



Veritas Preparatory Charter School

Minutes

Governance Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday September 10, 2020 at 1:00 PM

Location

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

ID: 84873254982

Password: 100907



[\(US\) +1 301-715-8592](#)



Passcode: 100907

Committee Members Present

A. Mendelson (remote), D. Fuller (remote), R. Romano (remote), T. Moran (remote)

Committee Members Absent

None

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

R. Romano called a meeting of the Governance Committee of Veritas Preparatory Charter School to order on Thursday Sep 10, 2020 at 1:04 PM.

C. Approve minutes

A. Mendelson made a motion to approve the minutes from Governance Committee Meeting on 08-13-20.

T. Moran seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

T. Moran Aye

D. Fuller Aye

A. Mendelson Aye

R. Romano Abstain

II. Governance

A. FY21 Goals

The committee discussed and revised the FY21 Goals to the following:

1. By the end of December the board will have a full understanding of the contractual relationships around VPH and the full implications of our contract renewing or not renewing.

- support the board in its decision around continuing to engage in a Collaborative Space and Services Agreement with the Friends of VPCS in order to support the turnaround of the HPS through the management of VPH.

- inform trustees about the contractual relationship with HPS and the Space and Services agreement.

- create space to have a broad discussion with all trustees about the work in Holyoke, hear opinions and questions to guide next steps.

- collaborate with a rep from Friends to create a timeline for a decision.

2. Create a maturity plan for the board that aligns with our organizational values and shares a vision for where we want our board to be in 3 - 5 years.

- Share antiracism standards with trustees

- Share vision, mission and values

- Create a plan that grounds the board's development plans in the school's vision

3. Create a new trustee onboarding process that can be done remotely.

- review content from old binders and reflect on former process

- explore Board on Track to see how to use it for this purpose

- orient new committee members to the work of their committee through staff leaders or committee chairs.

4. Explore options and possibilities that would allow us to expand in the charter sector - TBD - still drafting this one. The committee discussed strategic planning and how our direction forward would rely heavily on the decision around Holyoke. Tom described this goal around exploring as spade work, something we should contemplate and figure out if it is an option. Currently not an option to expand given we are at the cap but is it an option to merge with another charter or absorb

another charter. Not for immediate action but as a possibility down the road. Could our network team provide management support to another charter school?

B. Work on Goal 1 - process for HPS decision

The committee discussed the first goal: By the end of December the board will have a full understanding of the contractual relationships around VPH and the full implications of our contract renewing or not renewing. The committee decided it was important for us to build more background knowledge for trustees before we get to a decision point. The committee agreed to the following:

In September - Rachel will provide a primer on the contractual relationships between HPS and FoVPCS and the Space and Services Agreement. Share background on stakeholders and decisions to support HPS turnaround.

In October - Discussion of benefit to VPCS and impact of losing contract between Friends and HPS.

The committee will discuss in future meeting and determine next steps after October, Rachel will update committee on Friends of VPCS meetings and decision timeline so it aligns.

III. 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 2:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Romano