

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

March 24, 2022 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	Present
Elizabeth Phillips	Present
Caitlin Robisch	Present
Sarah Yan	Absent (Excused)

Also present at the meeting: Meghann Persenaire, Principal; and Marissa Goulbourne, Alumni Relations Manager. 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.

Note that next Board meeting (April 28) will be held in person at SHLA.

• **Public Comment**

No requests for public comment were received.

• **Consent Agenda**

Minutes from the February 17, 2022 Board meeting were unanimously approved by the Board.

• **Accountability Committee**

- Ms. Persenaire presented the winter data analysis and discussed performance relative to growth targets for each grade and math/ELA. She noted that SHLA is managing gaps associated with remote learning and that SHLA would be looking more closely at project based learning. Ms. Persenaire shared benchmarks for NWEA growth with the Board; the benchmarks reflect the SHLA class of 2019, which made the most significant growth. Relative to this benchmark, the current 6th through 8th grade classes started the year lower than the benchmark year. Ms. Persenaire discussed 8th grade ELA, which began this year at a 209, which is where the benchmark class was at the start of 7th grade—suggesting that the current 8th grade class is a year behind. The SHLA leadership team is focused on this and is committed to rebuilding the pedagogical tools that worked with the benchmark class, including by reexamining the use of project based learning.

- Ms. Persenaire presented the dashboard, and noted attendance and suspension for the last month.
- **Finance Committee**
 - Ms. Persenaire provided a recruitment update. SHLA has currently received 125 applications for 6th grade and has received 30 applications for 7th grade, but is looking to add 30-40 students in the rising 7th grade class; the deadline is Friday, April 1.
 - Ms. Persenaire reported that she moved \$900,000 to the scholarship investment account earlier in the week.
 - The Board entered Executive Session to discuss the 2022 HARLEM Scholarship interviews and recommendations. There were 7 finalists. The Board returned from Executive Session and voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the interview committee to award four HARLEM scholarships (\$10,000 per recipient) and three book stipend scholarships (\$1,000 per recipient). The Board will discuss the Journey Scholarship applicants at the April Board meeting.
 - Ms. Goulbourne presented to the Board on potential opportunities for scholarships for current middle and high school students, based on discussion at the January Board meeting. Examples of potential new scholarships included summer opportunities awards and a Metrocard grant.
- **Nominating Committee**
 - Ms. Persenaire and Ms. Apollon discussed the candidacy of prospective Board member Lindsey Moschet.
 - Ms. Robisch announced that she will be resigning following the June Board meeting.
- **Assistant Principal Update**
 - Ms. Persenaire announced that Mr. Hoover has accepted a job as an elementary school principal in Missouri.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 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 March 24, 2022 at which quorum was present throughout. (March 24, 2022)