

Board of Trustees

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



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

MINUTES

August 18, 2022 from 6:30-8:00 pm
Meeting Conducted at 222 West 134th Street New York, NY 10030
And Virtually

• **Welcome**

Call to Order

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

Also present at the meeting: Meghann Persenaire, Principal. 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 July 14, 2022 Board meeting were unanimously approved by the Board.

• **Nominating Committee**

- Prospective Board member Katie Embree will join for the September meeting.
- Ms. Persenaire discussed steps to form an Engagement committee or group. Forming a group, rather than a committee that would make recommendations to the board, would not require a change to the bylaws. The goal of the group would be to give board members an opportunity to attend SHLA events and interact with staff and the community. At the September meeting, the Board will designate three Board members to be a part of the Engagement Group.

• **Finance Committee**

- Ms. Persenaire presented the June Finance Report. SHLA's final cash income was \$292,000. The Board asked questions regarding the reconciled report.

- Ms. Persenaire discussed the Scholarship Account, which has seen losses over the last year; this will impact the surplus. Mr. Dalal noted that the investments are approximately 80% bonds and 20% stocks, but that the bond market also took a hit this year.
- Ms. Persenaire provided an update on recruitment and enrollment. At present, there are 56 students fully enrolled and 1 pending for 6th grade; 79 fully enrolled and 3 pending for 7th grade; and 90 fully enrolled and 1 pending for 8th grade. The projected total enrollment is 230, which does not take into account students who might be leaving. The enrollment target was 275. At the end of the meeting, the Board will enter executive session to discuss impacts on the budget. SHLA is receiving more interest from prospective 8th graders; SHLA is contemplating opening a fourth section of 8th grade. Ms. Persenaire discussed how SHLA is establishing relationships with 8-10 feeder schools to support 6th grade enrollment for next year. Following discussion, the Board voted unanimously to allow the leadership team to restructure the number of sections per grade in order to drive greater enrollment.
- **Accountability Committee**
 - The Board discussed the proposed 2022-23 dashboard, including the ability to split out 8th grade performance by new versus returning students. The Board reviewed and voted unanimously to approve the proposed 2022-23 with the proposed change to the presentation of 8th grade performance.
 - The Board reviewed the 2022-23 District-Wide Safety Plan, and Ms. Persenaire discussed an addition to the plan to include a silent alarm. Following discussion, the Board voted unanimously to approve the plan, subject to public comment.
 - Ms. Persenaire presented the proposed professional development calendar for the 2022-2023 year. Following discussion, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the proposed calendar.
- **Principal Update**
 - Ms. Persenaire reported on the 5-week Summer Boost program, which just concluded. In addition to the academic learning, the program allowed an opportunity for students to continue social and emotional growth through in-person learning. There were 70 students enrolled, with average attendance of 61.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm. The Board entered executive session to discuss the budget.

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 August 18, 2022 at which quorum was present throughout. (August 18, 2022)