



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 26, 2022 -- 6:15 PM**

The meeting was held on-site at 713 Washington Street, Hoboken, NJ, starting at 6:15 p.m. and moved immediately into a closed session. The meeting reopened at 7:16 p.m. for the general agenda.

- 1. Call to Order at 6:15 pm by Lauren Calmas**
- 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 an in-person meeting instead of virtual with a time change on April 13, 2022, via notification to City Hall, the City Clerk's Office on Washington Street and *The Hudson Reporter*, *The Bergen Record* and *The Jersey Journal*.

Roll Call

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

Also in attendance were:

Deirdra Grode, Executive Director, Elizabeth Palma, K-8 Principal, Joanna Weintraub, 9-12 Principal, Frances Febres, Danielle Panizzi, Chris Esposito, Diego Chavez, Dylan Wissing, Darnel McMillian, Jennifer Strong, Matthew Guiney, Diana Guiney, Jane Mylan, Angela Ceron, Tael Evron Sabag

3. **Executive Session**

On the motion of Mark Silberberg, seconded by Kelly Pansy, and unanimously agreed upon, the Board of Trustees resolves, that the Board convened Executive Session at 6:15 P.M. to discuss matters pertaining to:

- Student Discipline

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is anticipated that the Executive Session will be for forty-five (45) minutes in duration and that public action may/may not be taken;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Executive Session will be made available upon a determination by the Board that the disclosure of the minutes will not detrimentally affect any right or interest of the Board and the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

4. **Return to Open Session**

On the motion of Mark Silberberg, seconded by Kelly Pansy, and unanimously approved, the Board of Trustees reopened the meeting at 7:16.

5. **Acceptance of Minutes for March 22, 2022**

Minutes of the previous public special Board meeting held March 22, 2022, 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 March 22, 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

6. **Report of Strategic Goals**

Deirdra Grode reported on work toward 5 strategic goals: K12 Curriculum Review; Upper School Identity Work; K12 Integration; Communication of School Identity; and Support for and Accountability of Faculty/Staff in creating a Culture of High Expectations and Rigor.

7. 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.

Several parents from a middle school class came to speak about concerns around classroom climate and culture.

8. Personnel

8.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the resignation of SK Duff effective December 31, 2021.

8.2 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the resignation of Claude Davila effective April 15, 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

9. Educational Planning

9.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves professional development for Steve Literati, School Business Administrator, to attend the 3-day conference for the NJ Association of Business Administrators (NJASBO) on June 7-10. The total cost will be approximately \$750.

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger		X			
Lauren Calmas		X			
Amanda Grant		X			
Lisa McIntyre					X
Kelly Pansy		X			
Christine Sheedy		X			

Mark Silberberg		X			
Joy Wheeler		X			
Dana Wissing		X			

10. **Finance**

- 10.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approved the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports for March 2022, 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 March 31, 2022, 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.)
- 10.2 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the bills list from March 9, 2022, to April 11, 2022. (Attached schedule.)
- 10.3 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the approves the following payrolls:

Date	Amount
March 15, 2022	\$151,441.45
March 31, 2022	\$160,981.53

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

11. **Enrollment**

Enrollment as of March 15, 2022

Grade	Current
K	22
1	22
2	22
3	22
4	22
5	23
6	21

7	22
8	22
9	26
10	25
11	26
12	21
Total	296

12. **School Calendar Reminder**

Tuesday, May 10 – Board of Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 12 – Professional

Development 1:00 p.m. dismissal for students. Movie day is available.

Friday, May 27 – 1:00 dismissal – After school activities are not available.

Monday, May 30 – School is closed for Memorial Day

13. **K-12 Report**

- HCS completed and submitted the Building Hope Student Empowerment IMPACT Grant Application that would support efforts to support the creation of Mission Week and support increased alumni connections. Finalists are expected to be announced this week.
- Upper School seniors met with the fourth-grade class at Elysian Park to discuss being an upstander.
- The kindergarten class and students in Espanol 1 came together for a Dia de Primavera "Spring Day" Event. Upper School students taught kindergarteners about Compassion, Life Cycle of a Butterfly, Water Cycle, Composting and Fruits and Vegetables in Spanish. Kindergarteners in turn taught Upper School Students many fun Spanish songs and dances.
- The Black Student Alliance, consisting of students in the middle school with upper school mentors and under the supervision of Mr. K-Z, meet weekly to hang out, talk about social issues (e.g., colorism and its contributions to racism within the Black community) and create art.

14. **Lower/Middle School Report**

There have been a number of inter-age experiences over the last month:

- Fourth graders sharpened their Spanish skills by playing board games created by the eighth graders.
- Fourth graders visit the seventh-grade math class for their Carnival of Probability.

Seventh and eighth grade students have partnered with the Ukrainian Community Center of Jersey City to collect donations for Ukrainian Refugees. Students also engaged in a formal business letter writing campaign as outreach to other schools in the community. HCS also partnered with the Hoboken Community Center Pantry for a personal care supply drive during the week of April 4-8.

On Wednesday, March 23, the fifth-grade class showcased their social studies projects for families and Lower School students in which they created civilizations based on their study of Ancient Mesopotamia.

On Tuesday, March 29, 35 Middle School students attended the Trimester 2 Cornerstone Award luncheon. Students applied for recognition based on demonstrated academic, personal, civic (social justice) or artistic growth over the course of the trimester.

On Friday, April 1, the fourth-grade beginner band held their first concert for their families. The third-grade class attended to learn about different band instruments for next year.

On Thursday, April 7, officers from the Hoboken Police Department met with the Middle School classes to talk about cyberbullying and internet safety.

Also on Thursday, April 7, Lower School teachers participated in professional development with Sarah Wicht focused on choosing appropriate texts to explore social justice issues.

The K-8 program also participated in several field trips: the third and fourth grades visited Ellis Island; the fifth grade went to NYC to visit the tenement museum.

15. Upper School Report

Cougar Student Spirit continued this month. Students initiated a Cougar Represent Day, on which students dressed to represent their cultures, and a Spirit Week, complete with a door decorating contest featuring the school's mission. The Music Club sponsored a Karaoke event. A Student Change Council was created to harness these leadership skills.

Spanish 1 spent time at the Hoboken Community Center Pantry. The Junior College and Career elective visited Stevens University, meeting with admission and touring the campus. Many Seniors have received additional college acceptances- see below for an updated list!

Marking Period 3 ended April 8th. New electives will begin after the April break and include Senior Project Seminar, Queer History of Theater, Words in Art, Joy in Resistance, and Urban Gardening.

Hoboken Charter School provided the SAT free to all 11th graders during the school day to ease access to this important test.

*** College Acceptances for the Class of 2022**

- Barnard College of Columbia University
- Bloomfield College
- Bucknell University
- Caldwell University
- Centenary University
- Clemson University
- Curry College
- Dean College
- DeSales University
- Drexel University
- Eastern University
- Elizabethtown College

- Fairleigh Dickinson University
- Felician University
- Hawaii Pacific University
- Kean University
- Longwood University
- Lynn University
- Louisiana State University
- Michigan State University
- Marywood University
- Molloy College
- Monmouth University
- Montclair State University
- Morgan State University
- New England College
- New Jersey City University
- New York Institute of Technology
- Ohio State University
- Penn State University
- Plymouth State University
- Purdue University
- Ramapo College
- Rider University
- Rowan University
- Saint Elizabeth University
- Saint Peter's University
- Seton Hall University
- St. John's University
- The Ohio State University
- University of California - Santa Cruz
- University of Delaware
- University of Hartford
- University of Houston
- University of New Haven
- University of North Texas
- University of Northern Colorado
- University of Rhode Island
- Wentworth Institute of Technology
- West Virginia University
- Wilkes University
- William Paterson University

16. New Business

- 16.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Hoboken Charter School express concern that the City of Hoboken is considering additional PILOTs which could decrease funding for our public school students. We ask that any PILOT be accompanied with funding that would offset the loss of local levy to our public-school students. Hoboken Charter School students are public school students and should be equitably supported by the City of Hoboken.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

17. Public Comments

18. Looking Ahead

April 30, 2022	School Board Ethics Disclosure form due. To be filed online.
May 11, 2022	Board approval of school contracts.
May 15, 2022	NJ Department of Agriculture administrative review.

August 1, 2022	Approval of School Annual Report, to be distributed in advance of board meeting.
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19. **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 26, 2022.

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 26, 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Certified by Board Secretary: Deirdra Grode (acting)

Date: April 26, 2022

Adjournment: 10:19 pm