



# Vertus HIGH SCHOOL

21 Humboldt Street  
Rochester, New York 14609

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## MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS VERTUS HIGH SCHOOL

June 15, 2021

### **Time and Place of Meeting**

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) on June 15, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. EST on the school premises.

### **Quorum and Attendees**

The following directors were present:

Victoria Van Voorhis  
Bryan Hickman  
Evan Gallina  
Frederick Johnson  
Mike Mandina  
Carol Garrett

The following directors were excused:

Timothy Brown  
David Carr  
Calvin Gantt

The following directors were absent:

None

The following staff members were present:

Julie Locey

The following advisors to the Board were present:

Amy Brisson – DeJoy, Knauf & Blood, LLP

The following members of the public were present:

### **Call to Order**

Ms. Tory Van Voorhis called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. and acted as Chairperson of the meeting. Mr. Gallina acted as Secretary of the meeting. Ms. Van Voorhis then announced that



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the meeting was ready to proceed with its business. All directors could see, hear and be seen and heard by each other.

### **Governance and Resolutions**

**Resolution 1:** That the board approve the minutes of the May Vertus Board meeting. The motion was moved by Mr. Mandina, seconded by Rev. Johnson, and passed unanimously at 4:15 pm.

**Resolution 2:** That the board approve the increase in salary for the Principal of the school, as outlined in the budget. The motion was moved by Mr. Hickman, seconded by Mr. Mandina, and passed unanimously at 5:09 pm.

**Resolution 3:** That the board approve a total of up to \$30,000 worth of staff bonuses for extraordinary services for the past school year. The motion was moved by Mr. Gallina, seconded by Ms. Van Voorhis, and passed unanimously at 5:15 pm.

**Finance Committee Report:** In Mr. Brown's absence, Ms. Brisson reported on his behalf and reviewed school finances in depth. Due to extremely tight monitoring of the budget throughout the pandemic, it appears that the school will finish the fiscal year in a better cash position than originally anticipated and a modest operating surplus. The 2021-2022 Budget, staff salaries, and staff bonuses were also discussed.

**Resolution 4:** That the board approve the 2021-2022 School year Budget as presented by Ms. Locey and Ms. Brisson. The motion was moved by Mr. Hickman and seconded by Mr. Gallina and passed unanimously at 5:32 pm.

### **School Reports**

***Principal Report:*** Ms. Locey gave an update on school activities including a report on the first annual Community Opportunity Fair, which was a great success, with students attending from two other charter schools as well as all in-person Vertus students. As the summer months approach and spring session comes to an end, attendance has dipped slightly, however, the credits earned by the student body was above average for the month. With graduation on June 22, the expected graduation rate is 76%. Recruiting for the summer session and next school year is well underway and has gained traction in large due to the marketing efforts and school staff.

***Fundraising Committee:*** Vertus received a notice that it was granted \$10,000 from the Wegman Foundation. The Causewave efforts are ongoing, however, it was noted that



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enrollment for next year is outpacing past years, which suggests that the school's advertising is having a positive impact.

**Community Engagement Committee:** Rev. Johnson gave a report on the Community Engagement Committee and discussed the successful Community Opportunity Fair. The committee will meet again prior to the next Board Meeting.

### **Public Comment**

*None.*

### **Adjournment**

Questions were asked and answered throughout the meeting and general discussion ensued throughout the meeting. Upon a motion by Mr. Gallina, seconded by Rev. Johnson, and unanimously approved, the Board adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m. EST.

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Evan Gallina  
Secretary of the Board