

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)



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

MINUTES

October 20, 2022 from 6:30-8:00 pm

Meeting Conducted at 222 West 134th Street New York, NY 10030

• **Welcome**

Call to Order

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

Also present at the meeting: Meghann Persenaire, Principal; Yamel Gonzalez, Director of Operations; Marc Taub, BDO; Christopher Daniels, CSBM; Jimmy Vora, BDO; and Laron Walker, CSBM. 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 September 22, 2022 Board meeting were unanimously approved by the Board.

• **Nominating Committee**

- The Board is waiting for charter oversight to officially approve Katie Embree as a board member.
- Ms. Persenaire announced that Bianca Peart will be stepping down from the Board.

• **Finance Committee**

- Marc Taub and Jimmy Vora of BDO presented the audit for the year ended June 30, 2022. Mr. Taub discussed highlights of the audit as well as differences relative to the prior year. Relative to 2021, there was a decrease in revenue and in investment returns. Functional expenses for program services increased from 85% in 2021 to 87% in 2022. No material weaknesses or deficiencies were identified. The Board asked questions to the auditors, including regarding investment losses and revenue declines. **The Board voted unanimously to accept the audit as presented.**

- Ms. Persenaire presented the August finance report. At present, the projected surplus for the year is approximately \$49,000 based on a budget that accounts for 230 students. Relative to the original budget, based on 275 students, there is a deficit of just over \$900,000. Ms. Persenaire discussed how SHLA expects to offset the deficit, including through grants and departing staff members who were not replaced.
- Ms. Gonzalez shared an update on enrollment, which is 230 as of today. As SHLA continues to enroll students, the highest interest appears to be for 8th grade. In December, January, and February, SHLA will be advertising on 25 busses as well as several bus shelters in Harlem and the Bronx.
- **Accountability Committee**
 - Ms. Persenaire provided an overview of the 2022 state test results and baseline assessments; at the November board meeting, Ms. Persenaire will provide a deeper dive of the results, including how they compare to the state. She discussed SHLA's results in comparison to District 5 and NYC overall, providing detail on changes relative to last year. In reference to NWEA results, she reported on specific populations of students, such as ELLs, as well as on overall performance by subject and grade. SHLA will be administering the ELA interim tomorrow and the math interim next Friday. The board asked questions regarding the test scores.
 - Ms. Persenaire presented on her goals for the 2022-2023 academic year. Goals include academic, financial, recruitment and enrollment, and other goals.
 - The Board reviewed the September dashboard.
- **Principal Update**
 - Ms. Persenaire discussed the recent visit by an administrator from the Colegio Nueva Granada School in Colombia in connection with Character.org.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

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 October 20, 2022 at which quorum was present throughout. (October 20, 2022)