DRAFT

Forte Preparatory Academy

Minutes

Board Meeting

October 28, 2026

Date and Time
Wednesday October 28, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Location
Bridgespan Group Offices
333 7th Ave, 11th Floor

Directors Present
A. Espinosa, C. Cruz (remote), E. Winn, J. Cordero (remote), J. Schilling (remote), K. Mullen, M. Dymond (remote), S. Song, W. Yip

Directors Absent
L. Teye

Ex Officio Members Present
G. Browne

Guests Present
C. Mojica (remote), J. Smith (remote), Janeya Hisle (remote)

I. Opening Items

A.

Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

E. Winn called a meeting of the board of directors of Forte Preparatory Academy to order on Wednesday Oct 28, 2026 at 6:05 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

A. Espinosa made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 09-23-26.
S. Song seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic

A. Academic Achievement

Justin Smith shared an academic update.

Middle School

- Math MAP proficiency results. FP demonstrates clear and consistent progress across grades, from 5th to 8th grade. FP outperforms NYS levels.
- For Reading MAP proficiency results, see similar results.
- FP is the top performing school in Queens.
- NYS Science Proficiency results also improved from 5th to 8th grade.

High School

- State comparisons for high schools do not exist, so hard to get comparison data.
- FP's pass rates across biology, english, algebra I and geometry have increased.

Graham Browne shared a CEO update.

- Investment in new curricula is resulting in great academic performance.
- SUNY Renewal visit debrief highlighted strengths, instructional feedback, high school vision, and longer-term risks.
- Forte Impact Story: In 2025, Forte is the number 8 middle school of 373 on impact in NYC, and number 1 for Queens middle peer group.

III. Finance

A. Review financials

Auditors presented executive summary of audited financial results for June 30, 2026.

- They issued a clean, unmodified opinion.

Janeya of Vertex reviewed financials as of September 30, 2026.

- Introduction of new Vertex Fiscal Health Dashboard.
- Presentation aligned with SUNY fiscal ratios.
- Actual revenues behind budget due to expense timing.
- Actual expenses behind budget due to timing of hiring and other expenses.
- Review of Budget vs. FY Forecast and Balance Sheet.

K. Mullen made a motion to Approve audited financials.
W. Yip seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Governance

A. CEO Self-Evaluation Discussion with Graham Browne

Graham Browne's 2025-26 SY Self-Evaluation provided insights about how he's thinking about Forte Prep's past performance and future.

- The success of the 2025-26 SY year includes FP's academic achievement results, the significant fundraising campaign, and the on-time opening of the new FP high school building.
- Areas of future focus include improving family engagement, partnering with the Board on strategic development and addressing competition.

Graham reviewed all of the important ongoing initiatives that they faced the past year.

- This is a good time for a strategic planning process. May need external support to lead the process.
- Need to develop scalable family engagement resourcing.

B. Planning Board Meetings for Remainder of Year

November Board Meeting - It will be an opportunity to review FP's 2026-27 goals and strategic priorities,

January Board Retreat - It will be an opportunity for the Board to evaluate itself and commit to goals.

V. 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 7:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. Cordero