



FOCUS ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 27, 2025

Agenda

4:30 p.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Board Chair James Rossman called the meeting to order at 4:50pm. Board members James Ballard, Karl Langefeld, Ildes Sotolo, and Beth McIntyre were present. Staff members Josephine Isenbergh, Loretta Gallo-Lopez, Elisabeth Kraft-Radka, and Meagan Zaharakes were present. Clayton Clemens of Project Focus was also present. Absent: Doug Amoroso

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA- Board member Mr. Langefeld made a motion to approve the Board minutes for December 9, 2024 and Approval of November and December District Financials, Ms. McIntyre seconded, unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT - No members present

FOCUS MOMENT-

- We received a Temple Terrace school support grant to purchase Kidney tables for our math and reading classrooms.
- Increased student enrollment.
- We received a generous donation of Art supplies.

BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS- NONE

COMMITTEE ACTION REPORTS

Financial Committee-

- Continuing to monitor the current year's outlook. Employee reductions made in December and the positive increase in student enrollment have helped revenue by a significant amount. However, we are still experiencing a deficit.
- Discussed how to promote student enrollment more in the future and how to expand our name.

Governance Committee- No Comment

Marketing Committee-

- Currently enrolling students for open seats this year and the 2025-26 school year. There is a 25-student gap to make up based on students aging out and students moving to the Transition program. We will be attending the school choice fair held at Zoo Tampa and hope this will help increase enrollment.

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ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Teacher Out-of-Field Assignment - Robin Carbonell is the only teacher currently teaching out-of-field in the certification area of Elementary Education K-6. The principal noted that she has passed the exam and is awaiting to have the certification added to her license by the FLDOE. Board approval is required.
- We discussed the hiring of a Project Manager for our Steering Committee. Mr. Ballard emphasized the committee's importance in researching and exploring different operating models for the school, particularly as we continue to face enrollment challenges. Some of these challenges arise from the restriction on placing students on an Access Points curriculum if their IQ is above 67. The Steering Committee will evaluate our current operations in light of these enrollment issues and will be able to make recommendations to increase enrollment and ensure that we align with the school's vision and mission.

Project Focus – Executive Director

- Purchased 3 new Lyra boards to enhance classroom learning.
- Partners in Progress Breakfast is scheduled for April 17th, 2025 at 1920 Ybor.
- Planning a Happy hour in the summer.
- Gala 2025 is also being coordinated.
- Donations and grants for January have been strong this month.
- A Black tie event is in the works to benefit Project Focus

COMMITTEE/ACTION ITEMS

Reminder: Board members must recuse from voting on any item that may be a conflict of interest.

Approval of Teacher Out-of-Field placement(Robin Carbonell); Mrs. McIntyre made a motion to approve, Ms Sotelo seconded; unanimously approved.

Upcoming Meetings: February 24th, 2025; March 31st, 2025; April 28th, 2025; May 19th, 2025; June 23rd, 2025.

Adjournment: Board Chair Rossman accepted a motion to adjourn. Ms. McIntyre made a motion to adjourn, Ms. Sotelo seconded, unanimously approved to adjourn at 5:25pm

Minutes taken and prepared by Jennifer Cain, approved by board vote and confirmed by signature below:

JAMES M. ROSSMAN CHAIR
Print Name Title

Jennifer M. Rossman Feb 22, 2025
Signature and Date