

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

November 18, 2021 from 6:30-8:00 pm
Meeting Conducted Virtually

- **Welcome**

Call to Order

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

Also present at the meeting: Meghann Persenaire, Principal; Max Hoover, Assistant Principal; Marissa Goulbourne, Alumni Relations Manager; Sara Wlazelek, Literacy Coach; and Dan Mejias, Math Coach. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the meeting took place via video conference. The meeting is being recorded and will be posted, along with a transcription, to the SHLA website.

- **Public Comment**

No requests for public comment were received.

- **Consent Agenda**

Minutes from the October 21, 2021 Board meeting were unanimously approved by the Board.

- **Nominating Committee**

- Ms. Apollon requested that board members continue to identify potential board candidates to replace Sarah Yan.

- **Finance Committee**

- Ms. Goulbourne provided an update to the Board on prior HARLEM scholarship recipients, including statistics on the number of recipients on track to graduate within 4 years. The Board went into executive session to further discuss the status of prior scholarship recipients, and Ms. Goulbourne provided an update on the Journey scholarship recipients—all of whom are on track to graduate within four years.
- At the suggestion of CSBM, the Board will discuss moving the surplus from 2020-2021 into the scholarship fund at the December meeting.

- Ms. Persenaire provided a brief update on enrollment. As of the end of October, total enrollment was 266. SHLA will be welcoming new sixth graders in the coming weeks, but enrollment has been slow.
- **Accountability Committee**
 - Ms. Persenaire reported preliminary Interim I results. Mr. Mejias (Math Coach) offered potential explanations for the math results and provided a plan for proceeding. He provided end-year goals for each grade, discussed staffing changes during the first marking period (including that two math teachers left SHLA and a seventh grade teacher was moved down to sixth grade, and responded to questions from the Board. Ms. Wlazelek (Literacy Coach) then discussed the preliminary Interim I results for ELA, and noted areas for focus, including writing skills, as well as staffing changes this year. Ms. Wlazelek discussed plans for improvement across all three grade levels over the course of the year, including changes to the seventh grade curriculum. The Board asked questions, including about staff turnover that has occurred during this year.
 - Ms. Persenaire presented the dashboard. There were three suspensions during the month of October. She also noted that attendance increased to 92% in October. Additionally, 93% of the community attended first quarter parent-teacher conferences. The Board asked about how SHLA is reintroducing restorative justice practices in light of return to school and suspensions; this topic will be discussed during the December meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

I, Elizabeth Phillips, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting 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 November 18, 2021 at which quorum was present throughout. (November 18, 2021)