



Harmony Public Schools

Minutes

May 18, 2024 HPS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Saturday May 18, 2024 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, M. Argin, O. Celepcikay, S. Koch

Directors Absent

H. Koc, L. Gonzalez

Guests Present

C. Lambert, E. Akyildiz, E. Altun, E. Cavusoglu, F. Ay, J. Hoffer (remote), Johnisha Smith,
Levent Sakar, N. Bayhan, Salih Aykac, 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 May 18, 2024 at 8:32 AM.

II. Public Comments

A. Public Comments

None.

III. Consent Agenda

A. Consider Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2024

S. Koch made a motion to approve the minutes from April 27, 2024 HPS Board Meeting on 04-27-24.

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 May 3, 2024.

S. Koch made a motion to approve the Minutes and of the Actions of the Finance Committee Meeting on May 3, 2024.

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 May 3, 2024.

S. Koch made a motion to approve the Minutes and of the Actions of the Academic Committee Meeting on May 3, 2024.

K. House seconded the motion.

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

D. Consider Approval/Ratification of the Minutes and of the Actions of the Governance Committee Meeting on May 10, 2024

Dr. Celepcikay states during the governance committee we discussed two separate items including board committee meeting schedule changes and CEO evaluation. In regards to the board committee meeting schedules change, we will look to move them to Saturday instead of Friday two weeks prior to the board meeting. We will bring a tentative schedule to the next board meeting to discuss further. The second item we will do the CEO evaluation for our June board meeting and each board member will receive an evaluation link fifteen days prior to our next board meeting that is completely anonymous.

S. Koch made a motion to approve the minutes from Governance Committee Meeting on 05-11-24.

K. House seconded the motion.

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

IV. Review and Approve HPS 2024-2025 Student Parent Handbook.

A. Review and Approve HPS 2024-2025 Student Parent Handbook.

Dr. Bayhan, Deputy Superintendent of Operation and Business presents Review and Approve HPS 2024-2025 Student Parent Handbook. Dr. Bayhan reviews the presentation shared with our board members prior to the board meeting which includes all changes to the HPS Handbook that was reviewed by our legal department as well as pertinent HPS Departments.

Dr. Celepcikay asks how the parents are made aware of the changes and Dr. Bayhan states the handbook is updated each year and parents have access to a copy of the handbook to review each academic year during orientation as well as throughout the year.

O. Celepcikay made a motion to Approve HPS 2024-2025 Student Parent Handbook.

S. Koch seconded the motion.

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

V. Approval of Resolution to Authorize the Superintendent

A. Approval of Resolution to Authorize the Superintendent to Submit Low Attendance Waivers to the Texas Education Agency for all HPS Charters Due to Inclement Weather, or Other Health and Safety Concerns Including the Eclipse Event on April 8, 2024.

Dr. Bayhan, Deputy Superintendent of Operation and Business presents Approval of Resolution to Authorize the Superintendent to Submit Low Attendance Waivers to the Texas Education Agency for all HPS Charters Due to Inclement Weather, or Other Health and Safety Concerns Including the Eclipse Event on April 8, 2024. He informs the board some HPS campuses, especially in the Waco area, experienced low attendance due to weather, health or safety related issues so we would like to submit low attendance waivers for those schools to excuse any instructional days from ADA and FSP funding calculations. These schools have attendance at least 10 percentage points below the last school year's overall average attendance.

K. House made a motion to approve Resolution to Authorize the Superintendent to Submit Low Attendance Waivers to the Texas Education Agency for all HPS Charters Due to Inclement Weather, or Other Health and Safety Concerns Including the Eclipse Event on April 8, 2024.

S. Koch seconded the motion.

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

VI. Review of HPS Quarterly Investment Board Report of March 31, 2024.

A. Review of HPS Quarterly Investment Board Report of March 31, 2024.

Mrs. Ebru Akyildiz, Chief Finance Officer presents Review of HPS Quarterly Investment Board Report of March 31, 2024. Mrs. Akyildiz reviews the presentation with the board members that was presented during the May 3, 2024 Finance Committee meeting. She informs the board the investment officers prepare and submit to the HPS Board of Directors a written report of investment transactions for all funds covered on quarterly basis. There is \$904,993 interest earned in Quarter 3 with an ending market value of approx. \$145 million of total investments.

VII. Review and Consider Approval of 2023-2024 Fiscal Year 3rd Quarter Budget Amendments.

A. Review and Consider Approval of 2023-2024 Fiscal Year 3rd Quarter Budget Amendments.

Mrs. Ebru Akyildiz, Chief Finance Officer presents Review and Consider Approval of 2023-2024 Fiscal Year 3rd Quarter Budget Amendments. Mrs. Akyildiz reviews the presentation with the board members that was presented during the May 3, 2024 Finance Committee meeting. She informs the board Systemwide All Funds budget report includes seven geographical Districts and the Central Office. For Q3 we are forecasting a \$32.50M overall positive change in net assets for the 2024 Fiscal Year. This reflects changes in revenues and expenditures from the Q2 that was approved in February. The goal at the beginning of the year is to set aside 2% revenue to maintain a strong financial position. The Q3 Budget outlook exceeds this goal.

K. House made a motion to approve 2023-2024 Fiscal Year 3rd Quarter Budget Amendments.

O. Celepcikay seconded the motion.

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

VIII. 2023-2024 School Year Academic Competitions Presentation.

A. 2023-2024 School Year Academic Competitions Presentation.

Mr. Levent Sakar, Director of CTE and STEM Programs HPS presents 2023-2024 School Year Academic Competitions Presentation. Mr. Sakar states that this presentation was presented during the Academic Committee meeting held on May 3, 2024. Mr. Sakar review the presentation highlighting the academic competitions participated in by Harmony students throughout the 2023-24 school year. The presentation showcases the achievements, participation rates, and impact of these competitions on student learning and development. It provides valuable insight into all of our school's commitment to academic excellence and the opportunities provided to students for intellectual growth and achievement at Harmony.

IX. 2023-2024 School Year Athletic Programs/Competition Presentation.

A. 2023-2024 School Year Athletic Programs/Competition Presentation.

Mr. Emin Cavusoglu, Deputy Superintendent of Programs HPS presents 2023-2024 School Year Athletic Programs/Competition Presentation. Mr. Cavusoglu informs the board this presentation was also presented during the Academic Committee meeting on May 3, 2024. He informs the board this presentation presents an overview of the athletic programs and competitions that took place during the 2023-24 school year at all Harmony campuses. The presentation highlights the achievements, participation rates, and the overall impact of these programs on student athletes' physical fitness, teamwork, and personal development. It showcases the dedication of both students and staff to athletic excellence and the role of sports in fostering a well-rounded educational experience

X. Consider Approval of 2024-2025 HPS Compensation Manual.

A. Consider Approval of 2024-2025 HPS Compensation Manual.

Mr. Emre Altun, Chief Human Resource Officer HPS presents Approval of 2024-2025 HPS Compensation Manual. Mr. Altun reminds the board that during the last board meeting we presented a few updates to our compensation which included removal of the two thousand dollar acceleration stipend, introduction of a one time six percent retention bonus, and expanding our step table to thirty steps. Mr. Altun reviews the presentation shared with board members including teacher experience stipend, new supplemental duties, removal of certain supplemental duties due to sunset of grant funds, home visit stipends revised, removal of TCLAS tutor due to sunset of ESSER funds, pay grade for crossing guard, H STEP bonuses removed due to sunset of grant funds, sign-on bonuses for TIA-Designated Teachers, and sign on bonus for Odessa/Midland region revised. O. Celepcikay made a motion to approve 2024-2025 HPS Compensation Manual with the recommendations made by the board members.

S. Koch seconded the motion.

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

XI. Consideration of Student Expulsion Appeal from Harmony School of Innovation – Garland.

A. Consideration of Student Expulsion Appeal from Harmony School of Innovation – Garland.

Dr. Celepcikay announces that the board members will be going into closed session as permitted by Texas Open Meetings Act Chapter 551.082.

Closed Session begins 9:57 AM.

Dr. Celepcikay starts regular session at 10:08 AM. Dr. Celepcikay states in closed session the board had discussion with legal counsel and no action was taken.

K. House made a motion to uphold the administrations decision and deny the appeal.

S. Koch seconded the motion.

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

XII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

S. Koch made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

O. Celepcikay 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 10:09 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Lambert