



Vertus Charter School

COURAGE. LEADERSHIP. RESPONSIBILITY

Vertus Charter School prepares leaders of character.

Board Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2018

Vertus Charter School

21 Humboldt St.

Board Members in Attendance: Bryan Hickman, Evan Gallina, Mike Mandina, Todd Oldham, Linda Clark

Community Members in Attendance: Victoria Van Voorhis

Vertus Staff in Attendance: Leigh McGuigan, Jason Trzeciak

Bryan Hickman called the meeting to order at 7:29am.

Upon a motion by Bryan Hickman, seconded by Evan Gallina, the Board resolved to approve the minutes from the April 23rd Board Meeting.

Bryan Hickman led a brief discussion about the Draft Board Meeting Plan

Leigh McGuigan went over the Month at Glance, including a quick over-view of NWEA testing, and reminded the Board about our first graduation ceremony on Saturday; Bryan would like to take some video at the ceremony. Leigh continued the discussion, talking about very successful Regents Exam results from the June testing period; full data to be presented at the next meeting. Charter renewal application will require a forum at the next board meeting in order to get approval for the first part of the application.

Leigh McGuigan led a conversation about the Board statistics and the Retention, Enrollment, and Recruitment report were briefly gone over, led by Leigh McGuigan. Bryan Hickman noted that we're slightly below our recruitment goals which led to a discussion about the staff phone-a-thon and its positive results. Leigh then brought up student retention rate, which is running a few percent better than in previous years; a positive sign for the future enrollment. Bryan Hickman discussed efforts towards recruitment, including upcoming advertising and potential funding from E3 and the Farash Foundation; Linda Clark asked about efforts in the community, including reaching out to churches in the area. Victoria Van Voorhis mentioned a contact at the Public Library that leads a student safety program that could be a potential asset in student recruitment.

Leigh McGuigan then led a discussion about the revised Fourth Pillar – Post-secondary Readiness, which Vertus is modifying to better accommodate our student's needs; she outlined the five key lessons learned over our first four years, and how we are adapting. Changes include a more individualized MCC program, a greater emphasis on work ethic and helping students get part-time jobs, adapting post-secondary programs to student's interests and abilities, and increasing student responsibility over guardian responsibility. Leigh presented the details of proposed three program elements; Post-secondary Readiness, High School Job Support, and Guidance; as well as the related staffing implications. Leigh McGuigan proposed that these changes are approved by the Board through approval of Charter Revisions that include these revisions.

Upon a motion by Todd Oldham, seconded by Evan Gallina the Board unanimously approved the (immaterial by Regents standards) revisions to Vertus' Charter, including the achievement goals associated with the revised Fourth Pillar.



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Upon a motion by Linda Clark, seconded by Mike Mandina, the Board unanimously approved the updates to the Student Discipline Code.

Upon a motion by Linda Clark, seconded by Mike Mandina, the Board unanimously approved the updated Personnel Policies.

Upon a motion by Evan Gallina, seconded by Linda Clark, the Board unanimously approved the budget for the 2018-19 school year.

Leigh McGuigan led a review of the Fall 2017 to Spring 2018 NWEA test growth; highlighting the incredibly successful results that exceed the goals stated in the Charter. Leigh also reviewed the growth by Preceptor Team, student sub-groups, and by race/ethnicity as well as comparisons of growth vs. the starting percentile of the students in both reading and math.

Bryan Hickman moved to adjourn, seconded by Mike Mandina, at 9:00am.

Next Meeting – Scheduled for July 25, 2018 at 21 Humboldt St., Rochester