



# Vertus HIGH SCHOOL

21 Humboldt Street  
Rochester, New York 14609

Tel (585) 747-8911  
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## MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS VERTUS HIGH SCHOOL

December 15, 2020

### Time and Place of Meeting

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) via video conference on December 15, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. EST

*NOTE: The regular scheduled board meeting started later than anticipated due to the Charter Renewal Site Visit that was scheduled for 4:00 p.m. EST and ran long.*

### Quorum and Attendees

The following directors were present:

Bryan Hickman  
Victoria Van Voorhis  
Evan Gallina  
Mike Mandina  
Dr. Fred Johnson  
David Carr

The following directors were excused:

Tim Brown

The following directors were absent:

None

The following staff members were present:

Julie Locey

### Call to Order

Mr. Bryan Hickman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and acted as Chairperson of the meeting. Mr. Gallina acted as Secretary of the meeting. Mr. Hickman then announced that the meeting was ready to proceed with its business. All directors could hear and be heard by each other. Mr. Hickman then reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

### Governance and Resolutions



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**Motion #1. Approval of Prior Minutes:** The Board reviewed the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on November 17, 2020. Following discussion, and upon a motion made by Ms. Van Voorhis, seconded by Mr. Carr, the Board unanimously approved the Prior Minutes.

**Approval of Calvin Gantt to the Board of Trustees:** NYSED, having approved Mr. Gantt to the Board of Trustees, along with the Board of Trustees approving Mr. Gantt to the Board of Trustees, and upon a motion by Dr. Johnson, and seconded by Ms. Van Voorhis, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Gantt to be seated to the Board of Trustees.

### **Charter Renewal Application and Related Matters**

The Board met with Susan Gibbons and answered her questions to the best of its ability. School leaders, preceptors, and academic team met with the renewal team as well, and will continue to on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **School Reports**

**Principal Report:** Ms. Locey gave an update on school activities, including that Vertus has gone fully remote due to current nature of the ongoing pandemic. Vertus will remain fully remote through the holidays and continue to monitor the situation and guidance of the CDC and local and state governments. Due to the changing of in person to remote, attendance has fluctuated, however, Ms. Locey believes that consistency of remote learning will stabilize attendance. Vertus continues to try and help as many students as possible throughout the pandemic, especially through a food bank the school tirelessly operates in order to ensure students and their families have food security.

**CFO Report/Finance Committee:** With the passing of Mr. Trzeciak, Vertus has contracted with DeJoy, Knauf & Blood LLP to help manage finances in the interim. It is reported that the school is currently in a strong cash position and will not have to tap into the LOC anytime soon in order to bridge payroll or operating expenses. Ms. Locey continues to monitor cashflow very tightly, and has reduced staff slightly in order to stay in line with the approved budget.

**Fundraising Committee:** Ms. Locey reported that Vertus has received approximately \$2,000 of monetary or in-kind contributions in honor of the late COO Jason Trzeciak. The Fundraising Committee also met with the Grant Writer and she is compiling a list of foundations to strategically approach.

### **Adjournment**

Questions were asked and answered throughout the meeting and general discussion ensued throughout the meeting. Upon a motion by Ms. Van Voorhis, seconded by Mr. Mandina and unanimously approved, the Board adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m. EST.



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Evan Gallina  
Secretary of the Board