



## A K – 12 SERVICE LEARNING SCHOOL

### Board Minutes

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
NOVEMBER 21, 2017 - 7:00 PM  
713 WASHINGTON STREET  
HOBOKEN, NJ 07030**

#### Call to Order

##### Roll Call

<i>TRUSTEE</i>	<i>PRESENT</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>	
Jason Altberger		✓	
John Berger	✓		▶ (was not present at roll call, arrived late – 8:00pm)
Lauren Calmas	✓		
Anthony Felella	✓		
Lisa McIntyre		✓	
Jose Rivera	✓		
Christine Sheedy	✓		▶ (was not present at roll call, arrived late – 7:45pm)
Mark Silberberg	✓		

Morton Mark, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**Also present:** Dr. Bellina, Chuck DeMeola, Isabel Del Corral, Darren Fusaro, Elizabeth Niesz, Melissa Fisher, Jaz Conlon, and Robert Johansen

#### Reading of the Open Public Meeting Statement

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed and acted upon. This is a public meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Hoboken Charter School. At the public meeting action will be taken on a variety of motions.

In accordance with the requirements of the Sunshine Law, the meeting was announced on June 30, 2017 at City Hall and the City Clerk's Office on Washington Street and by advertisement in the *Hoboken Reporter* and the *Jersey Journal*.

#### Approve Minutes

Minutes of the previous public Board meetings held October 17, 2017 are available for review and/or correction and approval.

I move that the minutes of the Hoboken Board of Trustees Meeting on October 17, 2017 be approved.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ Jose Rivera \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_ Mark Silberberg \_\_\_\_\_

**Action taken** \_\_\_\_\_ OK \_\_\_\_\_

<i>TRUSTEE</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>ABSTAIN</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Jason Altberger				✓
John Berger	✓			
Lauren Calmas	✓			
Anthony Felella	✓			
Lisa McIntyre				✓
Jose Rivera	✓			
Christine Sheedy			✓	
Mark Silberberg	✓			

#### Public comment/questions on agenda items for the meeting



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A 15 minute period of time is provided for the public to ask questions on agenda items or make statements to the Board of Trustees. If there are many speakers, the chair will ask for a 3 minute speaking limit per speaker. The Board may extend the public comment portion by motion if necessary.

*Robert Johansen and Jaz Conlon – Discussion of conduct vs. grades. ADH kids high achievers arbitrary conduct evaluation on conduct*

### **Presentations:**

Darren Fusaro, Isabel Del Corral and Chuck DeMeola – Auditors

Elizabeth Niesz – Measures of Academic Progress Overview

*No discrepancies on control. Programs are in compliance. Financial highlights -healthy no findings.*

### **A. Policy**

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

I. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the ...

#### **Roll Call Vote**

<b><i>TRUSTEE</i></b>	<b><i>YES</i></b>	<b><i>NO</i></b>	<b><i>ABSTAIN</i></b>	<b><i>ABSENT</i></b>
Jason Altberger				
John Berger				
Lauren Calmas				
Anthony Felella				
Lisa McIntyre				
Jose Rivera				
Christine Sheedy				
Mark Silberberg				

### **B. Educational Planning**

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

I. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the ...

#### **Roll Call Vote**

<b><i>TRUSTEE</i></b>	<b><i>YES</i></b>	<b><i>NO</i></b>	<b><i>ABSTAIN</i></b>	<b><i>ABSENT</i></b>
Jason Altberger				
John Berger				
Lauren Calmas				
Anthony Felella				
Lisa McIntyre				
Jose Rivera				
Christine Sheedy				
Mark Silberberg				

### **C. Personnel**

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ Jose Rivera \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_ Mark Silberberg \_\_\_\_\_

**Action taken** \_\_\_\_\_ OK \_\_\_\_\_

- I. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Deirdra Grode as Executive Director for the 2017-2018 school year.
- II. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Elizabeth Niesz as the Interim Principal for the 2017-2018 school year.
- III. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the submission of a NJDOE waiver application (N.J.A.C.6H-9-6 5C) to the County Office for the hiring of school staff and/or substitutes while formal criminal history is processed.
  - i. Monica Mehta
- IV. I move that the Board of Trustees approves the following personnel for the daily assignments as school staff and/or substitutes pending completion of a county sub license and/or criminal background check.
  - i. Monica Mehta

**Roll Call Vote**

<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Jason Altberger				✓
John Berger	✓			
Lauren Calmas	✓			
Anthony Felella	✓(III & IV)		✓(I & II)	
Lisa McIntyre				✓
Jose Rivera	✓			
Christine Sheedy	✓			
Mark Silberberg	✓			

**D. Finance**

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ Mark Silberberg \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_ Anthony Felella \_\_\_\_\_

**Action taken** \_\_\_\_\_ OK \_\_\_\_\_

**I. Cash and Fund Balance**

Period	Cash Bal	Fund Bal
07.31.17	720,920	812,335
08.31.17	618,023	789,589
09.30.17	776,464	1,011,054
10.31.17	661,830	887,208



## A K – 12 SERVICE LEARNING SCHOOL

- II. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the 2016-2017 CAFRA, AMR & Synopsis of audit.
- III. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the 2016-Form 990 (2016-2017).
- IV. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves PaySchools for FY 2017-2018 electronic food program at startup costs & year 1 costs of (\$4032.50).
- V. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the Board Secretary Report as of October 31, 2017 as received and as per DOE requirements. See attached file at the end of the minutes.
- VI. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the Treasurer's Report, as of October 31, 2017, as listed below in the minutes, and as per DOE requirements.
- VII. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the Budget Transfers as listed below in the minutes, and as per DOE requirements.
- VIII. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the bills as listed below in the minutes, and as per DOE requirements.
- IX. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)3, the Board of Trustees acknowledges and accepts the certification from the Board Secretary that as of October 31, 2017, this board secretary report that no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of 6A:23-2.11(a).
- X. Be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees acknowledges the receipt of the Report of the Treasurer and the Report of the Board Secretary for the month ending October 31, 2017.
- XI. Further Resolved, the Board of Trustees certifies that no budgeted line item, major account or fund has been over extended in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23-2.11(a) and (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the school's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

### Roll Call Vote

<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Jason Altberger				✓
John Berger			✓	
Lauren Calmas	✓			
Anthony Felella	✓			
Lisa McIntyre				✓
Jose Rivera	✓			
Christine Sheedy	✓			
Mark Silberberg	✓			

**E. Information Items**

Enrollment as of November 21, 2017

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Current</i>
<i>K</i>	22	<i>5</i>	22	<i>9</i>	26
<i>1</i>	22	<i>6</i>	22	<i>10</i>	24
<i>2</i>	22	<i>7</i>	22	<i>11</i>	26
<i>3</i>	22	<i>8</i>	22	<i>12</i>	22
<i>4</i>	22			<i>Total</i>	296

⇒ Meeting went into closed session at 8:49pm via motion from Jose Rivera, seconded by Christine Sheedy.  
Re-opened at 10:25pm via motion from Jose Rivera, seconded by Christine Sheedy.

**School Calendar Reminder**

- November 22 – 1:00 p.m. prompt dismissal – All after school activities are cancelled.
- November 23-24 – Thanksgiving Day Break
- December 4 – Lifetouch Portraits make-up day
- December 7 – All after school activities are cancelled
- December 13 – US Open House 6-8 p.m.
- December 14 – Professional development day – 1:00pm dismissal for students – Movie Day is available.
- December 14 – K-8 Holiday Concert
- December 19 – Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at 360 First Street
- December 22 – 1:00 p.m. prompt dismissal – All after school activities are cancelled.
- December 25-January 1 – Schools are closed for Winter Break
- January 4 – Lottery Application Deadline
- January 11 – HCS Lottery to take place at 10:00 a.m. at the 713 Washington Street campus
- January 11 - Professional development day – 1:00pm dismissal for students – Movie Day is available.
- January 15 – Martin Luther King Holiday
- January 16 – Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at 713 Washington Street
- February 8 – Professional development day – 1:00pm dismissal for students – Movie Day is available.
- February 19-21 – February Break
- February 27 – Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at 360 First Street

**Executive Director's Report**

**Upper School Report**

8th Grade Move Up Day - On Friday, November 3rd all 8th graders from Hoboken Charter School, Elysian and several students from HoLa attended the 8th Grade Move Up Day program at HCS Upper School. Students arrived to the multi service center for a rainbow bagel breakfast, followed by mock schedules at our Upper School where every student had the opportunity to hear from every teacher and see the space.



## A K - 12 SERVICE LEARNING SCHOOL

Freshmen for a Day Program - Hoboken Charter School invites 8th graders to come and spend the morning with us, getting a true look at what being a student here is like. We pair the 8th graders up with current 9th graders and they follow the 9th graders schedule. Students spend from 8:10am to 12:01pm with us and are then dismissed with a HCS class of 2022 shirt. Thus far we have had 7 students from Learning Community Charter School, Golden Door Charter School, Lincoln School in North Bergen - we anticipate several more before applications are due.

Congratulations to the Upper School's "Students of the Month" for October 2017

- 9th Grade - Alyssa Vargas
- 10th Grade - Hadeer Elalfy
- 11th Grade - Travon Merritt
- 12th Grade - Kareem Parker

In recognition of School Violence Awareness Week (October 16-20), representatives from the Hoboken Police Department spoke to the Upper School staff about prevention and awareness of school-related issues stemming from social media. This information was then "turn-keyed" to our students through our student-advisory program.

Congratulations to Meghan Ryan, HCS-Upper School counselor, who was recently named as President of the Hudson County School Counselors Association.

On October 27th, the Upper School's service-learning club, GenerationOn, hosted a movie day. Students were invited to an after-school showing of "A Girl Like Her". This film deals with timely topics of bullying, harassment, and intimidation in schools. Our school counselor, Meghan Ryan, and social worker, Heather DeSimone, were available to discuss some of the topics/issues that were addressed in the film.

Congratulations to 12th grader Michael Nieves who was named as the TRUE Mentors' "Match of the Month"

Throughout the month of October, the Upper School's service-learning club, GenerationOn, created a program to help create a healthier and friendlier community. This school-wide program, entitled "Take What You Need" provided our students with a tangible way to see and choose what value or character trait that they may need to get through the day. Staff members also allowed students who were misbehaving or having a rough day to tear off a word from the posters. By allowing them to do this, students became more aware of their mindset, and with staff and student assistance took the initiative to "find" that value.

Congratulations to the Upper School's Girls Volleyball team that placed second in the Passaic Arts High School's end-of-season volleyball tournament.

For the first time, the Upper School, in conjunction with our middle school, will be fielding a robotics team. At their first two meets, they have made it to the final round each time. Our students have dedicated countless hours to building a robot that is competitive at the state level. Despite 7am meeting times on Saturday mornings, eight students have consistently participated in the events. This and the "Girls Who Code" club are part of the Upper School's efforts to increase girls' participation in STEM activities.

Ms. Baird's 11th grade Environmental Science classes have spent four days researching alternative energy sources and how they work (ex: geothermal, wind power, solar power, etc.), where NJ gets most of its energy from, and ways that energy can be saved at home. They created informational pamphlets and

presentations. Once all of the research was completed and the pamphlets were finalized, they went to the lower school where the juniors split into stations around the room. In these stations, the 11th graders presented to the 7th and 8th graders about alternative energy sources and ways to save energy.

### **Lower School/Middle School Administrative Reports**

On Saturday, October 28, 2017, members of the Hoboken Charter School Middle School Math Team, under the leadership of Mr. Kunkel, competed in the iLearn Math Contest at Princeton University. At the end of the group round, HCS was one of the top 10 teams and was able to send a representative to compete individually in a fast paced challenge in front of the entire audience. There were over 160 students competing in the challenge, so this was quite an achievement.

On Monday, October 30, the eighth grade class, under the guidance of Maria Diaz, put on a bake sale and online campaign to support hurricane relief efforts in Puerto Rico. The class has met their goal of raising \$1000 to buy two generators for the island.

On Friday, November 3, the eighth graders, along with eighth graders from HoLa and Elysian, visited the Upper School to learn more about the Upper School program.

The HCS First Tech Challenge (FTC) Robotics Team competed on Saturday, November 4, 2017 for the "Havoc on the Hudson" meet at High Tech High School. This was the team's first meet and despite being rookies, the team earned third seed of sixteen teams and made it through the elimination matches to the finals. The Robotics Team is a cross-program collaboration between our Middle and Upper Schools, led by Mr. Kunkel and Mr. Greif. The team will next compete altogether on December 2, 2017 at Central Jersey College Prep Charter School.

Matthew Persico, 7th and 8th grade humanities teacher, won the first place Kidsbridge Character Education Leadership Award. This award recognizes a New Jersey teacher for outstanding character education and bullying prevention leadership in their school. Mr. Persico will be honored at the Kidsbridge Humanitarian Awards Celebration this winter.

Over the weekend of November 4-5, K-8 art teacher and coordinator of service learning SK Duff was profiled on the "Sports Stars of Tomorrow" TV program, highlighting his nomination for LifeChanger of the Year.

One of our Lower and Middle School classes have participated in experiential field trips outside of the classroom:

- Second grade visited the Hoboken Historical Museum
- Eighth grade participated in a "Dia de los Muertos" workshop in New York City with the ninth graders
- Kindergarten visited the Hoboken Fire Department
- Eighth grade participated in a Revolutionary War walking tour in New York City
- The first and second grades visited Turtleback Zoo
- Fifth and sixth grade students in the engineering elective is visiting the "Canstruction" exhibit in New York City



- Girls Who Code visited Estee Lauder in New York City
- Girls Who Code visited LittleBits
- The third and fourth grades visited Lincoln Center
- Fifth grade visited the Museum of Math in New York City

### **Student Suspensions**

- One Upper School student has been suspended for 4 days for infraction # 2, 3, 11, 17, 27 of the Code of Student Conduct.
- One Upper School student has been suspended for 2 days for infraction # 10 of the Code of Student Conduct.
- One Upper School student has been suspended for 2 days for infraction # 10 of the Code of Student Conduct.

### **Board of Trustees Committee Reports**

### **New Business**

### **Public Comments**

### **Executive Session**

- Matters related to personnel
- Executive matters

### **F. Adjournment of Meeting**

Whereas, the business of the regular meeting has been concluded, now, therefore be it resolved that the HCS Board of Trustees adjourned their meeting of Tuesday, November 21, 2017.

It is hereby certified that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the HCS Board of Trustees, by the vote below indicated at the regular meeting held on Tuesday, November 21, 2017.

*Moved by*\_\_\_\_*Jose Rivera*\_\_\_\_\_ *Seconded by*\_\_\_\_*Anthony Felella*\_\_\_\_\_

*Action taken*\_\_\_\_\_ *OK*\_\_\_\_\_

*Certified by Board Secretary* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date*\_\_\_\_\_ *11.21.17*\_\_\_\_\_ *Adjournment* \_\_\_\_\_ *10:30pm*\_\_\_\_\_