



A K – 12 SERVICE LEARNING SCHOOL

Board Minutes

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2018 - 7:00 PM
360 FIRST 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) |
| Lauren Calmas | ✓ | |
| Anthony Felella | ✓ | |
| Lisa McIntyre | | ✓ |
| Jose Rivera | ✓ | |
| Christine Sheedy | ✓ | |
| Mark Silberberg | ✓ | |

Deirdra Grode, Executive Director

Morton Mark, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Also in attendance: Julianne O’Connell, President of FOHCS, Daria Vogel parent of two HCS students

Summary Notes from the Meeting

- Executive Director Deirdra Grode informed the Board that Upper School Principal Chris Sell will not return for the 2018-2019 school year. The Board communicated to Chris its deep appreciation for the work that he has done in moving the Upper School program forward. Chris will continue to lead the program through the end of the school year and will work with Deirdra as the transition plan is developed.
- Program reports from the Executive Director and Principals were given and can be found below.
- School Business Administrator Morton Marks presented on the strong fiscal status of the school. The report included updates on the new online lunch program; there was some discussion about how to ensure that the program is accessible to all. He also reported on potential changes to the health plan for faculty and staff that should help to keep health care costs in check while still maintaining the high level of quality that we want to provide as an employee benefit. This led to some initial conversation regarding the 2018-2019 budget that will be discussed and approved at the March Meetings.
- The Management Committee discussed the current evolving plans for the development of a formal strategic plan for the Hoboken Charter School. The initial stages of this plan will engage the Executive Director and her leadership team in important visioning work. As the plan is developed, there will be opportunities for this work to be shared with the community as well as providing opportunities for community feedback



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- The Facilities Committee provided an update on plans involving 709 Washington Street and the ongoing work being undertaken by members of the Board and the Friends of the Hoboken Charter School as part of this project.
 - This led into a conversation about ways to better clarify for the community the role of the Friends of the Hoboken Charter School and the Board of the Hoboken Charter School. A number of ideas to increase and leverage parent involvement and increase transparency were discussed. This update, which will be an ongoing feature in the weekly news following board meetings, represents one way in which we hope to make the work of the Board clearer to the HCS community.
- During the public comment portion of the meeting, Daria Vogel spoke to this idea of increasing awareness of the role of the board as being an important one for the larger school community.
- Prior to adjourning the meeting, the Board went into closed session for discussion related to legal and facilities issues.

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 January 29, 2018, 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 January 24, 2018 are available for review and/or correction and approval.

I move that the minutes of the Hoboken Board of Trustees Meeting on January 24, 2018 be approved.

Moved by_____ Mark Silberberg _____ Seconded by_____ Christine Sheedy_____

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 | ✓ | | | |



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| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|--|--|
| Mark Silberberg | ✓ | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|--|--|

Public comment/questions on agenda items for the meeting

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.

Presentations: Agenda items were not submitted for this meeting.

A. Policy

Agenda items were not submitted for this meeting.

B. Educational Planning

Agenda items were not submitted for this meeting.

C. Personnel

- I. I move that the Board accepts the resignation of Chris Sell, effective June 30, 2018.

Roll Call Vote

| <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 | ✓ | | | |

D. Finance

Motion by: _____ Jason Altberger _____ Seconded by: _____ Anthony Felella _____

II. 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 |
| 11.30.17 | 573,885 | 827,490 |
| 12.31.17 | 925,648 | 1,123,982 |
| 01.31.18 | 950,477 | 1,001,185 |



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- III. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the submission of the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Waiver to NJDOE.
- IV. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the Board Secretary Report as of January 31, 2018, as received in the monthly financial report as per DOE requirements.
- V. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the Treasurer's Report, as of January 31, 2018, as received in the monthly financial report as per DOE requirements.
- VI. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the Budget Transfers as received in the monthly financial report as per DOE requirements.
- VII. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the bills as received in the monthly financial report as per DOE requirements.
- VIII. 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 January 31, 2018, 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).
- IX. 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 January 31, 2018.
- X. 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

| <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 | ✓ | | | |

E. Information Items

Enrollment as of January 24, 2018

| <i>Grade</i> | <i>Current</i> | <i>Grade</i> | <i>Current</i> | <i>Grade</i> | <i>Current</i> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|



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| | | | | | |
|-----------------|----|-----------------|----|---------------------|-----|
| <i>K</i> | 22 | <i>5</i> | 22 | <i>9</i> | 26 |
| <i>1</i> | 22 | <i>6</i> | 22 | <i>10</i> | 25 |
| <i>2</i> | 22 | <i>7</i> | 22 | <i>11</i> | 24 |
| <i>3</i> | 22 | <i>8</i> | 22 | <i>12</i> | 21 |
| <i>4</i> | 22 | | | <i>Total</i> | 294 |

School Calendar Reminder

- February 19-23 – February Break
- March 8 – Prof. Dev. day – 1:00pm dismissal for students – Movie Day is available.
- March 20 – Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at 713 Washington Street.
- March 27 – Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at 360 First Street.
- March 29 – 1:00 p.m. prompt dismissal – All after school activities are cancelled.
- March 30 – Schools closed for Spring Break.
- April 1-6 – Schools closed for Spring Break.
- April 19 – Prof. Dev. day – 1:00pm dismissal for students – Movie Day is available.
- April 24 – Board Meeting at **6:00 PM** at 713 Washington Street. The Board will be in closed session until 7:00pm.
- May 10 – Prof. Dev. day – 1:00pm dismissal for students – Movie Day is available.
- May 15 – Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at 360 First Street.
- May 25 – 1:00pm Dismissal – No After School Activities.
- May 28 – School Closed for Memorial Day
- June 5 – Summer Gathering (June 6 – Summer Gathering Rain Date)
- June 14 – Field Day 1:00pm Dismissal for students only – No After School Activities. (June 15 – Field Day Rain Date)
- June 18-20 – 1:00pm Dismissal for students only
- June 19 – Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at 713 Washington Street.
- June 20 – Last Day of School
- June 20 – Graduation for 8th and 12th Grades

Executive Director's Report

On January 31st, HCS Kindergarten through 12th grade students participated in a celebration of peace and justice in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Speakers from the lower, middle and upper schools shared their hopes for the future and Mayor Ravi Bhalla shared an inspirational speech with our students. This event followed classroom activities across all grades in which students studied human rights and activists who have fought for change. Additionally in preparation, 9-12 students had opportunities to work with K-4 students to discuss what they have been learning in class and to collaboratively create signage for the event.

Upper School Report

During the month of January, the Upper School's GenerationOn Club held a clothing drive. Students collected hats, mittens, gloves, jackets, and socks for the homeless.

As part of their Social Justice classwork, the Upper School's 11th and 12th grade students attended a showing of "Rhapsody in Black" at Kean University. "Rhapsody in Black" is a one man show that explores Leland's personal journey to understand and eventually transcend racism in America. At the end of the show, our students had an opportunity to meet the cast for an informal "question and answer" session.



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On January 31st, Mr. Gregory and Ms. Addona took 23 of our Upper School students to the New Amsterdam Theatre on Broadway for an experience of a lifetime. Our students participated in a "Disney on Broadway" workshop. This workshop allowed our students to step into the shoes of a director, choreographer, and music director. Our students learned key skills of storytelling and theater making and then, working in small groups, staged a portion of the show and made famous moments of a Broadway musical their own! Through the process, they experimented with communication, collaboration, and leadership techniques. Led by Disney Teaching Artists, this workshop gave our students the opportunity to explore all aspects of theater from performance to behind the scenes. Special thanks to Mr. Gregory's wife who helped arrange this special, once-in-a-lifetime event for our students.

Lower School/Middle School Administrative Reports

On Friday, January 19, the Lower and Middle School peer mentoring program had its first meeting. Students met their mentors and mentees and had lunch with them in the multi-purpose room. Students then played ice breaker games to get to know one another.

HCS was represented by one of our fourth grade students on Saturday, February 3 in the Hudson County Spelling Bee.

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

- The third and fourth grade visited the United Nations
- The seventh grade visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Student Suspensions

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

Board of Trustees Committee Reports

New Business

Public Comments

Julianne O'Connell, President of FOHCS - discussed methods of fundraising for the school
Daria Vogel HCS parent - would like to see better communication between the board and the parents

Executive Session

- Matters related to personnel
- Executive matters

⇒ Meeting went into closed session at 8:31pm via motion from Christine Sheedy, seconded by Jose Rivera.
Re-opened at 9:14pm via motion from Christine Sheedy, seconded by Jose Rivera.



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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, February 13, 2018.

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, February 13, 2018.

Motion by: _____ Christine Sheedy _____ **Seconded by:** _____ Mark Silberberg _____

| <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 | ✓ | | | |

Certified by Board Secretary _____

Date _____ *2.13.18* _____ *Adjournment* _____ *9:15pm* _____