



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2021
7:00 PM

THIS MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL WITH CALL-IN INFORMATION MADE PUBLIC IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.

1. **Call to Order**
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 June 30, 2021, via notification to City Hall, the City Clerk's Office on Washington Street, the *Hudson Reporter*, the *Bergen Record* and the *Jersey Journal*.

Roll Call

TRUSTEE	PRESENT	ABSENT
John Berger		
Lauren Calmas		
Amanda Grant		
Lisa McIntyre		
Kelly Pansy		
Christine Sheedy		
Mark Silberberg		
Joy Wheeler		
Dana Wissing		

Deirdra Grode, Executive Director
Steve Literati, CFO and Board Secretary and Board Treasurer

3. **Acceptance of Minutes for October 19, 2021**

Minutes of the previous public Board meeting held October 19, 2021, 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 October 19, 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger					
Lauren Calmas					

Amanda Grant					
Lisa McIntyre					
Kelly Pansy					
Christine Sheedy					
Mark Silberberg					
Joy Wheeler					
Dana Wissing					

4. 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.

5. Personnel

5.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Dari Lyons for the role of Teacher for the 2021-2022 academic year, subject to completion of a county sub license, certification, and/or criminal background check effective November 15, 2021.

5.2 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Martha Mendez as a Substitute Teacher on an as-needed basis, subject to completion of a county sub license, certification, and/or criminal background check.

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger					
Lauren Calmas					
Amanda Grant					
Lisa McIntyre					
Kelly Pansy					
Christine Sheedy					
Mark Silberberg					
Joy Wheeler					
Dana Wissing					

6. Finance

6.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approved the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports for October 2021, 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 October 31, 2021, 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. (Attached schedules.)

6.2 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the bills list from October 7, 2021, to November 9, 2021. (Attached schedule.)

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

Date	Amount
October 15, 2021	\$147,882.48
October 31, 2021	\$154,913.34

- 6.4 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal of an agreement with meal provider Feeding Our Children (attached).
- 6.5 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the execution of an agreement with Max Challenge to provide a facility for gym class for the high school during the winter months (attached).
- 6.6 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the execution of an agreement with Iron Mountain for offsite records storage (attached).
- 6.7 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the submission of an application for a grant to receive federal funding under the ESSER III program (information attached).

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger					
Lauren Calmas					
Amanda Grant					
Lisa McIntyre					
Kelly Pansy					
Christine Sheedy					
Mark Silberberg					
Joy Wheeler					
Dana Wissing					

7. **Enrollment**

Enrollment – November 8, 2021

Grade	Current
K	22
1	22
2	22
3	22
4	22
5	22
6	22
7	22
8	22
9	25
10	25
11	26
12	23
Total	298

8. **School Calendar Reminder**

Wednesday, November 24 – 1p.m. dismissal for students and staff. No after school activities.
 Thursday & Friday, November 25 & 26 – School Closed for Thanksgiving Break
 Thursday, December 9 – K-8 Holiday Concert
 Thursday, December 16 – After school activities are canceled
 Tuesday, December 21 – Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 Thursday, December 23 – 1 p.m. dismissal – All after school activities are canceled
 Friday, December 24 – Friday, December 31 –
 School is closed for the Winter Break

9. **K-12 Report**

HCS participated in its charter renewal site visit on October 26, 2021 which became a virtual visit due to the storm and State of Emergency. Representatives from the NJDOE met with student, parent, administration, board of trustees and teacher groups for interviews and conducted virtual classroom observations. The day was a success and in the end of day debrief, the NJDOE shared that they observed evidence of our mission in action throughout the entirety of the school's presentation.

HCS and the Friends of HCS have partnered to conduct a survey of the HCS parent community to assess areas of expertise and interest in supporting the HCS community through professional skills including, but not limited to, web design, social media, finance, grant writing, alumni affairs, communications, etc. We also assessed interest in serving as a professional mentor to an upper school student. 27 parents have completed the form to date and we are finding a great deal of interest and a wide variety of expertise.

HCS hosted its first pediatric COVID-19 vaccine clinic today for HCS students of ages 5-11. Staff were also able to receive their booster and students 12 and up were able to get vaccinated as well.

10. **Lower/Middle School Report**

The 5th grade is organizing a game drive for Afghan refugees in conjunction with their novel study of the book *The Breadwinner*.

Various grades studied Diwali and parents participated by joining students in the courtyard to share in the festivities and present on their family traditions.

3rd graders just wrapped up a SS unit called Land of the Free: Indigenous People and Columbus/Colonization, which culminated in a social action project where they petitioned city hall to include representation of indigenous culture at Columbus Park in Hoboken.

11. **Upper School Report**

Teachers took advantage of the beautiful fall to schedule some field trips. The Flags and Protest Signs elective visited the Whitney Museum of Art to see examples of the use of the American flag in protest art. The Hudson River Biology class spent time outside for a Habitat Diversity lab.

With the ending of the first marking period, we are transitioning to new electives. Marking period 2 includes courses focusing on activist tools such as Art Journaling, Filmmaking, and Acting as Activism. Another course explores career opportunities in the field of Sports. All 10th graders will be taking Explorations. The Exploration course seeks to build research and writing skills as students explore an area about which they are passionate. This course allows students to explore and develop their individual interests through a comprehensive project involving research and creativity. Students will connect personal interests to the greater society through social justice themes.

Our College and Career Counselor has coordinated a number of visits and workshops for the Seniors. We have welcomed NJCU, Saint Elizabeth University, Montclair State University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, University Technical Institute, Army National Guard, and Rowan University. In addition, Ms. Polak and a representative from HESAA led Seniors and their families through a workshop on filling out the FAFSA- an important form for college financial aid.

Thanks to donations from K-12 families through coordination of the Friends, as well as the efforts of the Ambassadors with Ms. Curtin's leadership, we held a very successful Halloween dance.

12. New Business

13. Public Comments

14. Looking Ahead

November 24, 2021	Due date for submission of ESSER III application
December 24, 2021	Due date for submission of School Security grant (“Alyssa’s Law”) application.
January 4, 2021	Deadline for submitting CAFR deadline to state.
By February 1, 2021	Commissioner notifies HCS about renewal or denial of charter

15. Executive Session

16. Return to Open Session

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, October 19, 2021.

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, October 19, 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger					
Lauren Calmas					
Amanda Grant					
Lisa McIntyre					
Kelly Pansy					
Christine Sheedy					
Mark Silberberg					
Joy Wheeler					
Dana Wissing					

Certified by Board Secretary _____

Date _____ Adjournment _____