



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
713 WASHINGTON STREET
HOBOKEN, NJ 07030
APRIL 18, 2023

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 June 30, 2022 via notification to City Hall, the City Clerk's Office on Washington Street, *the Bergen Record*, *The Hudson Reporter* and the *Jersey Journal*.

Roll Call

TRUSTEE	PRESENT	ABSENT
John Berger		
Lauren Calmas		
Amanda Grant		
Grace Guandique		
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 March 21 and March 28, 2023**

Minutes of the previous public special Board meeting held March 21 and March 28, 2023, 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 21 and March 28, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE

TRUSTEE	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
John Berger					
Lauren Calmas					
Amanda Grant					
Grace Guandique					
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. Presentations

- Mr. Matthew Messenger and Ms. Anne Ballman – Presentation on Restorative Practices
- Batia Zumwalt (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) – Presentation to discuss the Topic of Behaviors in Schools in Complicated Times.

6. Personnel

- 6.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the resignation of Teacher, Arlington Rowley, effective April 15, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

7. Finance

The 2024 Proposed Budget, February 2023 Treasurer's Report and Secretary's Report will be provided to the board on Friday, March 24th, and a resolution for approval will be made at the March 28th board meeting. The Finance Committee will review this material prior to distribution to the full board.

- 7.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the bills list from February 15, 2023 to March 15, 2023. (attached.)
- 7.2 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the approves the following payrolls:

Date	Amount
February 15, 2023	\$171,559.83
February 28, 2023	\$162,022.57

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

8. **Enrollment**

As of April 18, 2023

Grade	Enrolled Students
K	22
1	23 (overenrolled)
2	22
3	22
4	22
5	22
6	23
7	21
8	22
9	25
10	27
11	22
12	24
Total Students Enrolled	297
Total Funded Students	296

9. **Executive Director's School Report**

Upper school students worked with HCS staff to host a K-12 essential goods drive to spread love and gratitude during the month of Ramadan. Donations will be delivered to the Hoboken Shelter. Upper school students will also have a celebration of Eid with crafts and food, and an opportunity to share cultural dress and music while K-4 students are engaging in discussions about the holidays and learning

about service-oriented principles of Islam with presentations from Muslim staff and students.

10. Lower/Middle School Report

Eighth grader Hayden Faricelli won a bronze medal at the JCMC STEM Showcase and the Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge award for his Mission Lab project in which he explored the possibility of breaking up blood clots using magnets.

During Women's History Month, some K-8 explorations included:

- Kindergarten students have learned about women in history including Harriet Tubman, Maria Tallchief and Malala Yousafzai and created their own Gallery of Important Women for their peers to view.
- Third graders learned about Temple Grandin's journey to becoming a leading researcher and lecturer on animal science and how she was able to harness her unique gifts (many connected to her Autism Spectrum Disorder) and overcome obstacles to achieve the success she has. Students then returned to the biographies they have selected to read to look for ways in which their person of focus has also overcome obstacles and harnessed unique talents.
- Third graders also created stamps of women they would like to see honored. Harriet Tubman, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Amelia Earhart, our own Ms. Sanchez and students' family members and caretakers were some of those featured.
- Fourth graders read *Dirt on Their Skirts: The Story of the Young Women who Won the World Championship* by Dorreen Rappaport & Lyndall Callan. They then chose famous women in baseball, researched them and created an honor to highlight their accomplishments. Women they researched included Betty "Moe" Trezza, Sophie Kurys, Millie Deegan, Joanne Winter, Mo'ne Davis, Eri Yoshida and of course Hoboken's Maria Pepe.
- Middle School students explored the Renaissance through a women's perspective, creating Instagram profiles of the wives of Henry VIII to explore their contributions to society at the time.

On Wednesday, March 22, 48 Middle School students enjoy a celebratory lunch on the roof for their trimester two Cornerstone Awards, in which they had to apply and write about the personal, civic/social justice, artistic or academic growth they showed over the course of the trimester.

The fifth grade social studies class is learning about the birthplace of civilization - Ancient Mesopotamia. Students designed and created their own civilizations that incorporated features of civilization including government, economy, and hierarchy and then presented their projects to families and peers on Tuesday, March 28.

Young Concert Artists returned to Hoboken Charter School for a mini residency featuring artists Anthony Trionfo (flute) and Chelsea Guo (soprano and piano). The mini residency included two classroom sessions on Friday, March 24th and Friday, March 31st and one culminating in-school concert on Wednesday, April 5th. The artists will be engaging with 5th - 8th grade band students and will focus on improvisation/composition and exploring emotion/imagery in music. The mini residency was highly participatory and students had the opportunity to perform new musical creations at the culminating performance.

Lower School students raised almost \$1,800 during our weeklong "Coins For A Cause Campaign." Congratulations to our fourth graders, who won the competition and get to select a local service organization that will be the recipient of our donation. A huge thank you to our Middle School volunteers who helped calculate the donation amounts each day after school.

11. Upper School Report

Staff and students collaborated to create a Coffeehouse event in celebration of Women's History Month. There were many original performances and a celebration of our community.

Select Juniors and Seniors joined hundreds of students from North Jersey at the annual EOF High School Conference at NJCU, where they learned about college opportunities available. The key note speaker, Mike Nelson, inspired students with his story of overcoming the odds.

The Environmental Science class visited the Hudson River Park in NYC to explore "Life in the Hudson". As a part of exploring the native and local species of New Jersey, students have an opportunity to learn about species that have been thriving in or near the Hudson River Estuary. This trip is essential to the understanding and appreciation of the species that surround and are within the Hudson River.

The Animodules sculpture elective, created with The Barat Foundation thanks to a grant from the Hudson County Arts in Education, held an unveiling of their public artwork, sharing artist statements to highlight the work and activism reflected in the final product. The sculpture will soon be permanently installed in the front courtyard.

The third marking period ended April 5th and students were then able to select MP4 electives. Seniors traditionally spend their last marking period creating their Senior Projects for graduation. All other students enrolled in one of the following:

Equity in Gaming- Students analyze underlying reasons for socio-economic inequalities in representation across various gaming activities and then act upon strategies to raise awareness and interest in these activities.

Poetic Justice - Students have the opportunity to write poetry that addresses social and political issues. Calling out Science, Calling in Scientists- A course for non-traditional scientists to encounter the world of factual reporting of scientific information and to discover the successes and fails of physics in practice in society.

LGBTQ+ Studies- A cross-disciplinary study of queer history, identity, culture, and politics throughout the span of modern history. Topics include sociocultural perceptions of gender/sexuality, contemporary political human rights issues, representation of queerness in the media, and more.

Outdoor Art and Messaging- Students will explore how art can interact with the outdoors and public. Ethical Debates- Students will research and debate present-day issues, develop self-confidence and improve their critical thinking, public speaking, listening and logical reasoning skills.

Beginning the Journey to College- A class for Juniors

Math Lab- Designed to develop individual skills as support and/or challenge

12. Public Comments

13. Looking Ahead

April 30, 2023	Personal financial disclosure statements from Board members and Administrators must be submitted to state and certified by Board Secretary
May 9, 2023	Board meeting to approve contracts
August 1, 2023	Approval of School Annual Report, to be distributed in advance of the board meeting.

14. New Business/Report from Committees

15. 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 18, 2023.

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 18, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Certified by Board Secretary:

Date:

Adjournment: