MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FUTURE LEADERS INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL
January 11, 2018

Board members present: Rudy Austin, Jon Drucker, Ross Harold, Jay Hatfield, Andy Hutcher, Roberta Kelly, Rachel Klein, Joan Wicks, Gilda Wray.

Others present: John Harrison York (FLI Leadership Team), Dani McPartlin (FLI Leadership Team), Jody Flowers (FLI Leadership Team), Rusty Slovenec (FLI Leadership Team), London Price (FLI Staff).

By phone: Annie Adams and Katherine Brown. Ms. Adams and Ms. Brown did not vote on any matters put forth to the Board for a vote during the meeting.

Absent: Natalie Deak.

The Board meeting began at approximately 5:35 p.m. at Godiva and was called to order by Andy Hutcher.

1. Mr. Hutcher welcomed all the Board meeting participants.

2. The Board then voted on the following item:

    a. *Upon motion duly made, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the November 30, 2017 meeting.*

3. London Price, FLI's Extended Day Manager, gave a presentation on FLI's Extended Day program, which is mandatory Monday through Friday for all students in Kindergarten through 5th grades. Middle School students are required to attend twice per week, with additional days available for students in need. The program has a long history at FLI, with a mixture of new and perennial offerings each year. Current offerings include: African drumming, chess, cooking, physical education, student government, yearbook and visual arts, as well as additional programs produced in partnership with institutions such as American Ballet Theater, HBO, Planned Parenthood and ScholarStem. Ms. Price answered questions from the Board regarding classroom management and the infusion of academic content into the Extended Day program.

4. Members of the Leadership Team delivered an update and answered questions from the Board regarding the following instructional and operational topics:

    a. The results of the first Step literacy assessment of the school year. The Board discussed the detailed written report with analysis for each classroom K-3. Overall, FLI students demonstrated strong year-over-year growth. Students remain in the Step program until they test out of it; therefore, a number of 4th and 5th graders are still in the program, and that a number of 3rd graders have tested out of it. Jody Flowers answered questions from the Board regarding the data.

b. The school's partnership with Power My Learning, which is focused on utilizing technology as an integral part of classroom instruction. The school is in its second year with the program, which has become very popular with FLI's instructional staff. All teachers are now using elements of the program. Rusty Slovenec described the process by which the Power My Learning approach will integrate into the February 2018 benchmark exams. All FLI students are given a computer and utilize Google Classroom.

c. The 2018 Summer Academy Program. The results of the upcoming benchmark exams will help FLI leadership and teachers identify those students for which the program will be mandatory. The goal is to again have a program that is staffed exclusively with current and former FLI instructional staff. Dani McPartlin and others answered questions from the Board, including with regards to a remote program.

d. Recruiting for the 2018-19 school year and the school's enhanced approach to student recruiting. Applications are up 10% from last year. A discussion regarding attrition/retention followed, and the Board requested additional analyses on these metrics.

e. The school's agreement with the UFT regarding teacher evaluations and observations, was ratified in December. Teachers may now chose one of four options for observations. The agreement also allows for teachers to utilize peer reviews and videotaped observations (upon consent) to enhance the coaching and feedback process. Ms. McPartlin answered a number of questions from the Board regarding the schedule for and volume of reviews under the new agreement.

f. The monthly dashboard containing key performance indicators and other metrics, which was distributed with the Board packet.

5. Rudy Austin, on behalf of the Finance Committee, and John Harrison York discussed the school's financials as of the November month-end close. Mr. York provided an overview of and answered questions regarding the financial and operational effects of the new state law on Paid Family Leave. Charter schools are considered private employers under the law, and therefore FLI will be providing the enhanced benefits to all employees.

6. On motion duly made, the Board moved to Executive Session at approximately 6:45 p.m.

   Personnel matters were discussed. The Executive Session adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m.

The Board meeting adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m.

The next Board meeting is expected to take place at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at Ernst & Young.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine M. Brown

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Secretary