

Board of Trustees Meeting

January 28, 2025

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Location:

In person at FLI

134 West 122nd street – 2nd Floor- Room 212

NY, NY 10026

Zoom Meeting Link below

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

Meeting ID: 960 8400 1082

Passcode: 4B0u1a

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) Jennifer	a) 2 minutes
2	Board Business	Board Votes	a) Approval of December Board Meeting Minutes	a) Jennifer	a) 1 minute
3	Board Business	Board Votes	a) Voting Jenee Daria-Strand onto the board	a) Jennifer/Rudy	a) 5 minutes
4	Enrollment	N/A	a) FLI's Material Revision b) Attendance Update c) Enrollment Update d) Upcoming Events- Calendar & FLI Newsletter	a) Rusty b) Jody c) Rusty/Jody d) Jody	a) 2 minutes b) 1 minute c) 5 minutes d) 3 minutes
5	Academics	N/A	a) Exhibition Day	a) Natalie/Jody	a) 5 minutes
6	Finance	N/A	a) Finance Report- December	a) Rusty	b) 5 minutes
7	Executive Session	N/A	a) Executive Session	a) Exec Committee	a) 15 minutes

*Please note that the order of events noted on the agenda may change.

¹ Anticipated length of time

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF FUTURE LEADERS INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL

January 28, 2025

The Board is transitioning toward in-person board meetings. There will be at least one per quarter

Board members present in person: Rudy Austin, Heather Northrop, Ross Harold, Rob Fratto, Jay Hatfield, Fernando Garcia, Jennifer Estrella

Board members present by Zoom: Jennifer Peña- DeTata, Rachel Klein

Others present: Jody Flowers (Principal), Natalie Gonzalez-Valdes (Assistant Principal), Rusty Slovenic (Asst. Principal), Jenee Daria-Strand (prospective board member)

The meeting began at approximately 5:34 p.m. and was called to order by Rudy Austin.

1. *Welcome.* Rudy Austin welcomed all attendees to the January Meeting.
2. *Minutes.* Upon motion duly made, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the December 2024 Board meeting.
3. *Material Revision Revote.* Upon motion duly made, the Board unanimously voted to approve the (revised) material revision request regarding student enrollment for the 2025-26 school year. The revision stated that our minimum enrollment would be 85% of our enrollment cap.
4. *New Board Member.* Following formal introduction by Rudy Austin and the governance committee, the board unanimously confirmed Jenee Daria-Strand onto the board. Her term will run two years.
5. *Attendance & Enrollment Update.*

Attendance was at 88%, which is higher than both District 5 and 7 and similar to DOE's system wide amount. There are four students on the roster who are currently not attending school on a regular basis. Some of them have not been attending school and the families have been difficult to reach. The team and the guidance counselor are working together to understand where they have gone to either unenroll them or encourage their attendance.

Enrollment is at 246. New students have joined since the last board update and an additional student has expressed interest. There were no discharges in the month of December. The school leadership team is looking at shifting the classification of some students with IEPs to determine if they may benefit from a change in classification and setting. This includes reducing the number of students who

have paraprofessionals assigned, which is an aligned goal with the NYC Committees on Special Education (CSE)

Ms. Flowers shared the school's newsletter with the board. The week of February 3rd is counselor appreciation week. Exhibition Day and the Scholastic Book Fair will also take place in late February. The Book fair is a fundraiser for school events. The Exhibition Day is an opportunity for students to share what they have been studying for a unit. It is an opportunity for families and members of the school community to see what students have been up to.

6. *Academics Update.*

Ms Gonzalez shared information about upcoming work the school is doing to prepare for state tests.

Test Prep Academy will begin on Thursday starting February 27th. This is for a targeted group of students who scored a 2, 3, or 4 in the previous year's NYS exam to get some targeted support and intervention from FLI teachers to ensure they are secure. Students who score outside of this range are getting targeted Tier 3 support. This will serve 8-16 students per grade, as there are 9 teachers staffing.

Today and tomorrow, students are doing a CBT (computer-based testing) simulation where students will use the computer and get used to the format, including navigation tools and school staff can get an opportunity to ensure teachers get some practice proctoring exams and the tech team can troubleshoot any issues.

7. *Finance Update* - Mr. Slovenic shared information about outreach activities for enrollment that included tabling at early childhood centers, search engine optimization, and a dual language mailer. There will be some upcoming events at local laundromats and other community spots.

Enrollment numbers are still lower than projected, which leads to the school continuing to operate at a deficit. A question was asked about the impact of a proposed federal pause on disbursement of funds, the impact is unknown.

The Board meeting dismissed to

Executive session at approximately 6:16 p.m.

The board meeting reconvened at 6:52 p.m.

Jennifer Estrella introduced the first proposal for the Livonia group to provide academic coaching support for Ms Flowers and Ms Gonzalez focused on math and English assessment scores. This had been a priority for the board and discussed in previous meetings. Ms Estrella moved to approve the funding (\$110, 200) for the coaching plan. Mr Garcia seconded. Board unanimously approved. Motion passed.

The board meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

The next Board meeting is expected to take place on February 25, 2025 at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ross Harold

Secretary