



VPA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

November 20, 2025 - 2:00 pm ET

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

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Meeting ID: **378 909 3168**; Passcode: **VPrep2025**

Meeting ID: **3789093168#** Participant ID: ***731523721**

Minutes

- I. **Call to Order** – S. Johns called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.
- II. **Roll Call** – S. Johns
Present: Chair, Stevie Johns, Vice Chair, Lisa Fuhrmeister, Dr. Jessica Howell,
Absent: Jennifer Parker
Guests: Thomas Sternberg, Sandra Anthony, Megan Sandoval, Ed DePersis, Debra Bele, Lori Gambino, Madison Jandrew, Samantha Perini

President Johns confirmed the 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 September 18, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes was made by Lisa Fuhrmeister, second by Stevie Johns. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. **Information and Discussion Items**
 - a. **State of the School Report**

Dr. Anthony presented the state of the school report. Introductions of the new leadership team members followed. Dr. Stokke Larson introduced Samantha Perini, coordinator of accountability, Madison Jandrew, Assistant Principal K-5 and Lori Gambino, Assistant Principal for grades 6-12. Each introduced themselves. The report also included information about our family reading night, parent information night which focused on graduation, and the newest climb for our school -- Finn climbs St Augustine Lighthouse if we hit our goal of 95% test participation for PM 2. Dr. Anthony also presented updated enrollment data.

Highlights from a recent parent Possip survey on the topic of AI was shared with the board. The report then segued into providing information about the upcoming Winter leadership retreat and professional learning event.



b. Financial Update – Ed DePersis

Mr. DePersis presented the November 2025 Executive Finance Summary which outlined that we are currently funded on 711 weighted FTEs. Dr. Anthony shared that we received communication from Osceola on the underfunding matter. Mr. DePersis reviewed funding payments as well as cash balances, ACCEL payment requests and AP Outstanding. He provided the Board with details related to increased enrollments, revenue, expenses and highlighted the surplus/deficit amounts. A review of projected receipts and disbursements was also provided with the invoice detail for approval. Mr. DePersis also updated the Board on the final FTE for FY25 shows an overpayment of about \$682,000 which is less than was expected which is a positive position for us.

In summary, Mr. DePersis shared with the board that enrollments are increasing, forecasts and funding in movement to reflect that will continue to keep the budget and the revenue forecasts in motion.

c. Enrollment Update

Dr. Anthony stated the current enrollment is 1370.

V. Legal

Mr. Sternberg shared that legislative season is heating up with a focus on education and particularly FLVS. Other topics are property taxes and the impact on schools. Mr. Sternberg also shared out that with the recent abolition of the Department of Education there is a reshuffling of grants and other programs to other departments. Other topics in play at the state level are teacher certification and the ESSER cliff. Mr. Sternberg also shared that he is available for all support needed for grant management issues

VI. Board Committee Reports

a. Strategic Committee Report

President Johns shared that the committee met this month and that it was a productive meeting. Discussion focused on enrollment and the opening of a new ACCEL virtual classical school to start in January which will operate out of DeSoto County. Ms. Johns also shared that the committee began charter renewal discussions.

b. Executive Committee Report

Ms. Fuhrmeister shared that the committee met with Brandon Krueger, Chief Marketing Officer. He presented information about how marketing and enrollment efforts have made an impact. Vice President Fuhrmeister shared that discussion focused on how the school is attracting large numbers of high school students as well as the impressive retention numbers of late. The committee requested that Brandon deliver the same presentation to the full board in January.



VII. **Action Items**

- a. On a motion by Lisa Fuhmeister, seconded by Jessica Howell, the Board approved the **October ACCEL payment request**. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. On a motion by Stevie Johns, seconded by Lisa Fuhmeister, the Board approved the fall **November payment request**. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. **Comments from the Board**

Dr. Howell commented that she felt the idea to survey parents about their thoughts and concerns around the use of AI in the classroom was excellent. It provided information about how parents are feeling about technology and helps guide instructional practices. Dr. Howell also commended the administration on its proactive and reflective practices of onboarding allowing for good data on what are the students' needs, what we can do better, and being student focused. Dr Anthony shared that a professional development read for the leadership team called AI is not Cheating and added that the team recently submitted a presentation proposal to BOLD, a state-wide virtual school association, for their annual meeting. They are hoping they get selected!

The date for the next meeting is January 15, 2026. The meeting ended with holiday greetings for all

IX. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

X. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 pm.