DUAL IMMERSION ACADEMY

DIA Board of Directors Agenda
September 15, 2026
Dual Immersion Academy

The meeting opened at 5:30 pm
In-person

Attendance

Members present:	Mac Newbold, Preston Reynolds, Rocio Fuentes, Dr. Victor Jimenez, Travis Dom
Absent:	Teri Slaugh & Lucia Murdock
DIA staff:	Angela Fanjul, Jazmeen Gonzalez, & Jeff Biesinger

Budget Report by Jeff Biesinger
Jeff Biesinger presented the budget report and said no budget re-approvals are needed at this time. Enrollment on the October 1 count is expected to be lower than anticipated, at approximately 385 students. The school believes it is being underfunded in Special Education. Staff will contact the state to determine next steps, review whether past reporting has been accurate, and look into applying for emergency SpEd funding. Local revenues are unchanged, though Jeff hopes to improve them. State revenues are expected to decrease by $200,000.

On the expenditure side, the summer school salary figure is final. Professional and technical services have been adjusted to current needs. Substitute coverage will be handled more internally, which has reduced costs in that area. Special Education contracted services will decrease now that the school has more professional and qualified staff. Professional Development was reduced by $10,000 because some training can now be provided in-house. Grant writing services will move from a flat monthly fee to a commission on grants awarded. Business services did not fully reflect actual spending, so Procurify expenses are now recorded under office and classroom supplies. For IT services, the school set a base amount it can pay, and the provider agreed to work within it given DIA's history as a client. Marketing has been reduced because the previous company did not produce strong results. Marketing will now be more targeted and handled in-house. The school is currently at 4% of the budget.

Enrollment will affect the overall budget. Angela has made spending cuts and is monitoring employee hours and salaries, and the school has communicated with the investor. Enrollment is a challenge across the area. DIA's enrollment has declined over the past four years, which reflects a new norm that many schools are adjusting to. On a positive note, the school is not "mortgage poor," and enrollment would have to drop significantly before that became a concern. The board discussed next steps for addressing the downturn:

- Extending the school's radius of influence

- Diversifying its clientele
- Broadening the message about DIA in the community

Director's Executive Report by Angela Fanjul

Angela Fanjul presented the Executive Report to the Board for September 2026. The VIA parent organization is working to establish parent leaders for each classroom, and teachers are encouraged to welcome and support the effort. The school play is also beginning to take shape. Angela noted that the school continues to pursue partnerships that bring programs, expertise, and services to DIA at no cost. At the same time, enrollment has dropped to a critical level, and responsible budget reductions will be needed. These decisions will be approached carefully, with the goal of protecting classroom instruction and student services as much as possible. Angela emphasized that every member of the school community plays a role in retaining current families, welcoming new students, and sharing the good things happening at DIA.

On 180-day planning and goals, beginning-of-year testing is nearly complete. Next steps include reviewing the data and working with teachers to adjust their teaching plans in six- to eight-week cycles. The DLI baseline framework is being surveyed, and more data will be shared next month. Angela also shared results from the first Teacher Pulse Check on educator sustainability, collected September 4–9 from 16 teachers:

- 63% of teachers rated their workload as strained.
- 56% described themselves as thriving or doing well.
- Most teachers agreed they feel supported by leadership.
- Workload and TA support were identified as the areas most in need of attention.
- Three teachers currently have no teacher assistant.
- Other issues raised: workload and pacing under the new curriculum, an unclear TA role, information lost across Slack and email, grade book problems, and the need for a school social worker to respond to in-the-moment student incidents.

Enrollment stands at 403 active students as of September 11, 2026, with 384 students in grades K-8 and 19 preschool students. Angela noted that the loss of a significant number of students in a short time has had a significant impact on the budget.

Angela highlighted two new partnerships, both at no cost to the school:

- **Project GRIT:** DIA will partner with Gifted Music School's Project GRIT (Growth, Resilience, Instinct & Tenacity), which provides music and instrument instruction to Title I schools. GRIT instructors will teach the classes, instruments will be provided, and the program will be located in the first-grade hallway. It is expected to begin in October and will follow the elementary specialist schedule, giving elementary teams more common prep and collaboration time. GRIT teachers will be introduced at the October Faculty Meeting.
- **BYU partnership:** DIA will enter a formal three-year partnership with Dr. Bryant Jensen of Brigham Young University. Dr. Jensen and his team, including PhD students working directly with PLC teams, will support PLC development, teacher development and instruction, administrative and leadership development, and long-term capacity building. Angela described the partnership as strengthening work already underway rather than adding a new initiative. More details on the timeline and staff involvement will be shared soon.

On grants and fundraising, awards have been received for the 27PYJ MASTER Program ($12,000$), $theSchoolBasedMentalHealthGrant$(36,000), and the Safety Specialist Grant (

3,000). $Applications have been submitted for the LHM Grant$ (10,000) and AMEX ($25,000). The school is continuing its partnership with grant writer Mark Anderson on a percentage basis rather than a monthly fee. Angela asked for the board's help in identifying new grants and opportunities.

Construction is close to completion. Ben Knecht has left his position at Will Group, and the school has received information about a new project manager. A playground ribbon cutting will be scheduled, and board members are encouraged to attend. Feria de las Culturas will be held Friday, October 23, highlighting DIA's vision and mission. The board's immediate attention was requested for approval of the School Fee Schedule.

School Fee Schedule Approval
The board voted on the proposed 2026-27 school fee schedule, which was shared for review at the August meeting.

Motion to: Approve the 2026-27 School Fee Schedule
Motioned by: Mac Newbold
Seconded by: Rocio Fuentes
Approved unanimously

LEA-Specific Licenses Approval
This item was postponed to the October meeting.

The Role of DIA's Board
This item was postponed to the October meeting.

School Lands Trust Training
The board acknowledged completion of the School Lands Trust Training. No further discussion was held.

Open and Public Meetings Act Training
The board acknowledged that the Open and Public Meetings Act Training has been completed and discussed. Members were reminded not to use personal email for board purposes.

Consent Agenda
The board reviewed and approved the consent agenda, including the minutes from the August 18, 2026 meeting.

Motion to: Approve the Consent Agenda
Motioned by: Mac Newbold
Seconded by: Preston Reynolds
Approved unanimously

Board Retreat
A survey will be sent to board members to determine retreat dates. The school will also look into the budget for a possible overnight retreat.

Vacation Payout and Budget Policy
This item may be added to the November agenda. The board noted that balancing the budget is the first priority. The date for assessing and discussing the policy is to be determined.

Closed Session under UT 52-4-205 (as needed)
Re-open the meeting for board vote (as needed)
[None held]

Motion to: Close the Meeting
Motion made by: Mac Newbold
Seconded by: Preston Reynolds
The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 7:00 pm

Next meeting:
Tuesday, October 20, 2026