

Board of Trustees Meeting
January 26, 2022
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/96084001082?pwd=L2dFZGJZZDhNK3E1ZGRHRTgxRG4vdz09>

Meeting ID: 960 8400 1082

Passcode: 4B0u1a

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AGENDA

Note: For any topics marked with an asterisk, the allocated time is for questions, should they arise, from the information in the corresponding document in the Board packet.

ID	Subject	Action Required	Topic	Owner	Time
1	Announcements	N/A	a) Welcome and Announcements	a) Natalie	a) 2 minutes
2	Board Business	Board Votes	a) Approval of November Board Meeting Minutes	a) Natalie	a) 2 minutes
3	Board Business		a) Junior Council Proposal	a) Ross	a) 15 minutes
4	Academics	N/A	EAC Update: a) School Culture- FLI Suspension Data & Ramapo for Children Team Update b) Benchmark 1 Re-teach Data Update c) Attendance d) Covid Response Team Update e) DOE visit to FLI	a) Dan b) Jody/ Natalie G c/d) Rusty/ Jody e) FLI's Lead Team	a) 20 Minutes b) 15 Minutes c/d) 5 Minutes e) 5 minutes
5	Enrollment	N/A	a) Enrollment/Recruitment Update	a) Thandi	a) 10 minutes
6	Finance	N/A	Finance Committee Update: a) Monthly Financial update - December close	a) Rusty	a) 5 minutes
7	Executive Session	N/A	a) Executive Session	a) Natalie	a) TBD

¹ Anticipated length of time

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FUTURE LEADERS INSTITUTE
CHARTER SCHOOL
JANUARY 26, 2022

The Board meeting took place via Zoom as permitted by recent amendments to the New York Open Meetings Law in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Board members present: Rudy Austin, Katherine Brown, Natalie Deak, Jon Drucker, Jennifer Estrella, Fernando Garcia, Ross Harold, Jay Hatfield, Rachel Klein, Julie Wilson, and John Harrison York.

Others present: Jody Flowers (FLI Leadership Team), Thandi Edwards (FLI Staff), Natalie Gonzalez-Valdes (FLI Leadership Team), Dan Nee (FLI Leadership Team), and Rusty Slovenec (FLI Leadership Team).

The meeting began at approximately 5:35 p.m. and was called to order by Julie Wilson.

1. Ms. Wilson welcomed all attendees to the meeting.
2. *Upon motion duly made, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the December 2021 Board meeting.*
3. Dan Nee provided an overview of the year-to-date suspension data for the current school year. He discussed the drivers behind the data, noted the types of suspensions that have been administered, and reviewed FLI's historical suspension data. Mr. Nee also provided an update on the school's partnership and coaching relationship with Ramapo for Children and discussed changes that have been implemented in response to feedback received from the Ramapo Team. Mr. Nee concluded with an overview of the school's social-emotional support model and its focus on providing trauma-informed care. A discussion followed.
4. Jody Flowers reviewed the attendance data and noted that some of the decline in attendance in December was due to an increase in COVID-19 cases in FLI's student population as a result of the Omicron surge that the city experienced in late 2021.
5. Rusty Slovenec provided an update on behalf of the school's COVID-19 Response Team, which included a review of the school's updated health and safety protocols that were recently implemented in accordance with newly updated guidance from the New York City Department of Education (DOE). Mr. Slovenec outlined the school's approach and goals for keeping students in the classroom. It was noted that nearly all of FLI families opted into the testing regime and that the rate of positive cases at the school has remained far below the citywide rate in DOE schools.
6. Ms. Flowers provided an update on the recent visit by the school's charter authorizing team at the DOE in connection with FLI's application for charter renewal. Ms. Flowers

summarized the feedback received from the DOE team regarding the school's strengths and areas for further growth. Increasing enrollment of students with disabilities and augmenting FLI's instruction model for this population are the primary areas of focus. A discussion followed. The Educational Accountability working group will oversee the Leadership Team's efforts in furtherance of this priority in collaboration with the Finance Committee.

7. Thandi Edwards reviewed the Enrollment & Recruitment Dashboard as well as the 2022-2023 Application Dashboard and answered questions from the Board. Ms. Edwards provided an overview of current recruitment and marketing efforts, including targeted outreach to prospective kindergartners. A discussion followed regarding further opportunities to partner with community-based organizations in connection with the school's recruiting activities.
8. Rusty Slovenec provided an update on behalf of the Finance Committee, which included an overview of the December month-end financial results, including the drivers behind the budget-to-actual variances. Notwithstanding falling short of the budgeted enrollment figure, the school is expected to finish the year with a surplus in light of various expense savings.
9. Ross Harold presented a proposal for reactivating FLI's Junior Council, which had been founded a number of years ago with the objective of providing leverage for the Board and offering young adults in the New York City area the opportunity to engage with the FLI community. The Board expressed broad support for this initiative. Mr. Harold will oversee next steps.
10. In light of a conflict of interest with a service opportunity that he has been presented with in Mississippi, where he currently resides, John Harrison York tendered his resignation as a Trustee. On behalf of the Board, Ms. Deak thanked Mr. York for his tremendous service to FLI over the years.

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

The next Board meeting is expected to take place via Zoom at 5:30 p.m. on February 23, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine M. Brown
Secretary