



A K – 12 SERVICE LEARNING SCHOOL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2020
713 WASHINGTON STREET
HOBOKEN, NJ 07030
7:00 PM

BOARD MINUTES

Call to Order

Roll Call

| TRUSTEE | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| John Berger | √ | |
| Lauren Calmas | √ | |
| Amanda Grant | | √ |
| Lisa McIntyre | √ | |
| Christine Sheedy | √ (arrived at 7:14 p.m.) | |
| Mark Silberberg | √ | |
| Joy Wheeler | √ | |

Deirdra Grode, Executive Director/Board Secretary 1/21/2020

Also in attendance: Deirdra Grode, Melissa Fisher, Joanna Weintraub, Devika Kumar, Alvaro Hasani, Dana Wissing, Lynda Early, Rachel Clowe, Diego Chavez, Chris Esposito

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 announcement was shared on October 4, 2019 to City Hall and the City Clerk’s Office on Washington Street and for advertisement in the *Hudson Reporter*, *Bergen Record* and the *Jersey Journal*.

Summary Notes

Jen Tarangelo, 4th Grade Teacher, and six 4th grade students presented about their impressive Pennies for Patients campaign through which they raised for over \$8,000 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Students shared what they learned in the process including numerous STEM, communication and SEL standards and skills. The presentation was very impressive!

School financial report information as well as lottery results and enrollment figures were shared. Reports regarding the K-12 program can be found in the meeting agenda as well.

Lisa McIntyre provided an update on work with Enrollhand toward extending highly effective middle school STEM programming through the upper school and creating additional interage experiences in STEM for our K-12 students. She and Deirdra Grode spoke about an additional grant they have been working on with the goal of furnishing the upper school with Steelcase furniture and equipment and benefiting from professional development to support active learning principles.



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Deirdra Grode shared an updated pamphlet for prospective families that introduced key principles of an education at Hoboken Charter School. She also spoke about work teachers across all disciplines and grades are doing to embed principles of social justice and service learning into their coursework.

Approve Minutes

Minutes of the previous public Board meetings held December 16, 2019 are available for review and/or correction and approval.

I move that the minutes of the Hoboken Board of Trustees Meeting on December 16, 2019 be approved.

Moved by Mark Silberberg Seconded by Lisa McIntyre

Action taken Approved

Roll Call Vote

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

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.

Presentation: Pennies for Patients – Jen Tarangelo, 4th Grade Teacher, and Students from the 4th Grade

1. Finance

Moved by Lauren Calmas Seconded by Mark Silberberg

Action taken Approved

- I. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approved the Board Secretary and Reconciliation Report(s) for December 2019, 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 December 2019, no major account or fund has been over expended in



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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.

- II. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the bills list from December 17, 2019 through January 21, 2020.
- III. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the following payrolls:

| Date | Amount |
|------------------|------------|
| January 1, 2020 | 125,552.83 |
| January 15, 2020 | 141,115.05 |

Roll Call Vote

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

2. Personnel

Moved by Christine Sheedy Seconded by Mark Silberberg

Action taken Approved

- I. Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the revised contract for Megan Baird.

Roll Call Vote

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

3. Information Items

January 21, 2020

| Grade | Current | Grade | Current | Grade | Current |
|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| K | 22 | 5 | 22 | 9 | 26 |
| 1 | 22 | 6 | 22 | 10 | 23 |



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| | | | | | |
|---|----|---|----|-------|-----|
| 2 | 22 | 7 | 22 | 11 | 26 |
| 3 | 22 | 8 | 22 | 12 | 24 |
| 4 | 22 | | | Total | 297 |

January 2020 Lottery Applications

| <i>Grade</i> | <i>Hoboken Siblings</i> | <i>Out of district siblings</i> | <i>Hoboken Residents</i> | <i>Out of District Residents</i> | <i>Total # applications</i> | <i>Applications received by deadline of 1/9/2020.</i> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Kindergarten: | 17 | 0 | 285 | 30 | 332 | |
| Grade 1: | 0 | 0 | 114 | 14 | 128 | |
| Grade 2: | 1 | 0 | 52 | 6 | 59 | |
| Grade 3: | 0 | 0 | 50 | 6 | 56 | |
| Grade 4: | 1 | 0 | 40 | 3 | 44 | |
| Grade 5: | 1 | 0 | 22 | 11 | 34 | |
| Grade 6: | 1 | 0 | 36 | 6 | 43 | |
| Grade 7: | 0 | 0 | 15 | 9 | 24 | |
| Grade 8: | 0 | 0 | 17 | 3 | 20 | |
| Grade 9: | 0 | 3 | 18 | 135 | 156 | |
| Grade 10: | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 7 | |
| Grade 11: | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 4 | |
| Grade 12: | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | |
| TOTALS | 21 | 4 | 655 | 232 | 912 | |

January 2019 Lottery Applications

| <i>Grade</i> | <i>Hoboken Siblings</i> | <i>Out of district siblings</i> | <i>Hoboken Residents</i> | <i>Out of District Residents</i> | <i>Total # applications</i> | <i>2019-2020</i> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Kindergarten: | 11 | 0 | 270 | 36 | 317 | |
| Grade 1: | 0 | 0 | 54 | 4 | 58 | |
| Grade 2: | 0 | 0 | 59 | 5 | 64 | |
| Grade 3: | 0 | 2 | 34 | 2 | 38 | |
| Grade 4: | 1 | 0 | 18 | 3 | 22 | |
| Grade 5: | 3 | 1 | 20 | 5 | 29 | |
| Grade 6: | 0 | 0 | 13 | 7 | 20 | |
| Grade 7: | 1 | 0 | 16 | 10 | 27 | |
| Grade 8: | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 6 | |
| Grade 9: | 0 | 8 | 12 | 100 | 120 | |
| Grade 10: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | |
| Grade 11: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | |
| Grade 12: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| TOTALS | 16 | 11 | 179 | 179 | 705 | |

School Calendar Reminder

- January 30 – Upper School report card night and conferences from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- February 7 – FoHCS Annual Gala



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- February 13 – Professional Development Day-students will have a 1:00 p.m. dismissal. Movie Day is available for K-8 students.
- February 17-21 – February Break – The Lower, Middle and Upper School will be closed.
- February 25 – Board Meeting at 360 First Street at 7:00 p.m.
- March 12 – Professional Development Day-students will have a 1:00 p.m. dismissal. Movie Day is available for K-8 students.
- March 17 – FoHCS Meeting – 713 Washington Street at 6:00 p.m.
- March 17 – Board Meeting at 713 Washington Street at 7:00 p.m.
- March 24 – Board Meeting at 360 First Street at 7:00 p.m.

K-12 Report

On January 16, in honor and celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., K-12 students marched while singing songs of freedom and justice (despite the cold weather) to City Hall carrying signs of protest and inspiration around issues of import to them. These signs were made in collaboration between the lower and upper schools. Leading up to the March, students explored the life and legacy of Dr. King, civil rights and historical and contemporary movements to address civil rights concerns. Student speakers from each division spoke to the school about why they marched, and Mayor Ravi Bhalla shared a proclamation from the City.

In advance of the school's January 16th lottery, members of the charter schools in Hoboken partnered with the City and HHA for an outreach event through which families could enjoy a holiday party with food, beverages and gifts. At this event, Hoboken Charter School shared information about the school and its weighted lottery and helped families complete applications.

Hoboken Charter School held its annual lottery on January 16, 2019 with its highest number of applicants in school history

Lower/Middle School Report

Hoboken Charter School fourth graders raised an incredible \$8,396.71 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society through a powerful service-learning experience they engaged in under the leadership of Jen Tarangelo, 4th grade teacher. Tonight, these inspiring students will share about their experience.

Throughout the fall, a number of the middle school students were working on solving online coding challenges and four of them went on to compete in the Cyber Robotics Coding Competition in person last month to compete in four challenges. HCS finished in fourth place in the mid-Atlantic region and HCS was invited to send two teams to the finals. Additionally, two middle school girls were recognized for being two of just forty-four students in the region (out of a few thousand) to complete all the coding challenges.

Upper School Report

We started the New Year with a pep rally in support of our basketball and cheer teams. Teams were introduced and helped to lead fun games and competitions. The Juniors carried away every win but the Seniors won for spirit and the Staff team gave them serious competition in the free throw challenge!



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We began a new tradition by hosting an Alumni Lunch in January. Seven members from the Classes of 2018 and 2019 took time out from Penn State, Rutgers University, Keystone College, St. Peter's University, Bloomfield College, and following their passions in full time jobs to share some advice with our current juniors and seniors. The alumni recommended that students finish high school strong and take school seriously. They discussed the pros and cons of living in a dorm and going away to college. They made recommendations about finding a balance in life after high school and how to find support when needed. Staff also met with the alumni separately to gather information about how best to support students in the transition from HCS.

The Upper School welcomed speaker Nathan Harmon, brought to us by Hunter's World. Hunter's World is an organization working to build a peer mentoring group among high school teens in order to create an environment in which they feel safe to discuss and manage their mental health and emotional stability. Hoboken Charter Upper School students who are involved with this organization helped to lead the daylong event.

Before the end of 2019, the Sophomores engaged in a community building activity designed by the school social worker and Upper School principal. The leaders that emerged from this will be ambassadors to the 4th grade and are helping to plan a similar experience with those students.

Mid January also included testing at the Upper School. All classes took Star360 assessments to provide mid year data used by staff to monitor growth as well as screen for needs. Select students took the NJSLA Fall Block assessments in in ELA and Math.

Juniors and Seniors worked with their class advisors to plan and host a Winter Wonderland school dance as a fundraiser for class events.

Our Seniors have worked all year with our College and Career Counselor and decisions are starting to come in. They report acceptances to William Paterson University, Seton Hall University, St. Peter's University, NJCU, Montclair State University, and Bloomfield College. We expect many more in the next few months!

Board of Trustees Committee Reports

New Business

Public Comments

Executive Session

The meeting went into closed session at 8:42 p.m. via motion from Lisa McIntyre and seconded by Christine Sheedy.

Return to Open Session

The meeting re-opened at 9:14 p.m. via motion from Lisa McIntyre and seconded by Christine Sheedy.

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, January 21, 2020.

