



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
713 WASHINGTON STREET
HOBOKEN, NJ 07030
MARCH 21, 2023

MEETING OVERVIEW

FRIENDS OF HCS PRESIDENT JEFF TENNENBAUM AND VICE PRESIDENT YAPHET SMALLWOOD PROVIDED UPDATES ON FUNDRAISING EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE SCHOOL AND AN OVERVIEW OF A WEBSITE THAT SELLS SCHOOL-BRANDED APPAREL.

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 7:09 by Joy Wheeler.

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	X	
Lauren Calmas		X
Amanda Grant	X	
Grace Guandique	X	
Lisa McIntyre	X	
Kelly Pansy		X
Christine Sheedy	X	
Mark Silberberg		X
Joy Wheeler	X	
Dana Wissing	X	

Deirdra Grode, Executive Director
Steve Literati, CFO and Board Secretary and Board Treasurer
Lizzie Palma, Principal of K-8
Joanna Weintraub, Principal of 9-12
Jeff Tennenbaum, President of Friends of HCS
Yaphet Smallwood, Vice President of Friends of HCS

3. **Acceptance of Minutes for February 28, 2023**

Minutes of the previous public special Board meeting held February 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 February 28, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

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

- Jeff Tennenbaum, President of Friends of HCS, provided an update on year-to-date fundraising efforts by the Friends. Yaphet Smallwood provided details on the website that sells goods (shirts and sweatshirts, etc) branded with the school logo.

6. Personnel

- 6.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approved the professional development for Steve Literati's attendance at the NJ Association of School Business Officials conference from June 6-9, 2023, in Atlantic City, NJ at an approximate cost of \$700. The cost includes lodging and fuel.

Roll Call Vote

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

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	2	X			
Lauren Calmas					X
Amanda Grant	1	X			
Grace Guandique		X			
Lisa McIntyre		X			
Kelly Pansy					X
Christine Sheedy		X			
Mark Silberberg					X
Joy Wheeler		X			
Dana Wissing		X			

8. **Enrollment**

As of March 21, 2023

Grade	Enrolled Students
K	22
1	23 (overenrolled)
2	22
3	22
4	22
5	22
6	23
7	21
8	22
9	26
10	27
11	23
12	24
Total Students Enrolled	299
Total Funded Students	298

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

US Robotics students taught the Kindergarten class about problem-solving through engineering their own leprechaun traps. The Middle and Upper School Robotics teams also hosted a mini scrimmage in preparation for states with Clutch Squad from McNair high school and team Fire from Livingston High School.

10. Lower/Middle School Report

March is Women's History Month where we commemorate and celebrate the vital role of women in American history. Students learn about heroes whose achievements have impacted their own lives. An example from kindergarten, where students celebrated women who are important to them after listening to She Persisted: 13 Women Who Changed the World. They were particularly inspired by the stories of Harriet Tubman, Helen Keller, Maria Tallchief and Ruby Bridges.

On Friday, March 3 the fourth graders held their beginner band concert. Students played together as a band and in duets. Congrats to the class and Mr. G for a wonderful concert!

Internationally recognized professional pianist Albert Cano Smit has performed at Carnegie Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, Paris' Foundation Louis Vuitton (streamed live globally), the Kennedy Center, Xiamen's Banlam Grand Theater and now Hoboken Charter School. We are grateful to him for this animated performance he put on and to Mr. Gavarny and the Young Concert Artists for creating this opportunity for HCS students.

The Debate Mission Lab visited the NJ State House and Museum on Wednesday, March 8 for their Make A Bill program.

Congratulations to the Middle School boys basketball team on their overtime win against HoLa on Monday, March 13 in the city championship game. A huge thank you to the HCS community for coming out and showing their support and to their coaches Bryan Kelly and Matt Guiney for a great season!

Interage mission-reinforcing courses are a valuable piece of our middle school program through cross-age Mission Labs as well as Enrichment and Artsbridge electives. Students choose from a variety of exciting classes culminating in presentations for their community. Courses that just wrapped up this trimester included: Debate I: Skills, Debate II: Tournaments, Six (the Musical), STEM Showcase, Podcasting, Conspiracy Theories and Ethics, Green Bosses, Challenge Math, Documentary Filmmaking, Sustainable Fashion, Duolingo (where students learned Latin, French, German, Italian, Hindi or Japanese), Sculpture, Literary Magazine, Build It!, Fashion Design, Promotional Marketing, Typing, Mixed Media Arts, Sokolow Dance, Indian Dance, Guitar, Music Tech and Art Explorations.

11. Upper School Report

The Upper School had a successful Open House at the beginning of March. Prospective students and families were able to participate in demo classes on Modern Indigenous Issues and Environmental Justice as well as meet with a large panel of volunteer student ambassadors who came to share all about their experience at HCS!

All Juniors took the NJ Graduation Proficiency Assessment this month, a new requirement for graduation in NJ.

Staff wrapped up a multi session Mental Health First Aid training from the National Council for Mental Well Being. This provided teachers with more tools for supporting students both in crisis and as a preventative measure.

Visiting artist, Quilan Arnold, is doing a series of dance workshops derived from the African-American canon with our Dance Expression class. Mr. Arnold is best known for bringing a new level of street/ club dance pedagogy to students across the nation.

The LatinX Studies and Oral Language and Media Literacy Lab electives visited El Museo del Barrio. 10th and 11th graders visited the NACAC National College Fair at the NJ Convention Center. The Spanish classes and Exploring Art classes visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art to see Afro-futurist and Divinity in Mayan Art exhibitions.

12. Public Comments

13. Looking Ahead

March 24, 2023	2024 Proposed Budget Presentation will be sent to the Board for review
March 28, 2023	Board meeting to finalize 2024 Budget.
March 31, 2023	2024 Budget due to State DOE.
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

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, March 21, 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, March 21, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Certified by Board Secretary: Steve Literati

Date: April 17, 2023

Adjournment: 8:18