



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
713 WASHINGTON STREET
HOBOKEN, NJ 07030
MAY 9, 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 April 18, 2023**

Minutes of the previous public special Board meeting held on April 18, 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 that took place on 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					

4. Acceptance of Minutes for May 3, 2023

Minutes of the previous public special Board meeting held on May 3, 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 that took place on May 3, 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					

5. 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.

6. Presentations

- Mr. Matthew Messenger and Ms. Anne Ballman – Presentation on Restorative Practices

7. Personnel

- 7.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves Gabriella Fredette as Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year, subject to completion of a county sub-license, certification and/or criminal background check.

- 7.2 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the professional development for Dari Lyons, Teacher, to attend a two-day virtual training entitled Restorative Practices for Educators: Foster positive classroom and school culture in July 2023 via International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP) for \$450.
- 7.3 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator and Finance Committee and authorizes and approves offering contracts to the following instructional and non-instructional employees for the 2023-2024 academic year:

First Name	Last Name
Anne	Ajamian
Madeline	Courtney
Giselle	David
Paige	Davidson
Brittany	Fiorillo
Sean	Gavarny
Gigi	Girgis
Amelia	Katz
Brett	Keeler
Christopher	Kunkel
Padma	Lingechetty-Isom
Steve	Literati
Salma	Malik
Hennessy	Mediavilla
Martha	Mendez
Maria	Nunez
Maria	Ortiz
Elizabeth	Palma
Matthew	Persico
Mary Kate	Rogan
Courtney	Salerno
Sidney	Sanchez
Josefa	Silva
Jennifer	Tarangelo

Amanda	Thiede
Irene	Tran
Juan	Ventura
Jenna	Wernikowski
Anne	Ballman
Oliver	Brantome
Elizabeth	Burger
Hannah	Dayan
Jennifer	Feit
Melissa	Fisher
Marc	Kutchma
Dari	Lyons
Jessica	Nieves
Beatty	Stires
Sophia	Touri
Paige	Trillo
Joanna	Weintraub
James	Zisa

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. **Finance**

- 8.1 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for Giant Steps for substance abuse testing.
- 8.2 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for Colette Robinson, Doctor of Physical Therapy, LLC.

- 8.3 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for Audra Rose, Occupational Therapy.
- 8.4 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for D. W. Putt, Educational Services.
- 8.5 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for Bedford Psychological Services, PC.
- 8.6 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract Preferred Home Health Care and Nursing Services.
- 8.7 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract Prompt MD for school physician services.
- 8.8 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the renewal contract for Batia Zumwalt for behaviorist services.
- 8.9 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves awarding a contract to Nu-Way Concessionaires, LLC to provide student meals for a two year period beginning July 1, 2023 following a Request for Proposals issued by the School. (Summary attached.)
- 8.10 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the one-time payment of no more than \$100,000 to employees of the school to positively affect the retention and attraction of talented employees.
- 8.11 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves opening bank accounts at Chase Bank and Citizens Bank branches in Hoboken. (Separate approval sheets.)
- 8.12 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approved the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports for April 2023, 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 April 30, 2023, 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.)
- 8.13 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the bills list from April 15, 2023 to May 4, 2023. (attached.)
- 8.14 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approves the approves the following payrolls:

Date	Amount
April 15, 2023	\$161,608.48
April 30, 2023	\$166,093.99

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

9. **Enrollment**

As of May 9, 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

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

The Hoboken Public Library set up a pop-up library for all HCS K-12 students onsite the HCS campus last week. Each class shopped during an ELA period and could bring books home. Book selections varied per day with a K-4, a 5-8 and a 9-12 library.

Students across K-12 are honoring AAPI Heritage Month via a variety of learning activities and experiences. Meanwhile, we are preparing for a schoolwide collaborative project for PRIDE month.

K-12 students have been busy creating masterpieces for our K-12 art show that occurs tonight at HCS.

Middle school students had an opportunity to interview upper school students for their photojournalism mission lab. We are always pleased to find opportunities for our students to connect across divisions in support of student learning.

11. Lower/Middle School Report

On April 21, author David Rottenberg visited HCS to read his book, "Gwendolyn, the Graceful Pig" accompanied by a ballet interpretation performed by members of the American Liberty Ballet company to grades K-3, followed by a Q&A.

The kindergarten, third and sixth grade classes attended an event at Red Bulls Stadium on Tuesday, April 25 focused on weather education day, tying into their respective science units.

On Wednesday April 26, Mr. Mark Schonwetter, a survivor of the Holocaust, came to HCS to speak to students in grades 4, 5, 7 and 8 about his experience, related to their recent units in ELA and SS (he spoke to our 6th graders in 2021). He has created the Mark Schonwetter Holocaust Education Foundation to teach students about the Holocaust and lessons that can be learned and related to today. He shared his experience and participated in a Q&A with students.

The Green Bosses Mission Lab worked diligently at selling their bags, plants and gardening supplies at Hoboken's Green Festival in April. They raised \$250 for the Liberty Humane Society and the NJ Humane Society. Thank you to their advisor, Ms. Ortiz and to Ms. Sanchez and Ms. David for coming out to support our students!

On Friday, April 28, HCS parent volunteers from Ernst & Young came to school to host a sustainability workshop for kindergarten. Students completed activities and learned about waste and recycling.

Over the weekend of April 29-30, some members of the 5th grade robotics team, the Robotic Llamas Jr, participated in the Menlo Park Mashup offseason competition. They did a great job, winning the third place Innovation Award for their project on electric car charging in Hoboken and came in first place in the robot game. This is the first time an HCS team placed first in the robot game in FLL! Congratulations to the team and their advisor, Mr. Kunkel!

After learning about the 3 Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle), the second grade class had a virtual field trip with Sims Municipal Recycling in New York. Students were able to tour their factory and learn how they sort through recyclables.

May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and K-4 students will be learning about AAPI culture, heroes, history, contributions and achievements through read alouds over the next few weeks. Middle School students in the art contractors elective decorate classroom doors in celebration of AAPI Heritage Month. Seventh and eighth graders draw inspiration from cherry blossom trees and lucky cat, while the fifth and sixth grade class create decorations inspired by Indian art and culture.

12. Upper School Report

We held a successful in-school SAT day for the Juniors. It is helpful for students to take this important test in a familiar atmosphere. The school worked to provide a breakfast and snacks to help students do their best!

Our Seniors have almost all solidified their plans for post secondary life. They worked one on one with our Academic Guidance Counselor to create college lists and received acceptances from many colleges and programs including:

Bergen County Community College
 Bloomfield College
 Caldwell University
 City College of New York
 College of Mount St Vincent
 CUNY Hunter College
 Drexel University
 Fairleigh Dickinson University-Metropolitan
 Felician University
 Georgian Court
 Hudson County Community College
 John Jay College of Criminal Justice
 Kean University
 Marymount Manhattan College
 Manhattanville College
 Molloy College
 Monmouth University
 Montclair State University
 Morgan State University
 New Jersey City University
 New Jersey Institute of Technology
 New York Institute of Technology
 Pace University
 Parisian Beauty Academy
 Penn State

Quinnipiac University
 Ramapo College
 Rider University
 Robert Fiance Beauty School
 Rutgers - Newark
 Rutgers - New Brunswick
 St. John's University
 Saint Peter's University
 Seton Hall University
 Stevens Institute of Technology
 Stockton University
 SUNY University at Albany
 Binghamton University Binghamton Advantage
 Program
 SUNY Stony Brook University
 The College of New Jersey
 Total Image Beauty Academy
 University of Bridgeport
 University of Connecticut
 University of Essex
 University of Kent
 University of Loughborough
 University of East Anglia
 University of Surrey
 William Paterson University

Our Counselor, Ms. Feit, is continuing to support these students as they enroll while working carefully with the Juniors as they begin to immerse in the process. Juniors have the option of taking a College and Career elective this marking period, and Juniors and families were invited to a College Admission Planning workshop with guest speaker, Kimber Decker, a college financial aid and admissions counselor with over 35 years experience.

A student committee organized and hosted Cougar Night, a late night event for all students to spend time together at school. Events like this are important to build community with students who live in many different communities in our area. Students also worked with staff to design and hold a pep rally in support of our Boy's Volleyball team.

13. **Public Comments**

14. **Looking Ahead**

July 15	School to issue Request for Proposals (RFP) for custodial services.
August 1, 2023	Approval of School Annual Report, to be distributed in advance of the board meeting.

15. **New Business/Report from Committees**

16. 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, May 9, 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, May 9, 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: