



# Veritas Preparatory Charter School

## Minutes

### Governance Committee Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Thursday April 15, 2021 at 11:00 AM

#### Location

Join Zoom Meeting <https://vpcs-org.zoom.us/j/81632794357?pwd=aERuN1Ftb0ZUZ2Zlc2Job3hEUU1YUT09>

Meeting ID: 816 3279 4357

Passcode: 957285

One tap mobile [+19292056099](tel:+19292056099), [81632794357#](tel:+19292056099) US (New York)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

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#### Committee Members Present

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

#### Committee Members Absent

*None*

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#### 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 Apr 15, 2021 at 11:06 AM.

### C. Approve Minutes

D. Fuller made a motion to approve the minutes from Governance Committee Meeting on 03-25-21.

A. Mendelson seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

A. Mendelson Aye

R. Romano Aye

T. Moran Aye

D. Fuller Aye

## II. Governance

### A. Governance Report Debrief

The committee debriefed the discussion at the board of trustees meeting when Rachel gave an overview of the survey conducted by EBP; responses (9) submitted and Gov. Committee consideration. Rachel shared that Gov. Comm. decided to focus on 8 items where there was disagreement or respondents lacked information:

1. We then went through the 8 questions seriatim (I think you have these but here's what I have):
  1. P. 15-dashboard review
  2. Bd. Knows who an interim leader would be
  3. Bd. Annual self assessment
  4. Last 12 months Bd. And school leader discussed management/governance
  5. Bd steps back from decisions
  6. Bd engages with community/families re bid decisions
  7. Discussions over impact of school policy negatively affecting some students
  8. Familiarity with legislators and have met with them.
2. After a brief discussion:
  1. Matt said we should focus on ## 1, 6 and 7 (Denise and Aaron agreed)
  2. Xiomara and Matt-also focus on #8
3. Gov. Comm. Will consider this discussion and input

The committee discussed 1, 6, 7 and 8 in greater detail. Board reviewing data dashboard on a regular basis that is not only student achievement. Academic Achievement committee reviews monthly and shares summaries at high level but we can put more of this data in front of whole board more frequently.

Rachel suggested that school leaders do conduct regular surveys of stakeholders and she. needs to do a better job os sharing these results with the board. Tom shared that the

way he is thinking about needs of the student and parent bodies and trends about those needs now and in the future, how we as leaders and the board need to know that we are keeping up to date and thinking about the future, keeping finger on the pulse, being informed by stakeholders and the wider world. Tom described this as less of a report card and more about how school leadership is shaping future plans. The school is doing this, the high school design process is our best recent example and we should codify and make transparent all the other ways we include stakeholders in decision making.

Board discussions over the impact of school policy disproportionately having a negative impact on some students and/or positively impacting others. The school's anti racism change team developed a set of standards through which the school can interrogate policies and practices to ensure they are antiracist. The board knows there is good work in progress and Rachel will provide updates to the board to better position them to ask these kinds of questions.

Trustees also lifted up the question around advocacy and building relationships with legislators. Tom suggested we should develop a strategy for this and Rachel talked about the MCPSA strategy and the possibility of meeting with the team there to better understand how we may support their advocacy work.

## **B. Maturity Model**

The committee discussed trustees whose terms are ending and David agreed to call them to discuss their plans and intentions. Tom suggested we ask those trustees if they are interested in serving on a committee as an ex-officio member of the board.

## **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 12:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
R. Romano