



VPA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

March 27, 2025 - 2:00 pm ET

Access Point: 111 E. Monument Avenue, Suite 605 Kissimmee, FL 34741

MEETING MINUTES

I. **Call to Order** – S. Johns commenced the meeting at 2:01pm ET

II. **Roll Call** –

Present: Stevie Johns, Board Chair; Lisa Fuhrmeister, Vice Chair; Jennifer Parker, Board Secretary, and Dr. Jessica Howell

Guests: Sandra Anthony, Megan Sandoval, Ed DePersis, Melissa Stokke-Larson, Wendy Ross, Lynn Fraher, parent; Thomas Sternberg

S. Johns confirmed a quorum.

III. **Routine Business**- S. Johns

- a. A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Stevie Johns, seconded by Lisa Fuhrmeister. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. A motion to approve the February 20, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes was made by Lisa Fuhrmeister, seconded by Dr. Jessica Howell. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. **Information and Discussion Items**

State of the School Report –

Dr. Anthony shared the Mission Moment for the month is found in the work underway to get to 95% Testing Participation. She outlined the in-person preparations that took place in office with the dedicated staff and leaders attending training and preparing their test sites. Dr. Stokke-Larson shared all the fun towards that end with pledge setting, goal setting, naming contests, competitions and celebrations. She shared that there is a Goose-Chase for staff and test-prep activities for students as well.

Dr. Anthony shared the date for high school graduation as May 22, 2026.



Dr. Anthony updated the Board on the FEFP/FTE state audit. There were 5 findings, which the team has provided several rationales for appeal, and 1 finding that shows an underfunding of K-3 students. The 5 findings are in student records, ESE and ELL. A corrective action plan is in place and this issue was related to the large increase in student enrollments in that year. We have been advised that the underfunding issue seems to be related to an error in formula in Focus, the state SIS. A meeting has been requested with the leadership team at Osceola to understand how there will be resolution for 23-24 and to ensure proper funding for the 24-25 school year.

Finance Update

Mr. DePersis shared that the FY 25 enrollments and FTE's, 757. The projected weighted FTEs for FY25 to 584 was lowered to bring it in line. Mr. DePersis shared that there is an overpayment in play which will decrease monthly net funding payments. Payment 17 (1 of 2 March payments) reflects Survey 2- \$296,980 - now based on 713.5 WFTE's. There is a new school-based tracking system and forecasting will still be conservative.

Mr. DePersis reviewed the revenue, expenses and surplus for the revised FY25 Budget as well as the cash balances, requests and AP outstanding. The Board was presented the FY25 Actuals YTD to Revised Budget numbers. He shared the FY Enrollments data as well as FY Projected Receipts and Disbursements.

Mr. DePersis reviewed the ACCEL invoice detail and request of \$861,910. There were no questions.

Enrollment Update – Wendy Ross

Ms. Ross shared the Enrollment Update. There are currently 721 students on roll. Ms. Ross shared that she is excited about the upcoming re-enrollment season. Re-enrollment is at 71% with a goal of 80%. Ms. Ross shared that we have a goal of 100% response rate and we are currently at 75% to date. Ms. Ross shared the school strategy to make it easy for parents. Parents have shared their excitement for the new year and that they share how much they love their teachers and their principal! Dr. Anthony shared that any families that are undecided or no will get a win-back call.



Dr. Anthony again announced that Dr. Amber Pennington is the school's new Director of Special Programs and shared that her replacement, Ms. Jessica Griffin, will be spotlighted next month as the new Assistant Principal.

Board Discussion – Committee Assignments

Stevie Johns shared that the survey information went out and that the assignments would like to be placed today. Based on input, the Executive Committee will be comprised of Lisa Furhmeister and Jennifer Howell. The Strategic Committee will be comprised of Stevie Johns and Dr. Jessica Howell.

V. Action Items

President Johns asked for a motion to formulate two Board Committees: Executive Committee and Strategic Committee. Motion was made by Lisa Furhmeister, seconded by Stevie Johns. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion for Approval of the **Executive Committee**, with Lisa Furhmeister and Jennifer Parker, was made by Stevie Johns, seconded by Dr. Jessica Howell. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was called for Approval of the **Strategic Committee**, comprised of Stevie Johns and Dr. Jessica Howell was made by Jennifer Parker seconded by Lisa Furhmeister. Motion carried unanimously.

Thomas Sternberg shared that he has information about committee structures and templates that he will share.

Citrus Application Update

A meeting invite has been received for a Capacity Interview for April 4th at 10:00 am. The meet and greet has not yet been scheduled. Mr. Sternberg shared that he will be recusing himself from the Citrus application and Capacity Interview at this time as he is involved with the organization.

VI. Comments from the Board

Vice Chair Lisa Furhmeister commented on the school update. She shared that the creative and robust ways the school is engaging students is incredible. She thanked the team for their hard work.



President Johns announced meeting and Lisa Fuhmeister will preside over that she would not be at the next the meeting.

VII. Legal – Legislative Update

Status quo in Florida DOE at this time. A virtual funding education bill is in action and the next two weeks will be hectic. He reviewed current bills and stated that education has not been in focus; however, there are 47 that are impactful and he will forward those to the Board. Although not applicable, a bill changing start times is in the House.

On request from Ed DePersis, Mr. Sternberg expanded on the funding bill. Amended numerous times, funding would not be based on completion. Thomas said he would forward that along.

Thomas Sternberg announced the National Charter School Conference is in Orlando and encouraged board members and the school leaders to attend, if possible. July 1-3.

Action

On a motion by Lisa Fuhmeister, seconded by Jennifer Parker, the board approved the **Accel Payment request**. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IX. Adjournment

The next board meeting is **Thursday, April 17, 2025**. Board adjourned at 2:36pm.