APPROVED

Veritas Preparatory Charter School

Minutes

Governance Committee Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday May 15, 2025 at 10:30 AM

Location
Join Zoom Meeting
ID: 84901910623
Passcode: 636689

Meeting host: ngauthier@vpcs.org

Join Zoom Meeting:
https://vpcs-org.zoom.us/j/84901910623?pwd=vr9afxTKSOHINjqkf7PWZ8SmbM6J3i.1

Committee Members Present
A. Errichetti (remote), A. Mendelson (remote), D. Fuller (remote)

Committee Members Absent
X. Delobato

Guests Present
N. Gauthier (remote), R. Romano (remote), regs@sec.state.ma.us (remote)

I. Opening Items

A.

Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

D. Fuller called a meeting of the Governance Committee of Veritas Preparatory Charter School to order on Thursday May 15, 2025 at 10:33 AM.

C. Approve Minutes

D. Fuller made a motion to approve the minutes from Governance Committee Meeting on 03-14-25.
A. Mendelson seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Governance

A. Board Diagnostic Survey Results Review

Governance Committee Report and Debrief
Ann and Rachel discussed the governance committee report and its inclusion in the governance process. Robert provided an overview of the survey results and potential goals. The importance of maintaining a clear line between governance and management was emphasized.

Board Retreat and Strategy Discussion
The upcoming annual board retreat in June was mentioned, with a focus on data and school performance. The group discussed the possibility of presenting new strategies or goals at the retreat. Ann highlighted the usefulness of the survey in guiding the board's goals and agenda.

Survey Results and Academic Outcomes
Robert presented the survey results, noting that academic outcomes were a highly ranked category. There was a discussion about the importance of tracking academic success and outcomes. The need for effective documentation and evidence of academic progress was emphasized.

Board Leadership and Succession Planning
The group discussed the importance of regularly monitoring school leaders' progress and having a succession plan. There was a disconnect noted regarding the understanding of the emergency succession plan. The practice of annually reviewing and sharing the succession plan was highlighted.

Board Composition and Diversity
Rachel shared the board's current composition and the decision not to include current parents or staff members. The group discussed the sector-wide trends in governance and board composition.

The importance of maintaining clear boundaries and expectations within the board was emphasized.

Onboarding Process and Resources
Robert provided resources for building an onboarding process, including a guide and a recap.
The group discussed the need to strengthen their onboarding plan and engage mentors for new board members. The importance of setting clear board and committee recruitment goals was highlighted.

Strategic Planning and Community Engagement
The group discussed the need for a strategic plan and the challenges of defining community engagement. Rachel shared the school's approach to continuous improvement and the importance of clear communication. The importance of defining community engagement and its goals was emphasized.

Compliance, Resources, and Fundraising
The group discussed the need for board members to review certain documents and policies.
The importance of justifying the data and metrics being reviewed was highlighted. There was a discussion about the school's approach to fundraising and ensuring financial viability.

Policy Review and Equity
The group discussed the need for board members to review policies and consider their impact on different student groups. Rachel mentioned the school's focus on equity and the importance of disaggregating data. The group reflected on past discussions and the need for the board to ask policy questions around equity.

Board Meetings and Attendance
The group discussed the challenges of board member attendance and the potential benefits of remote meetings. Rachel suggested revisiting the attendance and engagement policy and setting concrete goals for attendance at the June retreat. The importance of maintaining in-person meetings for camaraderie and discussion was emphasized.

Advocacy and Charter School Support
The group discussed the need for board members to be equipped to speak positively about charter schools. Robert mentioned the availability of resources and PD sessions to demystify charter schools. The importance of advocacy and community mobilization was highlighted.

III. Other Business

A.

Trustee Roles and Committee Assignments for 2025–2026

Trustee Terms and Committee Assignments
Rachel flagged the upcoming expiration of terms for six trustees and the need to confirm commitments for the next term.

The group discussed the importance of maintaining committee assignments and the potential for new leadership roles.

The need to address attendance issues and the importance of attendance will be discussed at the June retreat.

IV. 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 12:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. Fuller

Documents used during the meeting

- Veritas Preparatory Charter School - BED Report 2025.pdf
- Trustee Terms, Officer Roles & Committee Assignments 2025-26 - May Meeting.docx