

APPROVED



# Forte Preparatory Academy

## Minutes

### Board Meeting

Forte Prep Full Board Monthly Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Wednesday October 16, 2024 at 6:30 PM

#### Location

In Person Meeting location: 333 7th Avenue (11th floor), NY 10001

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/94001336885?pwd=K1AvOWN4MWM3U3VoSytQNkU5U1NDZz09>

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#### Directors Present

E. Winn, F. Lin, J. Cordero (remote), J. Schilling (remote), K. Mullen, L. Mendez (remote), L. Rodriguez (remote), S. Song

#### Directors Absent

V. Abrams, W. Yip

#### Ex Officio Members Present

G. Browne (remote)

#### Non Voting Members Present

G. Browne (remote)

#### Guests Present

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J. Smith (remote)

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## **I. Opening Items**

### **A. Record Attendance**

### **B. Call the Meeting to Order**

F. Lin called a meeting of the board of directors of Forte Preparatory Academy to order on Wednesday Oct 16, 2024 at 6:12 PM.

### **C. Approve Sept Board Minutes**

We will wait until our next board meeting when we have a quorum.

## **II. Finance Committee**

### **A. Review June actuals (close SY23-24 books)**

Ed Tech team walked us through the June actual and fielded questions from the Board.

### **B. Board Update: FY2023 Audit**

Ed Tech team walked us through the un-official FY2023 Audit and fielded questions from the team. As a reminder, the Finance/Audit Committee will meet with our auditors next week to review and vote to submit the audited financial for FY2023.

Update (10/25/24): Finance/Audit Committee reviewed FY2023 Audit & approved for submission.

## **III. Governance Committee**

### **A. Confirm & prep for Nov retreat**

We discussed moving our upcoming Board Retreat to Wednesday, December 11th. We will have our December meeting on this date and then go right into the Retreat. Approx 6-8:30pm.

Note we will KEEP our November 20th regularly scheduled Board Meeting and we will invite our Board prospects to join this meeting.

## **IV. Academic Achievement Committee**

### **A. Review of 23-24 SY student academic performance data**

Justin shared results from the spring state-wide test.

Middle School: Strong results and patterns of growth in ELA, Math, and Science. Board expressed great gratitude for Justin and his academic leadership.

Compared to the cadre of 75 other Building Excellent Schools schools, FPA is performing in the top 10% in reading growth. <https://bes.org/map-top-5-reading-2024/>

High School: Far less data for us to analyze right now.

For 8th graders who took the Algebra 1 Regents exam, 100% passed, this is the third year in a row that all 8th graders who took this exam passed.

Justin, Graham, and Laura - overall very strong results and proud of the progress. Laura highlighted how important the middle to high school progression in - borne out in the data.

Graham highlighted the extreme degree of difficulty that Jason and the instructional team has faced with new grade levels yearly, significant changes to the state-wide tests, changing teacher teams, etc.

HS building construction is continuing apace and Graham is beginning to work with team on classroom configurations to maximize learning.

Fund Development Update: Just received \$1M grant from Charter School Growth Fund to deepen instructional systems. Also received \$562,000 state CSP grant to support past expenses related to charter expansion -- personnel and facilities for high school.

## **V. CEO updates**

### **A. SY 24-25 progress updates**

Both Graham and Justin are at the Charter School Growth Fund Character and Culture convening in Colorado.

School Updates --

Middle School: In the middle of Rock-Tober, first big culture and community-building moment for the Middle School.

High School -- Night Leagues/NYS Football Club program starts this Friday and runs for 12 weeks. Both playing soccer and learning about the "business" of soccer, volunteer opportunities with the Club, etc.

Currently hiring for a number of central office positions, including a COO.

## **VI. 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 7:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
F. Lin