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## **FOCUS ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**March 31, 2025**

**Minutes**

**4:30 p.m.**

### **Meeting Called to order:**

Board Chair James Rossman called the meeting to order at 4:38. Board members James Ballard, Karl Langefeld, and Beth McIntyre were present. Staff members Josephine Isenbergh, Loretta Gallo-Lopez, Elisabeth Kraft-Radka, and Meagan Zaharakes were present. Olga Siegenthaler was present. Clayton Clemens with Project Focus was present. Ildes Sotelo and Doug Amoroso were absent.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Karl Langefeld made a motion to approve the consent agenda; James Ballard seconded; motion approved unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE**

### **FOCUS MOMENT-**

The school has a new freezer at the Focus Cafe. One of the students on CBT at the cafe advocated to a donor for the need for a new freezer. This donor then donated a new freezer.

### **BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS - NONE**

### **COMMITTEE ACTION REPORTS**

#### **Financial Committee-**

Reviewed board financials. Still looking at a significant deficit for the year. The budget is continuing to be monitored along with the schools operating models. The team discussed forecasting what a financial model will look like for the future with the understanding that this will continuously evolve. Project Focus has approached the finance committee with regard to compensating the foundation for the time allotted by Clayton Clemens on campus for various events and activities. Project Focus has provided support relating to enrollment; grant writing ; marketing and other specific needs of the school. This collaboration aims to enhance the overall growth and success of the Academy.

### **Governance Committee-**

Focus Cafe has a new freezer purchased through a donation.

### **Marketing Committee –**

Did not meet

### **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

Mental Health Training - Loretta Gallo-Lopez discussed the staff wide training that will be occurring on April 21st regarding Youth Mental Health First Aid.

The NSLP audit in person audit is scheduled for Tuesday, April 1st. Sought approval for the Meal Provision Agreement with regard to the vendor. This was postponed for another meeting.

### **FOUNDATION REPORT**

Received \$30,000 donation from Ultraviolet Giving foundation

1920 - 7:45 Start Upcoming sustainer breakfast - Jake Schaeffer will be speaking on behalf of Valley Bank who is the breakfast sponsor. Will be showcasing the renderings of the future campus to share the vision of Focus' future campus.

June 7th - Glow Row Event at Crossfit Hyde Park. There will be teams of 10 rowing of the course of 4 hours. It is open to all ages. Hoping for 20 teams of 10. There will be food trucks and vendors at the event. All proceeds from the event will go towards the foundation.

A few news stations have picked up the story on Transition working with AquaTech, including WFLA and Bay News 9

### **Project Manager Update - Olga Siegenthaler**

Ms. Siegenthaler presented her strategic report on the challenges of enrollment faced by Focus Academy, highlighting changes in federal and state mandates regarding students eligible for a modified curriculum and the state IQ requirement of 67 or below. Ms. Siegenthaler identified several environmental changes, including a decline in enrollment and concerns about not fulfilling our original mission and vision by restricting enrollment criteria. To maintain the integrity of the current charter school while ensuring long-term sustainability, the founders are considering establishing an independent Focus Day School, a private elementary school serving students grades 3 through 6. This new school could serve as a stepping stone toward establishing a private institution that could serve the same population as Focus Academy upon the conclusion of its charter agreement with the local school district if Focus Academy chooses not to renew. The establishment of Focus Day School may present an opportunity to maintain the founders' core mission of Focus Academy while adapting to current challenges which are not expected to change.

### **COMMITTEE/ACTION ITEMS**

Approval of February 24 Board Minutes- James Ballard moved; Beth McIntyre second; All approved

Jan and Feb District Financials- Beth McIntyre moved; Karl Langsfeld second; All approved  
Project Focus Agreement-James Ballard moved; Beth McIntyre second; All approved  
Meal Provision Agreement - did not require board approval

**Upcoming Meetings:** April 28th, 2025; May 19th, 2025; June 23rd, 2025.

**Adjournment:** Board Chair Rossman accepted a motion to adjourn at 6:00. - Beth McIntyre Moved; James Ballard second; All Approved

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

Minutes taken and prepared by Meagan Zaharakes, approved by board vote and confirmed by signature below:

JAMES M. ROSSMAN

CHAIR

Print Name Title

James M. Rossman

April 28, 2025

Signature and Date