



VPA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

July 17, 2025 - 2:00 pm ET

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

Meeting held in Zoom at link: [Zoom Link](#) Meeting ID: **378 909 3168**; Passcode: **VPrep2025**

MEETING MINUTES

I. **Call to Order** – Stevie Johns called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm ET

II. **Roll Call** –

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

Guests: Sandra Anthony, Megan Sandoval, Ed DePersis, Melissa Stokke-Larson, Wendy Ross,
Amber Pennington

Stevie Johns confirmed the quorum.

III. **Routine Business-**

- 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 May 15, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes was made by Lisa Fuhrmeister, seconded by Stevie Johns. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. **Information and Discussion Items**

State of the School Report –

Dr. Anthony and Dr. Stokke Larson co-presented the State of the School Report. Dr. Stokke shared 24-25 celebrations as part of the year in review which included highlights of clubs, spirit events and then presented the Board with this year's Yearbook. Dr. Stokke-Larson recognized our yearbook advisor, Ms. Thomas, who did an outstanding job with this year's book.

Dr. Anthony then shared that in addition to celebrations, there were many points of pride in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment and community and culture.



Dr. Anthony and Dr Stokke Larson provided details and examples including the results of the school's engagement initiatives, and participation results. Next, an overview was provided of the school's challenges and obstacles which included some of the same themes but added the transitions the school experienced in personnel and the improvements that were needed in systems and operations.

The state of the school report then featured the school leaders are using data specifically related to the release of the school's first grade. Dr. Anthony stated that the data review includes how the state data compares to the school's previous indicators as well as those compared to the district, the state, other virtual schools and charters as well as formative data such as i-Ready results. Dr. Stokke Larson provided a brief overview of how the school grade is calculated as well as a year-over-year comparison by points. She shared that when our school is 'de-combined', the middle school would be rated a D and the elementary school is one point away from the D; the high school two points away from a D.

Dr. Stokke Larson shared the data for K-2 showing growth in all subjects from PM1 to PM3. Similarly, spring assessments in grades 3-11 show growth in all subjects as well. She further detailed that there is a significant difference in test scores when students are taking assessments at home versus face to face. Dr. Stokke Larson stated that this is an area that she is particularly interested in exploring ways to help students perform at their best in unfamiliar settings. Lastly, she shared a data point wherein data shows us that students who attended live classes more regularly than those who did not outperformed their peers.

Dr. Anthony segued the presentation to talk about what is in store for 25-26 with a framework for school transformation which includes focus on curriculum, instruction, assessment, culture and community and outcomes. Details were outlined including the investment in professional learning, intervention, elementary looping, student success, special programs and graduation planning. She shared that in personnel the school is 100% staffed instructionally and administratively sans one office assistant position. In the area of professional learning, highlights of the leadership retreat were shared along with the plans and details for the back-to-school event for our teachers and staff, Teaching with Tenacity: Small Steps, Big Impact. The event will shine a light on perseverance, resilience and the unwavering commitment to inspire growth, overcome challenges and shape futures. Welcome back activities are underway currently as new families are welcomed and returning families are welcomed back.

Dr. Amber Pennington presented the BPIE Assessment program that was facilitated by Dr. Elaine Centeno with the Florida Inclusion Network. A diverse group of stakeholders participated in a review of 34 evidence-based indicators on inclusivity. An action plan was developed for the upcoming year.



Dr. Stokke Larson provided information on the Comprehensive Evidence Based Reading Plan, the Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan, the 26-26 Parent-Student Handbook and the Annual Enrollment Capacity report.

Finance Update

Mr. DePersis presented the June Executive Summary which outlined enrollments, FTE, and funding payments as well as cash balances, ACCEL payment requests and AP Outstanding. He provided the Board with details in revenue, expenses and surplus/deficit amounts. A review of FY 25 projected receipts and disbursements was also provided with the invoice detail for May and June.

Mr. DePersis then presented the July Executive Summary which outlined current and up to date enrollments, FTE, and funding payments as well as cash balances, ACCEL payment requests and AP Outstanding. He provided the Board with revenue details, expenses and surplus/deficit amounts and revised budget line items. A review of FY 25 funding, projected receipts and disbursements was also provided with the invoice detail for July. Mr. DePersis reminded the Board that we are still awaiting reconciliation of the overpayment issue, and he has taken that into consideration as he presented the revised budget for FY26 which will need Board action.

There were no questions.

Dr. Anthony provided an FTE Audit update. We are still awaiting resolution for the FTE underfunding matter. She also shared that they are awaiting an O report for Survey 4 to review FTEs.

Enrollment Update – Wendy Ross

Ms. Ross shared the Enrollment Update. There are currently 600 students on roll: 66 new, 534 returning, with hundreds in the enrollment pipeline.

Legal and Legislative

Mr. Sternberg shared that he presented at the Florida Charter Institute this morning and was happy for resolution of senate and house activities. He offered any help with Board would need or want including support in appeal of the school grade.

V. **Committee Reports**

President Johns stated that the executive committee has had two meetings since the last meeting. The committee has been briefed, and conversations have been around enrollment growth, academic innovation and intervention transitioning into student experience. President Johns referenced the looping initiative and the committee's support of it as a way to strengthen the relationships between student and teacher. President Johns mentioned that the BPIE work will segue nicely into the strategic goals. She shared the pride she has in the work the team is doing. Dr. Howell added that she is on board with the strategy in play and recognized the transparency the admin team is showing as they navigate the school grade matter.

Board Vice President Lisa Fuhrmeister briefed the board on the executive committee work. Ms. Fuhrmeister stated that the executive committee discussed the school grade and recognized the work needed to get to participation goals and now the shift will be focused on the progress monitoring will be the next phase to focus on achievement. Ms. Fuhrmeister emphasized that the work ahead is more transformative as we strike the right tone for the work ahead.

VI. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

VII. **Board Action and Approvals**

On a motion by Stevie Johns, seconded by Dr Jessica Howell, the Board approved the following motions on consent:

- a. Retroactive Approval of Accel Payment Request June 2025
- b. Approve of Accel Payment Request July 2025
- c. Approve of Revised FY26 Budget
- d. Approve of the **Comprehensive Evidence-Based Reading Plan (CERP)**
- e. Approval of Mental Health Allocation Plan
- f. Approve Audit Engagement: Moss, Krusick and Associates, LLC
- g. Approve Annual Enrollment Capacity Report
- h. Approve 2025-2026 Parent-Student Handbook

Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. **Adjournment**

The next board meeting is **Thursday, August 21, 2025.**

Board adjourned at 3:02 pm.