Focus Academy™

Where Education Meets Life™

FOCUS ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Monday, September 22, 2025

Board Minutes

Meeting Called to order:

Board Chair James Rossman called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM. 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. Clayton Clemens with Project Focus was present. Ildes Sotelo and Doug Amoroso were absent.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Karl Langefeld Moved, James Ballard; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

FOCUS MOMENT-

Focus Academy's special olympics flag football team won both of their games for Special Olympics over the weekend. We also had a special feature on the news showcasing the MOSI CBT. Our Parent Open House was held on Sept. 11 and we had about an 80% turn out. Parents had very positive feedback regarding everything they experienced.

BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS - NONE

COMMITTEE ACTION REPORTS

Financial Committee-

Retirement Plan: The financial committee met with representatives from a new retirement plan company. The proposed plan is both more cost-effective and more comprehensive than the current option. It would also allow affiliated entities under Project Focus (e.g., Focus Forward) to participate. The committee is gathering additional information and developing a plan of action before presenting the recommendation to the board for a vote.

Millage Referendum Funds: Through the Millage Referendum, the school will receive additional funds that can be distributed to staff. A preliminary allocation plan must be completed by Friday, September 25. This plan will require board approval but can be revised as needed in the future.

Enrollment & Advertising: For the first time in several years, Focus Academy has established a waiting list. This reflects the success of recent advertising efforts.

IDEA Funds: Administration continues to work on resolving outstanding issues with the district and state regarding IDEA funds for the 2024–25 school year.

PF-Exec Director was acknowledged for his ongoing contributions to Focus Academy, particularly in the areas of enrollment, community engagement and school enhancements./ grants. His advocacy and development efforts have had a measurable positive impact on student resources and community relationships.

Governance Committee-

The Governance Committee reviewed existing policies and procedures and noted their effectiveness. In particular, the newly implemented policies on parent engagement have had a positive impact on strengthening school–family collaboration.

Marketing Committee –

The Marketing Committee discussed the advertising strategies currently in place and the positive results being observed, including continued features on local news stations.

In addition, the zoning lawyers and Karl will be assisting administration in navigating the regulatory requirements with St. Catherine's to ensure that the new campus can open as scheduled in January.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Need an approval of the school calendar for the 2025-26 school year.

FOUNDATION REPORT

The Gala is scheduled for Oct. 18. There is about $120,000 committed in sponsorships.

Upcoming events:

Jan. 16 - golf tournament

Giving Breakfast - Mar. 26

Glow Row - April 25 at Cigar City Brewing

The Foundation recently presented to the city council, who expressed strong support for Focus' mission, and also engaged with the county. Project Focus met with its financial advisor to discuss the next major steps for the planned future campus.

Clay, Josephine, and Loretta are visiting various living communities to gather ideas on features and considerations for Focus' planned residential community. They are also consulting with others to identify key needs in the development of such housing.

Edward Briggs is actively lobbying the state to include specific funding for Focus in the budget. In addition, the Foundation is in preliminary discussions with the church about a potential expansion and renovation of the main office building to create additional classroom and office space if appropriations are approved.

COMMITTEE/ACTION ITEMS

District Financials:

James Ballard moved for approval; Beth McIntyre second - all approved

2025-26 School Calendar:

Beth McIntyre moved for approval; Karl Langefeld second - all approved

Upcoming Meetings: October 27th, 2025; November 17th, 2025; December 15th, 2025; January 26th, 2026; February 23rd, 2026; March 30th, 2026; April 27th, 2026; May 18th, 2026; June 22nd, 2026

Adjournment:

Board Chair Rossman accepted a motion to adjourn, Karl Langefeld 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

Oct 27, 2025

Signature and Date