



Board Minutes

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
APRIL 25, 2017 - 7:00 PM**

Opening of Meeting/Opening 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.

Review of the call for the meeting

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 September 20, 2016 at City Hall and the City Clerk's Office on Washington Street and by advertisement in the *Hoboken Reporter* and the *Jersey Journal*.

Board Member	Voting	Present	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X	
John Berger	Voting		X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X	
Anthony Felella	Voting	X	
Lisa McIntyre	Voting		X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X	
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X	
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X	
		6	2

Also present: Morton Marks, Deirdra Grode, Chris Sell, Elizabeth Niesz & Loretta Bellina

Consideration of minutes from the last Board meeting

Minutes of the previous public Board meetings held March 21, 2017 are available for review and/or correction and approval.

I move that the minutes of the Hoboken Board of Trustees Meeting on March 21, 2017 be approved.

Moved by: Mark Silberberg

Seconded by: Christine Sheedy

Action taken: See action taken below:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting			X	
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting			X	
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		4	0	2	2

Designation of time, date and location for formal meetings and committees

I move that the Board of Trustees designates that formal Board of Trustees meetings during the 2016-2017 year occur at 7:00pm at 713 Washington Street on the following dates:

- September 13, 2016
- October 18, 2016
- November 15, 2016
- December 20, 2016
- January 17, 2017
- February 8, 2017
- February 13, 2017
- February 16, 2017
- March 21, 2017
- April 25, 2017
- May 16, 2017
- June 20, 2017

The Tuesdays before each meeting are reserved for committee meetings.

Moved by: Christine Sheedy

Seconded by: Mark Silberberg

Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

1. 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.

2. Enrollment as of April 25, 2017

Grade	Current	Grade	Current	Grade	Current
K	22	5	22	9	25
1	22	6	22	10	25
2	22	7	22	11	25
3	22	8	22	12	25
4	22			Total	298

3. School Calendar Reminder

- April 27 – Staff professional development - 1pm dismissal
Movie Day is available for Lower and Middle School students
- May 11 – Staff professional development - 1pm dismissal
- Movie Day is available for Lower and Middle School students
- May 16 – Board Meeting at 713 Washington Street 7pm
- May 26 – 1:00pm dismissal. No afterschool activities.

- May 29 – Lower, Middle and Upper Schools closed for Memorial Day
- June 6 – Summer Gathering for the Lower and Middle School at Frank Sinatra Park at 6:00pm. The rain date is June 7.
- June 8 – Field Day for the Lower and Middle School at Pier A Park. The rain date is rain date is June 9.
- June 8 – Staff professional development - 1pm dismissal – After school activities cancelled
- June 20, 21, 22 – 1:00pm days for the Lower and Middle School
- June 21, 22, 23 – 1:00pm days for the Upper School
- June 22 – Last day of school for the Lower and Middle School
- June 22 – Commencement Ceremony for the 8th Grade
- June 20 – Board Meeting at 713 Washington Street 7pm
- June 23 – Last day of school for the Upper School
- June 23 – Graduation for the 12th Grade

4. Report from K-12 Executive Director

Dr. Khyati Joshi, a professor of Education at Fairleigh Dickinson University, will be leading a session on Tuesday, May 2 from 7:00-8:30 pm to discuss how HCS parents can talk to their K-12 children about topics related to Social Justice and Diversity. While the focus will be on openly and supportively talking about race, racism and discrimination with children, Dr. Joshi will take an intersectional approach, addressing other social identities (class, gender, religion, sexual orientation). Dr. Joshi will also talk about how parents need to consider their own social identities, and how these identities impact the ways in which they view the world, their parenting practices, and their day-to-day experiences. This session will support HCS's work with its teachers in a year-long professional development series on building cultural competence and supporting our work around social justice in our school program.

12th grade HCS Teacher Cadets have been lesson planning with their cooperating teachers in preparation to teach their first formal lesson to students in the K-8 program. Lesson topics range from extreme weather to visualization as a reading strategy to sign language. Their teachers have been pleased with the creativity witnessed so far in planning. The students are excited to deliver the lessons they have been working so hard to design.

The School Safety Team met on March 16 to review the results from the annual staff and student surveys. The survey looks to gather information about the following:

- Feeling of Safety, Welcomeness, Respect
- Awareness and Understanding of School Policies
- Incidence of Bullying and Satisfaction with School Response
- Electronic Activities and Social Media
- Parental Interest in Programs/Events

Some data highlights include:

- 98% of families have a positive feeling about HCS
- 95% of families say they have never felt unwelcome at HCS
- 91% of families say they are aware of HCS's bullying policy
- The number of students aware of HCS's bullying policy increased from 67% to 75% from last year
- 93% of families feel that if their child reports unsafe behavior at school, it will be handled as soon as possible

5. Report from Lower and Middle School Administration

On Saturday, March 25, two teams from Hoboken Charter School participated in the New Jersey regional Destination Imagination competition, under the leadership of math teacher Chris Kunkel. Middle Schoolers Emmett Greer, Luke Kelly, Emilia Rokeach, Alex White and Sydney White came in second place in the “In It Together, Middle Level” competition. They built a balsa wood structure weighing just 26 grams that was able to support 270 pounds. As one of the top two teams in their division, they have qualified for the Destination Imagination Global Finals in Knoxville, TN.

From the Destination Imagination website: The Destination Imagination program is a fun, hands-on system of learning that fosters students’ creativity, courage and curiosity through open-ended academic Challenges in the fields of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), fine arts and service learning. Our participants learn patience, flexibility, persistence, ethics, respect for others and their ideas, and the collaborative problem solving process. Teams may showcase their solutions at a tournament.

Under the direction of Sean Gavarny and Matt Persico, the Middle School put on a production of "Beauty and the Beast," on Friday, March 31 and Saturday, April 1.

The Lower and Middle School Peer Mentoring Program kicked off on Monday, April 3. Mentors and mentees were paired and had the opportunity to meet. Additional activities and programs are planned for the spring.

For the second time in as many years, the fourth grade class has been selected to perform on stage at Carnegie Hall. Led by music teacher Sean Gavarny, the students had to submit an audition tape, which was selected for the performance. The performance will be later on this spring.

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

- Grade 3 and 4 visited Lincoln Center
- Grade 6 visited Glassroots
- The Artsbridge Elective "Yo Go Girl" visited Seneca Falls to visit the National Women's Hall of Fame and the Elizabeth Cady Stanton House
- The Artsbridge Elective "Yo Go Girl" also visited the Sackler Center for Feminist Art featuring Judy Chicago's "The Dinner Party" at the Brooklyn Museum
- Several students from grades 6 and 7 participated in a Leadership Academy hosted by St. Peter's Prep and St. Dominic Academy

6. Report from Upper School Administration

On Friday, March 21st 18 female students from Hoboken Charter School’s Upper School attended the Junior Achievement of New Jersey's Girls STEM/Business Career Success Workshop at Stevens Institute of Technology. Students participated in an Executive Panel Discussion, breakout team activities centered on Critical Thinking and Problem Solving and a Team Building STEM Challenge. The students had a Networking Lunch, then did a Soft Skills Self-Assessment and participated in Mock Job Interviews before the day completed with a forecast for women in STEM. Also in attendance was Lauren Calmas, HCS Board President.



A K – 12 SERVICE LEARNING SCHOOL

As part of our students' senior project, the students have been meeting and working with their senior advisory mentors with regards to the seniors' service learning projects.

In conjunction with Generation On and to increase our understanding of the impact our choices have on the environment, our Upper School students have been working on the following items:

- a) Our students will be engaging in a weekly project that asks students what pledges they can make to better the environment and reduce the amount of "waste" at the Upper School.
- b) In our Environmental Science courses, Mr. Stires has been working with the students on researching alternative energy and putting together pamphlets to educate both our student body and the local community.

As part of the Upper School's commitment to develop empathy, take action through service and advocacy, and work with the local community, Generation On members have been volunteering with the St. Matthews Trinity Lunchtime ministry. Our students have the opportunity to work behind the scenes organizing toiletries and pantries, cleaning the kitchen, sorting items, and so much more. Our students were very grateful for this opportunity and look forward to working with St. Matthews in the future.

As of April 1st, the Class of 2017 has been accepted to the following colleges/universities:

- Belmont University
- Boston College
- Saint Peters University
- Montclair State University
- Rutgers University
- Manhattan College
- University of New Haven
- Bergen Community College
- Chapman University
- University of Hartford
- Full Sail University
- Drexel University
- Hudson County Community College
- New England College
- Newbury College
- Kean University
- Delaware Valley University
- William Patterson University
- Rutgers-Camden

7. Report From Business Administrator

03/31/17

Period	Book Cash Bal	Fund Balance
07.31.16	775,532	937,073
08.31.16	793,416	860,983
09.30.16	799,138	865,078
10.31.16	938,264	947,061

11.30.16	782,357	869,163
12.31.16	981,766	1,110,077
01.31.17	850,126	992,107
02.28.17	996,763	1,168,089
03.31.17	1,064,762	995,823

8. Questions from Board and Public on Reports: 10 minutes will be allotted for questions related to the Executive Director, Lower and Middle School Principal, Upper School Principal and Business Administrator's report.

9. Consideration of Motions Related to Policy (First Reading):

- I. I move that the Board of Trustees conducts a first reading of the Streamline Tenure Acquisition and Dismissal policy to replace the current Granting of Teacher Tenure and Certification of Tenure Charges policy.*

Moved by: Mark Silberberg

Seconded by: Christine Sheedy

Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

10. Consideration of Motions Related to Instruction

- I. I move 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.*

- Loretta Bellina

Moved by: Lauren Calmas

Seconded by: Mark Silberberg

Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

II. *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.*

- *Loretta Bellina*

Moved by: Lauren Calmas

Seconded by: Mark Silberberg

Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

III. *I move that the Board of Trustees approves the employment agreement for Dr. Loretta Bellina as Interim Executive Director for the duration of the current Executive Director's leave in the 2017-2018 school year as well as additional "shadow days" to be scheduled with Dr. Bellina in advance of the leave.*

Moved by: Lauren Calmas

Seconded by: Mark Silberberg

Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

11. Consideration of Motions Related To Board Operations

- I. I move that the Board of Trustees approves the Upper School membership resolution to the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association at a cost of \$2,150 for the 2017-2018 academic year.*

Moved by: Anthony Felella

Seconded by: Jason Altberger

Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

- II. I move that the Board of Trustees approves the Board Secretary Report as of March 31, 2017, as received and as per DOE requirements. See attached file at the end of the minutes.*

Moved by: Anthony Felella

Seconded by: Jason Altberger

Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

III. *I move that the Board of Trustees approves the Treasurer’s Report, as of March 31, 2017, as listed below in the minutes, and as per DOE requirements.*

Moved by: Anthony Felella

Seconded by: Jason Altberger

Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

IV. *I move that the Board of Trustees approves the Budget Transfers as listed below in the minutes, and as per DOE requirements.*

Moved by: Anthony Felella

Seconded by: Jason Altberger

Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

- V. *I move that the Board of Trustees approves the bills as listed below in the minutes, and as per DOE requirements.*

Moved by: *Anthony Felella*

Seconded by: *Jason Altberger*

Action taken: *Unanimous:*

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

- VI. *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 March 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).*

Moved by: *Anthony Felella*

Seconded by: *Jason Altberger*

Action taken: *Unanimous:*

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

- VII. *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 March 31, 2017.*

Moved by: *Anthony Felella*

Seconded by: *Jason Altberger*

Action taken: *Unanimous:*

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

VIII. 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.

Moved by: Anthony Felella

Seconded by: Jason Altberger

Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

12. Student Suspensions

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Chief School Administrator has recommended that the suspension of student bearing identification number 71026240 be continued;

WHEREAS, on 4/25/17, a formal disciplinary hearing was held before the Board of Trustees in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.3;

WHEREAS, at the formal disciplinary hearing, the Board of Trustees received testimony from the Hoboken Charter School administration;

WHEREAS, at the formal disciplinary hearing, the administration presented evidence that the Student engaged in conduct in violation of the Student Code of Conduct;

WHEREAS, after hearing testimony from the administration, the Board of Trustees determined that the preponderance of the evidence indicates that he/she engaged in conduct that is in violation of the Student Code of Conduct; and

WHEREAS, after extensive deliberations, the Board of Trustees determined to uphold the administration’s recommendation to suspend the Student for the remainder of the school year and pursuant to the terms and conditions that will subsequently be provided to the student and his/her parents within five school days.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Hoboken Charter School Board of Trustees hereby continues the suspension of the Student for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby determines that the Student shall not be present on any of the Board of Education’s school premises before, during, and after the regularly-scheduled school day during the period of his/her suspension, unless specifically authorized by the Chief School Administrator;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby determines that the Student shall not be permitted to participate in any athletic, co-curricular and/or extra-curricular activities sponsored by the Board of Trustees, and shall not be present for, or attend, any Board of Trustees sponsored activities, either on Board of Trustees premises or in any school district where the Hoboken Charter School is participating in the activities during the period of suspension; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an alternate education shall continue to be provided to the Student during his/her suspension.

Moved by: Mark Silberberg

Seconded by: Christine Sheedy

Action taken: Unanimous

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

- One Upper School student has been suspended for 3 days each for infraction # 10 of the Code of Student Conduct.
- One Upper School student has been suspended for 6 days for infractions # 10, 17, and 26 of the Code of Student Conduct.
- One Upper School student has been suspended for 10 days for infractions # 36 of the Code of Student Conduct.

13. Consideration of Motions Related To Board Operations for Discussion

⇒ Meeting went into closed session at 8:27pm via motion from Christine Sheedy, seconded by Anthony Felella.
Re-opened at 9:06pm via motion from Christine Sheedy, seconded by Anthony Felella

14. Board Committee Reports

15. New Business to come before the Board for Action



16. Executive Session

- Matters related to personnel
- Executive matters

17. 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, April 25, 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, April 25, 2017.

Moved by: Christine Sheedy **Seconded by:** Anthony Felella
Action taken: Unanimous:

Board Member	Voting	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Jason Altberger	Voting	X			
John Berger	Voting				X
Lauren Calmas	Voting	X			
Anthony Felella	Voting	X			
Lisa McIntyre	Voting				X
Jose Rivera	Voting	X			
Mark Silberberg	Voting	X			
Christine Sheedy	Voting	X			
		6	0	0	2

Certified by Board Secretary _____

Date 4 / 25 / 17 *Adjournment* 9:30pm