



A K - 12 SERVICE LEARNING SCHOOL

BOARD MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
JUNE 16, 2020
7:00 PM

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIRTUALLY WITH CALL-IN INFORMATION MADE PUBLIC IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.

1. Call to Order: 7:05 pm

2. 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 as a virtual meeting on May 18, 2020 via notification to City Hall, the City Clerk's Office on Washington Street and the *Hudson Reporter* and the *Jersey Journal*.

3. Summary Notes

The meeting started with Deirdra Grode leading the board through a review of the annual contract renewals for various contracted service providers. Most of these providers support the school's work around health and Child Study Team services. Recommendations were made to the board for new classroom hires for the 2020-2021 school year. Deirdra Grode enthusiastically presented Steve Literati for the role of Chief Financial Officer, Board Treasurer and Board Secretary and spoke to his experience and the hiring process. Steve Literati spoke about his experience and responded to questions from the board members. The board voted to give contracts to Mr. Literati, a teacher and a maternity leave replacement teacher.

Deirdra Grode spoke to end of the year events. More detailed reports from administration can be found in the board agenda below. Elizabeth Palma spoke to the School Safety Team Self-Evaluation and the State reporting process.

Amanda Grant updated the board on the capital campaign which has already raised an impressive \$18,000 from individuals and companies. Joy Wheeler updated the board on the 709 Washington Street progress as well as the move from 360 First St. and 124 Grand Street to 709 Washington Street.

The board thanked Kelly Wilson Pansy for her service to the Board of Trustees via her role on the Finance Committee and approved her appointment to the Board.

4. Roll Call

TRUSTEE	PRESENT	ABSENT
John Berger	X	
Lauren Calmas	X	
Amanda Grant	X	
Lisa McIntyre	X	



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Christine Sheedy		X
Mark Silberberg	X	
Joy Wheeler	X	

Deirdra Grode, Executive Director and Board Secretary for this 6/16/20 meeting

Also in attendance: Kelly Wilson Pansy, Joanna Weintraub, Elizabeth Palma, Steve Literati

5. Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the previous public Board meetings held June 10, 2020 are available for review and/or correction and acceptance.

Motion for HCS Board of Trustees to accept the minutes of the Hoboken Board of Trustees Meeting on June 10, 2020.

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger		X			
Lauren Calmas		X			
Amanda Grant		X			
Lisa McIntyre	2	X			
Christine Sheedy					X
Mark Silberberg	1	X			
Joy Wheeler		X			

6. 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.

7. Finance

7.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for Giant Steps.

7.2 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for Whole Body Fitness.

7.3 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for Colette Robinson, Doctor of Physical Therapy, LLC.

7.4 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for D. W. Putt, Educational Services.

7.5 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for Bedford Psychological Services, PC.

7.6 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for Essex Regional Education Services Commission.



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7.7 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract Preferred Home Health Care and Nursing Services.

7.8 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approved the Board Secretary and Reconciliation Report(s) for May 2020, as per the attached; and pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a), the Hoboken Charter School Board of Trustees secretary's certification, and after review of the monthly financial report (appropriations section) certifies that, to the best of its knowledge, as of May 2020, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the school's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

7.9 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the bills list from May 8 to June 16, 2020.

7.10 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the following payrolls:

Date	Amount
June 1, 2020	\$123,999.04

7.11 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the contract with School Business Office LLC to provide School Business Administrator services.

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger		X			
Lauren Calmas		X			
Amanda Grant	2	X			
Lisa McIntyre		X			
Christine Sheedy					X
Mark Silberberg	1	X			
Joy Wheeler		X			

8. Personnel

8.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the resignation of Travis Novack as of June 30, 2020.

8.2 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the resignation of Evangelina Pena as of June 30, 2020.

8.3 Resolved, that the Hoboken Charter school 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.

- Ivan Garcia
- Elyse Warren Alter
- Steve Literati



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8.4 Resolved, that the Hoboken Charter School 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.

- Ivan Garcia
- Elyse Warren Alter
- Steve Literati

8.5 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Ivan Garcia as Maternity Leave Replacement Teacher.

8.6 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Elyse Warren Alter as Teacher for the 2020-2021 academic year.

8.7 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Steve Literati as Business Administrator/Treasurer/Board Secretary for the 2020-2021 academic year.

8.8 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Deirdra Grode as Hoboken Charter School Executive Director for the 2020-2021 academic year.

8.9 Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the Renewal of Emergency Certificate for Salma Malik, Nurse.

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger		X			
Lauren Calmas		X			
Amanda Grant		X			
Lisa McIntyre	1	X			
Christine Sheedy					X
Mark Silberberg	2	X			
Joy Wheeler		X			

9. Enrollment

Enrollment – June 16, 2020

Grade	Current	Grade	Current	Grade	Current
K	22	5	22	9	27
1	22	6	22	10	23
2	22	7	22	11	26
3	22	8	22	12	24
4	22			Total	298

10. K-12 Report

On June 11, the K-12 faculty presented work they engaged students in this school year via mission-aligned practices to their peers. There were opportunities to ask questions and provide



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feedback. This annual cross-grade share is an excellent opportunity for our teachers and staff to celebrate and learn from one another –particularly around SJE and SL. The event followed with the annual end of year party which was held virtually this year. The Sunshine Committee presented awards to all K-12 faculty and staff which may become a new HCS tradition. It was a fun afternoon of sharing, learning and celebrating.

The HCS administration continues to stay informed on guidance from the State as well as from other states and agencies to begin planning for the 2020-2021 school year. Additionally, the administration continues to plan for the move of the upper school from the temporary sites to ultimately our shared campus.

A moving video montage was created by the Sunshine Committee thanking Maria Nunez for her twenty years of service to HCS. Videos from staff, students, alumni and parents were included.

11. Lower/Middle School Report

On Thursday, May 21, HCS hosted a virtual move up day. Students in grades K-4 and 6 met with their teachers for next year.

On June 2-3, HCS hosted its first virtual talent show. Students submitted videos playing instruments, singing, dancing, doing magic, telling jokes and other talents. Thank you to Mr. Gavarny for organizing this event in place of summer gathering.

First grade students have been working hard on creating a realistic fiction book series consisting of four books. Students have been presenting one of their books to the class virtually during the week of June 8.

Through virtual art classes, Mr. Duff has had students participate in the "Getty Challenge" of recreating famous works of art with household items. HCS has been submitting entries to the program.

On June 16, the eighth grade class participated in a virtual commencement ceremony followed by a reception with staff.

12. Upper School Report

Teachers have continued to be innovative and flexible during online learning. Elective Week was well received and students seemed to enjoy engaging in different types of learning. Opportunities for community connections were also continued through class events and lunch chats. Social worker, Heather DeSimone, and Ben Gonzalez supported the Student Social Justice Ambassadors as they hosted a discussion about recent events and protests.

Seniors were gifted with a celebratory yard sign, a senior t-shirt, and a gift bag with snacks and a gift card. Staff worked to create a video with messages from Board President, Lauren Calmas, and State Senator Cory Booker, as well as personal messages for each senior. This shared on the last day of school with our seniors and their families.



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We continue communication with the City of Hoboken and the Office of Emergency Management to design a modified in-person graduation aligned with requirements set forth by the NJDOE. We hope to announce the plan and date soon.

13. Board of Trustees Committee Reports

14. Board Business/Miscellaneous

- 14.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Kelly Wilson Pansy as a trustee of the Hoboken Charter School Board of Trustees.

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger		X			
Lauren Calmas	1	X			
Amanda Grant		X			
Lisa McIntyre	2	X			
Christine Sheedy					X
Mark Silberberg		X			
Joy Wheeler		X			

13. New Business

14. Public Comments

15. Executive Session

The meeting went into closed session at 8:49 p.m. via motion from Lisa McIntyre and seconded by Lauren Calmas.

16. Return to Open Session

The meeting re-opened at 9:25 p.m. via motion from Lisa McIntyre and seconded by Lauren Calmas.

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, June 16, 2020.

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, June 16, 2020.

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger		X			
Lauren Calmas	2	X			
Amanda Grant		X			
Lisa McIntyre	1	X			
Christine Sheedy					X
Mark Silberberg		X			



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Joy Wheeler		X			
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Certified by Board Secretary _____

Date June 16, 2020 Adjournment 9:26 pm