
 - e. Golden State Pathways Grant: Honing in on approach to writing grant-increasing pathways and planning future pathways. DVCA is going for \$1.5-\$2 million dollars.

3. LCAP Process- handed out LCAP document to all attendees. Overview of document and explanation of how LCAP is used.
 - a. Feedback on Narrative and Areas of Focus
 - i. Adjust to reflect that in goal 4, we have a different Graduate Profile
 - ii. Areas of Growth
 1. What is the state's definition of chronic absenteeism (10-15 days)
 2. Initial impressions include that it is very test score heavy. Track SLO progress. Comparative data to state data or even district averages? This will be displayed on the DVCA website after being approved by the board in June. How many EL students are now reclassified? DVCA first semester grade data resulted in Math Lab (this was last year 2022-23). This year Homework Club takes the place of math intervention but it is not as effective as it is voluntary. Struggle to struggled* Goal with math intervention is to build a ramp to IM 1 (elective math credit in the first semester and full IM 1 math credit (2 semesters) in the second semester). Currently nothing similar for English/ reading/ writing. Targeted writing might be something we offer in the future. Data between DSHS and DVCA math data is comparable. Some students lack motivation to be successful in math/ english. What strategies could we employ that would speak to increasing motivation? Lack of connection in 8th and 9th grade students to process/ plan ahead for the future. Data for ninth grade remains similar despite change of location.
 - iii. Areas of focus- determines where we will plan/ apply dollars (define Student Support team). Use these challenges to build program/ something to move towards.
 1. Academics
 2. Absenteeism
 - a. 1 day Independent Study is not new
 3. College Career Readiness (CCR)
 - a. Dual enrollment- how do we know how many students are taking college classes beyond dual enrollment? These can be hand counted but there needs to be a better way of data collection. Will partner with Scott Thomsen to build this. Goal is 80% of students take one. What would it take to add additional options/ pathways? Time, planning and staffing. Currently contemplating a pivot to game design and product innovation. Build knowledge around maker space so it can be used during signature projects- move Project Invent not as a capstone but more open to all. Ensuring that all students can get the classes they want/ need to be completers. We should be knocking it out of the park with CCR. (Question on whether we do both college and career readiness or if those are two separate things). Persistence data matches the national average.
 4. Culture- Seek out correlative patterns between this and above

data points. Freshmen data is the same despite the campus shift. This will result in a ninth grade focus (potentially teaching team). Shift the onboarding down to the ninth grade experience. Who will be that anchor- Bio and English most likely. Adjustments at HS and JH necessary. Need to focus on retaining ninth to 10th grade. Collaborative effort to examine bridge between 8th and 9th.

- b. Group Work within the four driving goals of LCAP and Strategic plan.
 - i. Next steps are to identify action steps around the goals.
- 4. Optimistic Closure

Ongoing 2023-24 Initiatives

- Annual Recruitment Activities
- Community Building Partnering with Boosters

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- April 10th
- May 8th

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