



# Vertus HIGH SCHOOL

21 Humboldt Street  
Rochester, New York 14609

Tel (585) 747-8911  
Fax (585) 254-1251

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

August 24, 2021

### Time and Place of Meeting

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) on August 24, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. EST

### Quorum and Attendees

The following directors were present:

Victoria Van Voorhis  
Bryan Hickman  
Evan Gallina  
Frederick Johnson  
Mike Mandina  
Carol Garrett  
David Carr  
Calvin Gantt

The following directors were excused:

Timothy Brown

The following directors were absent:

None

The following staff members were present:

Julie Locey

The following advisors to the Board were present:

None

The following members of the public were present:

### Call to Order

Ms. Tory Van Voorhis was running late, and in her brief absence, Mr. Hickman, Former Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:23 p.m. and acted as Chairperson of the meeting until Ms. Van Voorhis arrived. Mr. Gallina acted as Secretary of the meeting. Mr. Hickman then



# Vertus

## HIGH SCHOOL

21 Humboldt Street  
Rochester, New York 14609

Tel (585) 747-8911  
Fax (585) 254-1251

announced that 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 July Vertus Board meeting. The motion was moved by Mr. Gantt, seconded by Mr. Mandina, and passed unanimously at 4:24 pm.

**Resolution 2:** That the board approve the purchase of a used 2015 International 60 child/40 Adult capacity school bus for the agreed upon price of \$24,995.00 plus all associated costs and fees. The motion was moved by Ms. Van Voorhis, seconded by Mr. Hickman, and passed unanimously at 4:36 pm.

**Resolution 3:** Due to the increased obligations at Key Bank caused by the Covid-19 Pandemic, Mr. Brown must step down as the Finance Committee Chair and the Board approve that Rev. Johnson be appointed as acting Chair of the Finance Committee until a permanent Chair is named. The motion was moved by Mr. Hickman, seconded by Mr. Gantt, and passed unanimously at 5:28 pm.

**Finance Committee Report:** In Mr. Brown's absence, Ms. Locey reported on his behalf and reviewed school finances in depth. The school is in a strong cash position to start the year, and is optimistic that with the approved budget and stronger than anticipated enrollment numbers, it will remain cash positive for the upcoming school year. Ms. Locey discussed the need for a new school bus and has proposed purchasing a used bus while the school is in a strong cash position.

### **School Reports**

***Principal Report:*** Ms. Locey gave an update on school activities including a new mural that students from the mural arts class painted, and the addition of the schools first Advanced Placement offering. The school has now submitted the annual report, began the annual audit, and applied to be a designated donor for the United Way of Rochester. Summer session was a success and as it came to an end, the adjusted 4-year graduation rate was 77%, with the 5-year and 6-year graduation rates being above 80%. Recruiting efforts are ongoing as the new school year begins, in hopes of increasing the overall enrollment of the school.

***Fundraising Committee:*** Vertus has applied for donor designation for the United Way of Rochester, which would allow any donor of UW to dedicate funds directly to Vertus. As the new school year begins, the enrollment numbers are outpacing the projections, which in part has been a result of the Causewave efforts. There is also an ongoing effort applying for grants, especially as the school has seen recent success.



# Vertus

## HIGH SCHOOL

21 Humboldt Street  
Rochester, New York 14609

Tel (585) 747-8911  
Fax (585) 254-1251

**Community Engagement Committee:** The Board discussed ongoing opportunities to engage the community, specifically communities in which English is not the first language. Vertus is going to try and engage the refugees that are arriving in Rochester.

### **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 Mr. Mandina, and unanimously approved, the Board adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m. EST.

---

Evan Gallina  
Secretary of the Board