MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FUTURE LEADERS INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL
February 20, 2018

Board members present: Rudy Austin, Natalie Deak, Jon Drucker, Ross Harold, Andy Hutcher, Roberta Kelly, Rachel Klein, Gilda Wray.

Others present: John Harrison York (FLI Leadership Team), Jody Flowers (FLI Leadership Team), Rusty Slovenec (FLI Leadership Team).

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: Jay Hatfield and Joan Wicks.

The Board meeting began at approximately 5:10 p.m. at Ernst & Young and was called to order by Andy Hutcher.

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

2. John Harrison York gave a presentation on the school's enhanced approach to monitoring and following up on student attendance. New processes are in place by which the lower school and middle school attendance teams each meet weekly to review the data and determine action items. Communication protocols with families are more robust as well – counselors and others are able to spot early warning signals sooner and are able to follow up with messaging to families, including home visits where warranted. Student attendance data is an important piece of information for instructional staff and school leadership to utilize when reviewing and assessing each student's progress and challenges. Mr. York answered questions from the Board and a discussion followed.

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

    a. Student recruitment for the 2018-19 school year. Turnout at FLI information sessions has been robust, and applications are up 10% from last year. The school has continued extensive personal outreach, including efforts targeted at Spanish-speaking students. Mr. York and Ms. Flowers answered questions from the Board regarding the recruitment data as well as the school's strategy for retaining current students.

    b. The February Planning Session for the 2018-19 school year, which focused primarily on student achievement and the school's culture with regards to both staff and students. The Leadership Team will brief the Board on the outcomes of the Planning Session at the next Board meeting.

   c. The school's advocacy efforts. The city's conversion charters were recently told at a meeting with city officials that the conversion schools would not be included in the City's budget modifications for the current fiscal year. FLI and the other conversion charter schools in New York city continue to face significant financial challenges in light of their obligations under the current UFT and CSA contracts. The revenues received from the state by conversion charter schools do not take these obligations into account, and the effort to secure more funding will continue into the upcoming state legislative session. The Board discussed the ongoing advocacy work and the school's financial challenges.

   d. Saturday Academy, which has taken place six times this school year. Approximately 65 students have attended each session, and there is a targeted effort to increase attendance in the run up to the state tests.

   e. Student safety, which remains a top priority. Mr. York reviewed the school's protocols for safety drills, which follow the DOE's plan and which are coordinated with P.S. 242.

4. The Board then voted on the following item:

   a. *Upon motion duly made, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2018 meeting.*

5. Rudy Austin, on behalf of the Finance Committee, and Mr. York gave an update on behalf of the Finance Committee. The budget was reviewed and revised at the mid-point of the fiscal year as part of the school's enhanced financial management protocols. Mr. York answered questions from the Board.

6. On motion duly made, the Board moved to Executive Session at approximately 6:00 p.m.

   Personnel matters were discussed. Executive Session adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

The Board meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

The next Board meeting is expected to take place at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at Ernst & Young.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine M. Brown

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Secretary