



Forte Preparatory Academy

Minutes

Forte Prep Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday August 17, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Location

51-35 Reeder Street (Forte Prep)

Directors Present

A. Rothman (remote), C. Morris (remote), L. Friscia (remote), V. Abrams (remote), W. Yip (remote)

Directors Absent

D. Moskowitz, E. Winn, F. Lin, L. Rodriguez

Ex Officio Members Present

G. Browne (remote)

Non Voting Members Present

G. Browne (remote)

Guests Present

B. Johnson (remote), Christine Padula (guest) (remote), Justin Smith (remote), Katie Mullen (guest) (remote), Leslie Rich (Ed Tec) (remote), Lorenzo Mendez (guest) (remote)

I. Opening Items

A.

Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

L. Friscia called a meeting of the board of directors of Forte Preparatory Academy to order on Wednesday Aug 17, 2022 at 7:05 PM.

C. Introduction of all participants

D. Approve Minutes

L. Friscia made a motion to approve the minutes from Forte Prep Board Meeting on 07-20-22.

C. Morris seconded the motion.

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

II. Finance

A. Review Financial Update

- Review of financials for end of school year
- More information to follow as Ed Tec closes the books for year
- ESSER III funding ends 9/24
- Received \$200K in summer funding from Bloomberg; first half received end of June; and second half should come in Sept 15 based on attendance; in good shape to receive full amount.
- Benefit of Bloomberg money was to incentivize staff to teach summer school; allowed ability to purchase additional supplies/books;
- Downside is that it set high cost for administering summer school for future years
- Was able to pay teachers 10K for summer stipend; original amount was \$4500

III. Governance

A. Committee Update

- Board resolution for charter amendment presented to Board for consideration
- Don't anticipate any issues because SUNY approved merger proposal

B. Approve Board resolution for charter amendment

L. Friscia made a motion to Approve Board resolution for charter amendment.

A. Rothman seconded the motion.

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

IV. Academic Excellence

A.

Committee Update

- Report on dashboard results for end of year data
- FP almost fully hired for 2022-2023 school year; have shifted recruitment approach to earlier in the pipeline to find potential teachers for FP

V. Development

A. Committee Update

- Graham set to meet with Walton foundation in September.
- Goal to secure one new major donor partner per year.
- Finalizing new year asks leading up to giving Tuesday in November. Graham to share pitch deck after meeting.

VI. ED Update

A. General Update

New staff and teacher leaders in building for training.

Mix between new, green teachers and very experienced teachers.

Will be sharing exciting data from last few years of school, and formally launch/announce framework of HS at training this week.

HS - Charter amendment will be submitted to SUNY by Aug 11.

Bridget conducted focus groups with students and staff. Alignment between both groups.

Want to reflect on results and continue conversations.

Working with consultant Anne Williams to help streamline language in proposal and to evaluate submission against rubric for new charter submissions

Martin Luther School in Maspeth voted against allowing colocation; two other options to consider.

Still in conversation with multiple developers to develop plans for new building across the street or different location

Preview of academic focus for HS - academic core with emphasis on city, college acquisition credit, service, social emotional learning, and enrichment in arts and language.

HS will start later in the day than middle school

MAP growth each year even though 5-7th graders have had school disrupted by COVID.

MAP data shows that students are growing at a faster rate than peers nationwide.

Dip in Winter 2022 results; January was during omicron wave;

Just received state exam data for math and ela exams; % of students who scored 3 or 4 out of 4; does not show comparison to other schools in district, state, city; overall performance progression line moving up; 37/39; 63/63/ 55/59 70/77 (ELA/MATH)

B. Discussion with Prospective Board Candidates

L. Friscia made a motion to Approve Lorenzo Mendez, Christine Padula, and Katie Mullen as Board Members.

V. Abrams seconded the motion.

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

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Rothman