

APPROVED



Vertus
HIGH SCHOOL

Vertus High School

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday August 19, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Location

MCC Downtown Campus

Trustees Present

C. Gantt, D. Paul, E. Gallina, J. O'Connell, J. Wynn, M. Mandina (remote), S. David-West, V. VanVoorhis

Trustees Absent

A. Bell, D. Johnson, S. Ash

Guests Present

A. Brisson, J. Locey, L. Bennett

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

V. VanVoorhis called a meeting of the board of trustees of Vertus High School to order on Tuesday Aug 19, 2025 at 5:10 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

Approved with edits.

J. O'Connell made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 07-22-25.

E. Gallina seconded the motion.

Approved with edits

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Consent Agenda Items

A. Month At A Glance

We talked about the power loss that caused school to be closed for three days. We discussed the need for a building service assessment for the electrical boxes by O'Connell Electric and if the solution is a long-term fixed to minimize liability. This will be part of the Board's assessment regarding lease renewal and ensure student safety.

No finds from the asbestos assessment

B. Board Statistics

We discussed the need to review (quarterly) the board statistics in more detail as a part of board meetings. We are examining the most efficient and effective way to share that information that allows for a review of statistics (data) that can be compared to previous years data. Academic assessment is central to Vertus' mission, so this is a high priority for the Board and Vertus leadership team.

C. Recruitment Update

Discuss ensued around enrollment continuing to be strong. Due to strong enrollment, we actually had to turn away students. We have experienced an increase in students wanting to come to Vertus in their senior year with no regents and low credits. We also discussed the need to revisit our enrollment policy to ensure that we can successfully assist the student in their academic journey.

III. Finance

A. Budget vs Actual & Cash Flow

We discussed the status of the current budget and were provided an update regarding grants that we were expecting. We did discuss that enrollment is up to help us trend toward budget for 2025-26. No concerns regarding the budget were expressed.

IV. Discussion Items

A. 21 Humboldt Lease

We reviewed the current lease agreement for 21 Humboldt Street I, LLC and the potential increase for 2025-2026 of approximately \$1,300/month for the next 5-years. We

discussed the need to decide about the least by December 31, 2025. Additional discussions will take place to discuss the expansion needs, the terms of the lease and how those terms might change once additional information is received.

B. 2025 Safety Plan Adoption

All board members were asked to review the safety plan prior to the board meeting. We discussed some updates to the plan and some minor changes in terms of reporting structure. We posted it as per New York State law for parents to provide feedback. No feedback was received.

E. Gallina made a motion to To approve the safety plan.

D. Paul seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

V. Closing Items

A. New Action Item Review & Report Out

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Gantt

info@vertusschool.org | www.vertusschool.org | FaceBook/VertusHighSchool