

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FUTURE LEADERS INSTITUTE
CHARTER SCHOOL
September 18, 2019

Board Members present: Rudy Austin, Katherine Brown, Jon Drucker, Jay Hatfield, Andy Hatcher, Roberta Kelly, Joan Wicks and Gilda Wray.

Others Present: Stan Brown (FLI Leadership Team), Jody Flowers (FLI Leadership Team), Rusty Slovenec (FLI Leadership Team) and John Harrison York (prospective Board member).

Board Members Absent: Natalie Deak, Ross Harold and Rachel Klein.

The Board meeting began at approximately 5:30 p.m. at FLI and was called to order by Andy Hatcher.

1. Mr. Hatcher welcomed all of the Board meeting participants.
2. The Board voted on the following item:

Upon motion duly made, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the August 2019 Board meeting.

3. The Board reviewed and discussed the current enrollment and attendance data. Stan Brown reviewed the high-level analysis of the school's enrollment opportunities and challenges that was provided in the Board Packet and answered questions from the Board. The Board agreed that enrollment stability for both the short- and long-term remains a top priority and additional investments in furtherance of this objective are appropriate. A detailed strategy will be presented at the next Board meeting.
4. Jody Flowers provided an update on structural changes within the first grade. In light of lower enrollment, the first grade will be consolidated into one classroom and instructional staff resources will be repurposed to provide additional classroom intervention support. A discussion followed which covered the school's strategy for providing augmented support for students who are struggling and/or who otherwise require additional educational and/or emotional support resources.
5. Rudy Austin and Mr. Brown delivered the Finance Committee update. The Board reviewed the August monthly and year-to-date financials, including the drivers behind the budget-to-actual variances in the projections for FY20. Mr. Brown will work with Ryan Carter and the Finance Committee to prepare break-even analyses for FY21 and beyond.

6. Ms. Flowers and Rusty Slovenec discussed the work that was done by instructional leadership and staff in response to the school's results on the 2019 State Tests. Efforts included a comprehensive analysis of the school's results on each of the standards tested on the exams and changes to instructional programming as a result. Ms. Flowers and Mr. Slovenec discussed the specific efforts and changes that were underway in individual grade levels and classrooms, including providing additional support for certain teachers. The reading curriculum and literacy blocks for grades K through 5 have been reconfigured and refined to foster more effective instruction of specific skills and standards, and a similar effort is underway with regards to the structure of the math instructional blocks for all grades. A discussion followed.
7. Ms. Flowers and Mr. Slovenec discussed the school's engagement with Teach for America (TFA), including the benefits and limitations of the program, as well as changes made by TFA in the most recent school year.
8. It was noted that the Educational Accountability working group would soon be commencing its biweekly calls. The Board requested the working group to consider standardizing its approach to presenting interim student achievement data and updates to the Board after analyzing and discussing the information in detail on its calls.
9. The Board discussed the efforts that were underway with regards to Board recruiting, as well as the upcoming annual meeting and the process for preparing the annual slate of officers and committees/working groups.
10. On motion duly made, the Board moved to Executive Session at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Personnel matters were discussed. Executive Session adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

The Board meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

The next Board meeting will take place at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 23, at FLI.

Respectfully submitted,



Katherine M. Brown
Secretary