



FOCUS ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Monday, June 23, 2025

Board Minutes

4:30 p.m.

Meeting Called to order:

Board Chair James Rossman called the meeting to order at 4:40PM. Board members James Ballard and Karl Langefeld were present. Staff members Josephine Isenbergh, Loretta Gallo-Lopez, Elisabeth Kraft-Radka, and Meagan Zaharakes were present. Clayton Clemens with Project Focus was present. Olga Sigenthaler, Doug Amoroso, and Beth McIntyre attended via Zoom. Ildes Sotolo was absent.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Karl Langefeld moved; James Ballard second - all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

FOCUS MOMENT- NONE

BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS - NONE

COMMITTEE ACTION REPORTS

Financial Committee-

Facing continued financial pressures. Still awaiting the state to give us full funding for February FTE. In addition, we were shorted funding for two students in the October FTE count.. These funds were not granted due to technicalities on the side of the on going problems with HCPS Synergy software. It is important to note that Focus Academy was in full compliance with all documentation and therefore has asked our attorney to intercede on our behalf.

Discussed budget for upcoming year which are constrained based on limited enrollment. Discussed the day school co-locating for the first 4 1/2 months of the year which will be beneficial to budget as costs will be shared for various resources.

Due to a very tight budget, we are experiencing significant constraints that are impacting staffing levels and limiting our ability to offer raises or bonuses for the upcoming year.

In order to maintain financial stability and ensure the continued operation of essential programs and services, we must be especially stringent in how we allocate resources.

Governance Committee-

Important language has been added to Focus' handbooks and contracts for the 2025-26 school year. Looking at adding in information regarding tardies, parent contracts, parent volunteers, and student behavior expectations. All of these have been under the guidance of Focus Academy's attorney. This information is being added in an effort to increase parent participation throughout the year and to decrease student behaviors on campus. This will also help parents to better conceptualize what the school's expectations are for their students.

Marketing Committee –

Currently at 115 student - much of the conversation pertained to changes in plans surrounding the day school and where co-locating. Focus Cafe has been open over the summer and has been very beneficial

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Focus Day School - Have been approved by the health department and all paperwork has been submitted. Team is very close to having a contract and is working on having the future property re-zoned. Awaiting a conditional approval in order for families to be able to apply for the day school and the family empowerment scholarship. Staff have a goal of opening the school with 10 students. Google Ads were sent out last week which has resulted in a few interested families. Team feels that once they are listed on the Step Up for Students website, the school will gain more traction.

Since Focus Day School will be temporarily located on the Focus Academy campus, Focus Academy has calculated a rental fee for the use of its facilities during this period. This fee may include shared services such as phone and internet (unless an independent solution is arranged), as well as cleaning services and janitorial supplies.

The rental cost will be assessed on a per-student basis. All technology equipment will remain the property of Focus Day School. Any furniture provided by Focus Academy—anticipated to be minimal—will remain with Focus Academy after Focus Day School vacates the premises.

FOUNDATION REPORT

The Glow Row was very successful - had 300 attendees and raised \$45,000. Got a scholarship for our VR work force training program from Suncoast wherein they will be providing a 3 year scholarship. PF Advisory Council will be starting next month - the goal of this council will be to help Project Focus increase their presence and to be able to call on them for a variety of purposes. Young advisory council has also been meeting which also helps to raise awareness. Sunrise Yoga - had 75 attendees. Want to make this a regular event where proceeds will go to Project Focus. The Gala is scheduled for October 18 at the Tampa Yacht Club.

COMMITTEE/ACTION ITEMS

April District Financials - James Ballard moved; Doug Amoroso second - all approved
2025-26 Budget - Doug Amoroso moved; James Ballard second - all approved
All handbook changes - James Ballard moved; Karl Langefeld second - all approved
Co-locating day school - Beth McIntyre moved; Karl Langefeld second - all approved

Upcoming Meetings: TBD 25-2026 School Year

Adjournment: Board Chair Rossman accepted a motion to adjourn at 5:18 PM - James Ballard moved; Beth McIntyre 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:

<u>James M. Rossman</u>	<u>Chair</u>
Print Name Title	
<u>James M. Rossman</u>	<u>Aug 18, 2025</u>
Signature and Date	