



Harmony Public Schools

Minutes

December 9, 2023 HPS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Saturday December 9, 2023 at 8:30 AM

Location

9321 W. Sam Houston Pkwy S,
Houston, TX 77099
3rd Floor El Paso Meeting Room

**We will serve breakfast at 8:00 AM in the fourth floor meeting room.

Directors Present

H. Sherwood (remote), K. House, L. Gonzalez, M. Argin, O. Celepcikay

Directors Absent

H. Koc, O. Kanlioglu

Guests Present

C. Lambert, E. Akyildiz, E. Cavusoglu, Guvanch Yazgeldi, M. Baca, N. Bayhan, S. Aykac,
Sumeyye Osman, U. Alpaslan

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

O. Celepcikay called a meeting of the board of directors of Harmony Public Schools to order on Saturday Dec 9, 2023 at 8:30 AM.

II. Public Comments

A. Public Comments

None.

III. Consent Agenda

A. Consider Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes of November 11, 2023

M. Argin made a motion to approve the minutes from November 11, 2023 HPS Board Meeting on 11-11-23.

K. House seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

B. Consider Approval/Ratification of the Minutes and of the Actions of the Finance Committee Meeting on December 1, 2023.

M. Argin made a motion to approve the Minutes and of the Actions of the Finance Committee Meeting on December 1, 2023.

K. House seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C. Consider Approval/Ratification of the Minutes and of the Actions of the Academic Committee Meeting on December 1, 2023.

M. Argin made a motion to approve the Minutes and of the Actions of the Academic Committee Meeting on December 1, 2023.

K. House seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

IV. Harmony Public Schools' 2022-23 Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST)

A. Harmony Public Schools' 2022-23 Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Public Hearing on Annual Financial Management Report.

Mrs. Ebru Akyildiz, Chief Finance Officer for Harmony Public Schools presents Harmony Public Schools' 2022-23 Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Public Hearing on Annual Financial Management Report. Mrs. Akyildiz informs the public per Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) 109.1001 the board is required to hold a public hearing within 60 days after receiving a final financial accountability rating, which came out the beginning of November. Harmony also published newspaper adds to inform the public and the results can also be found on TEA's website which is open to the public. The report that will be presented today will be kept for the next 3 years for any

public request. All 7 HPS Districts received "Superior" ratings with 2021-2022 financial data. The package includes a brief description of FIRST ratings, the latest two years scores and financial management report. Ms. Akyildiz reviews the past two years scores for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 for Harmony Public School's seven districts. Mrs. Akyildiz reviews a copy of reimbursements by the Superintendent and Board Members as well as gifts received by executive officers and board members. Finally, Mrs. Akyildiz reviews a copy of the Superintendents contract and salary information.

V. Review and Approval of BloomBoard Proposal for Micro-Credentialing and Career Pathway Services

A. Review and Approval of BloomBoard Proposal for Micro-Credentialing and Career Pathway Services

Dr. Burak Yilmaz, Director of Leadership Development for Harmony Public Schools presents Review and Approval of BloomBoard Proposal for Micro-Credentialing and Career Pathway Services. Dr. Yilmaz informs the board BloomBoard has been a long time partner since 2018 as part of Harmony's efforts to transform professional learning culture and redefine career pathways across our organization. They provide a technology platform to host micro-credential content where teachers and other educators are able to access the learning content, upload their implementation artifacts, and submit their portfolio to be assessed and evaluated by third-party experts. When our educators submit these micro-credentials, they either earn a digital badge or receive specific targeted feedback to improve their practice and resubmit when they are ready. The earned digital badge is a strong validation of the educator' competency in implementing a specific strategy or technique in their classroom (or in their job function). In addition to hosting micro-credentials, review and assessment of submissions, BloomBoard also offers educator support services embedded in the platform such as individual virtual coaching and facilitation of online PLCs (aka success academies). Micro-credentials have been an integral part of Harmony's professional learning culture and are also integrated into selection, hiring, and promotion decisions to make sure educators with demonstrated competencies are rewarded with further opportunities to advance and move up in the career and compensation ladder. Dr. Yilmaz reviews the cost analysis for the proposal for Micro-credentialing and career pathway services to the board and informs the board the total for this partnership is \$397,775.

L. Gonzalez made a motion to approve BloomBoard Proposal for Micro-Credentialing and Career Pathway Services as presented.

M. Argin seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VI. Review and Approval of Amendments to 2023-24 HPS Student Parent Handbook

A. Review and Approval of Amendments to 2023-24 HPS Student Parent Handbook

Ms. Baca, Chief of Compliance for Harmony Public Schools informs the board that during the 88th legislative sessions several senate and house bills were passed requiring us to make some amendments to our previously approved 2023-24 HPS Student Parent Handbook. She informs the board that Mr. Guvanch Yazgeldi, Director of Student Culture HPS and Mr. Agil Sharifov, Director of Operations HPS are hear to share the updates.

Mr. Yazgeldi reviews the five amendments and three additions from the programs department regarding the legislative session requirements. Mr. Yazgeldi reviews the updates with the board members that were also presented during the December 1, 2023 Academic Committee meeting.

Mr. Sharifov reviews the amendments from the operations department to meet the requirements of the latest legislative session. Mr. Sharifov reviews the board members that were also presented during the December 1, 2023 Academic Committee meeting. M. Argin made a motion to approve Amendments to 2023-24 HPS Student Parent Handbook as presented.

L. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VII. First Semester Harmony After School Programs Summary

A. First Semester Harmony After School Programs Summary

Dr. Salih Aykac, Chief College and Career Officer presents First Semester Harmony After School Programs Summary. He informs the board that this was also discussed during the December 1, 2023 Academic Committee meeting. Dr. Aykac outlines the scope and diversity of activities within the first-semester after school programs at Harmony Public Schools. The program includes academic support programs, mentoring sessions, leadership development opportunities, involvement in various student-led organizations, and various athletic competitions in different sports. Dr. Aykac shares the accomplishments of each program and Harmony's commitment to providing a well-rounded educational experience that goes beyond academics and includes extracurricular, athletic and organizational activities aimed at nurturing the overall growth and development of our students.

VIII. Consider and take possible action on SB763 School Chaplain Law.

A. Consider and take possible action on SB763 School Chaplain Law.

Dr. Celepcikay announces that the board members will be going into closed session as permitted by Texas Open Meetings Act Chapters 551.071.

Closed Session begins 9:44AM.

Dr. Celepcikay starts regular session at 10:17AM. Dr. Celepcikay states in closed session the board had discussion with our attorney and no action was taken.

L. Gonzalez made a motion to not adopt the School Chaplain Law policy.

K. House seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Dr. Celepcikay reminds board members that we will have an emergency meeting on Monday at 5:00pm.

M. Argin made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

L. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Lambert