Board of Trustees
Gabrielle Apollon (Vice President)
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Salone Kapur
Jennifer Ng
Bianca Peart
Elizabeth Phillips (Secretary)
Caitlin Robisch
Sarah Yan

St. HOPE Leadership Academy Board of Trustees

Board Meeting

MINUTES

April 28, 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	Present
Ankur Dalal	Present
Maureen Higgins	Present
Kristopher John	Absent (Excused)
Salone Kapur	Present
Jennifer Ng	Present
Bianca Peart	Present
Elizabeth Phillips	Absent (Excused)
Caitlin Robisch	Absent (Excused)
Sarah Yan	Present

Also present at the meeting: Meghann Persenaire, Principal, 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 March 24th, 2022 Board meeting were unanimously approved by the Board.

- **Accountability Committee**
  - Ms. Persenaire provided an update on the administration of NYS exams; SHLA teachers and staff displayed signs with supportive words and laid out a red carpet for scholars to walk to class on. Ms. Persenaire shared that implementation was going smoothly, and that teachers were encouraged by scholars' stamina for the Math exam and the writing portion of the ELA exam.
  - Ms. Persenaire presented the dashboard, and noted attendance and suspension for the last month, with attendance dropping 4 percentage points from February. Ms. Persenaire noted that SHLA has begun transitioning families who have been utilizing a remote attendance option to fully in-person schooling and discussed the policy's impact on attendance in the past month. Ms. Persenaire also noted that an increase in recent COVID cases has also had a negative impact on attendance numbers. Ms. Persenaire shared that SHLA staff continues to discuss how and when to use technology for remote learning options in the future. Ms. Persenaire also reviewed SHLA's suspension policy and restorative approach.

- Ms. Persenaire reviewed student benchmark performance data, noting that there has been steady growth in A3K.

- **Finance Committee**
  - Ms. Persenaire shared the scholarship committee's recommendations for 2022 Journey Scholarship recipients to aid their higher education costs.**The board voted and unanimously approved Journey Scholarships for 3 nominees.**
  - Ms. Persenaire led a review of the March Finance report, which projects a surplus of $135,000. Ms. Persenaire noted student recruitment costs and how the enrollment numbers increased need for spending on recruitment. There were no other major updates.
  - The board reviewed the SHLA Draft 2020 990. **The board took a vote and unanimously approved the document.**
  - Ms. Persenaire provided an update on student recruitment numbers following the lottery which took place on April 8th, which yielded 143 6th grade applicants and 41 7th grade applicants. As of today, with continued recruitment efforts, there are 152 6th grade applicants, 59 7th grade applicants, and 29 8th grade applicants. Ms. Persenaire shared that about 40 new 7th graders will need to be enrolled to bring the 7th grade enrollment number to 100. Ms. Apollon inquired about the typical enrollment rate; Ms. Persenaire replied that 30-40% of applicants ultimately enroll and begin the school year. Enrollment targets for the 2022-2023 school year are 110 6th graders, 100 7th graders, and 90 8th graders.

- **Nominating Committee**
  - Prospective Board member Lindsey Moschet introduced herself and expressed her interest in joining the board.
  - Ms. Persenaire and Ms. Apollon discussed the interest of prospective board member Katie Embree.

- **Assistant Principal Update**
  - Ms. Persenaire presented a video to the board that showed SHLA alumni Journey Scholar nominees reflecting on their college experience and how time at SHLA prepared them for their collegiate careers.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm. Board entered executive session.

I, Maureen Higgins, 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 April 28th, 2022 at which quorum was present throughout. (April 28, 2022)