

**Board of Trustees**

Gabrielle Apollon (Vice President)  
Ankur Dalal (President)  
Maureen Higgins (Treasurer)  
Kristopher John  
Salone Kapur  
Jennifer Ng  
Bianca Peart  
Elizabeth Phillips (Secretary)  
Caitlin Robisch  
Sarah Yan



**St. HOPE Leadership Academy Board of Trustees  
Board Meeting**

***MINUTES***

May 26, 2022 from 6:30-8:00 pm

Meeting Conducted at 222 West 134<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10030  
And Virtually

• **Welcome**

Call to Order

Gabrielle Apollon	Present (Virtual)
Ankur Dalal	Present
Maureen Higgins	Present
Kristopher John	Present (Virtual)
Salone Kapur	Absent (Excused)
Jennifer Ng	Present (Virtual)
Bianca Peart	Present
Elizabeth Phillips	Absent (Virtual)
Caitlin Robisch	Present (Virtual)
Sarah Yan	Absent (Excused)

Also present at the meeting: Meghann Persenaire, Principal; Marissa Goulbourne, Alumni Relations Manager; and prospective board member Lindsey Moschet. The meeting took place in person, with some board members present via teleconference. The meeting was recorded.

• **Public Comment**

No requests for public comment were received.

• **Consent Agenda**

Minutes from the April 28, 2022 Board meeting were unanimously approved by the Board.

• **Nominating Committee**

- Sarah Yan will be resigning from the Board.
- The Board voted unanimously to approve Lindsey Moschet as a Board member.

• **Finance Committee**

- Ms. Goulbourne presented to the Board on the proposed Planting the Seed summer scholarships, including a list of middle and high school opportunities. The Board asked about the various programs, how applications might be prioritized to accommodate a \$25,000 budget, and other questions. Following further discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Planting the Seed Scholarship, based on a 2.5% withdrawal from the Scholarship Fund (approximately \$25,000).

- Ms. Persenaire led a discussion of the proposed FY23 budget. She noted that the budget is based on 275 pupils, rather than 295 as in past years, and explained the basis for various revenue line item projections. She also discussed the impact of shorter-term COVID-related grants, including staff positions funded by those grants. Ms. Persenaire also reported that SHLA will be receiving a \$86,400 grant to fund an on-site summer program of 5 weeks for 80 scholars. Ms. Persenaire and the Board discussed projected expenses, and the potential impact of inflation on the proposed budget.
- Ms. Persenaire provided an update regarding recruitment and enrollment, including that a different staff member will be leading efforts, that include a return to previous traditional strategies (e.g., partnering with standalone charter elementary schools and with A3K schools).
- **Accountability Committee**
  - Ms. Persenaire discussed updates to the open meetings law. There are two options for the Board going forward. In the first option, addresses for Board members attending virtually will be listed on meeting agendas prior to the meeting, and removed following the meeting; those individuals can vote and count toward quorum. In the second option, all members attending remotely could vote but only those attending in person would count toward quorum. The Board currently operates under Option 1, and agreed to continue with that approach.
  - Ms. Persenaire presented the April dashboard. She noted that April attendance decreased, and attributed this change to COVID-related absences as well as to the fact that SHLA's spring break conflicted with that of other charter schools. Ms. Persenaire also explained the reason for suspensions last month.
- **Principal Update**
  - Ms. Persenaire invited the Board to the graduation ceremony, which is to take place on Friday, June 24 from 4-6 pm in the yard.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm. Board entered executive session.

I, Elizabeth Phillips, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting interim Secretary of St. HOPE Leadership Academy, a New York education corporation and that the above is a true and complete copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the said corporation held on May 26, 2022 at which quorum was present throughout. (May 26, 2022)