



Harmony Public Schools

Minutes

February 22, 2025 HPS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Saturday February 22, 2025 at 9:00 AM

Location

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

****We will serve breakfast after the board meeting is concluded in the fourth floor meeting room.**

Directors Present

H. Sherwood (remote), M. Argin, O. Celepcikay, S. Koch

Directors Absent

H. Koc, K. House, L. Gonzalez

Guests Present

C. Lambert, E. Akyildiz, E. Cavusoglu, F. Ay, J. Hoffer (remote), M. Baca, N. Bayhan, Ramona Mayo, Suraiya Kamal, 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 Feb 22, 2025 at 9:12 AM.

II. Public Comments

A. Public Comments

Suraiya Kamal, Parent from Harmony School of Discovery addressed the board regarding mutual accountability and transparency. She addressed the board regarding HPS grading policy as her daughter received a 90 on a grade but the overall class average was 30. Recommends holding teacher accountable for posting grades timely and looking at class average for grades to assure understanding. Ms. Kamal also addressed accessibility to the principal. Finally, Ms. Kamal addressed school safety regarding teachers canceling school clubs last minute and not roaming campus after school and informing parents ahead of time.

III. Consent Agenda

A. Consider Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2025

S. Koch made a motion to approve the minutes from January 25, 2025 HPS Board Meeting on 01-25-25.

M. Argin 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 February 8, 2025

S. Koch made a motion to approve the Minutes and of the Actions of the Finance Committee Meeting on February 8, 2025.

M. Argin 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 February 8, 2025

S. Koch made a motion to approve the Minutes and of the Actions of the Academic Committee Meeting on February 8, 2025.

M. Argin seconded the motion.

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

IV. Review of HPS Quarterly Investment Board Report of December 31, 2024.

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

Mrs. Ebru Akyildiz, Chief Finance Officer HPS presents HPS Quarterly Investment Board Report of December 31, 2024. 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 about \$1.3M interest earned in Quarter 2 with an ending market value of approx. \$193 million of total investments. The annual interest earning is expected to be approximately \$6.5 million. This was also presented to the Finance Committee early in the month.

V. Review and consider approval of the Financial Auditor and the Form 990 Engagement Letter.

A. Review and consider approval of the Financial Auditor and the Form 990 Engagement Letter.

Mrs. Ebru Akyildiz, Chief Finance Officer HPS presents Review and consider approval of the Financial Auditor and the Form 990 Engagement Letter. Mrs. Akyildiz informs the board this letter indicates The Board of Directors' acknowledgment of, and agreement with, the arrangements for Whitley Penn's audit of the June 30, 2025 financial statements compliance over major federal award programs including their respective responsibilities. Whitley Penn will also prepare the HPS' Form 990 to be filed with the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") for the year ended 2025 based on information provided by HPS. Finally, Ms. Akyildiz informs the board that there was a twelve thousand dollar increase for services but with our size and continued growth that is a reasonable increase.

Dr. Argin mentions that this item was discussed during the finance committee meeting and everyone is very happy with Whitley Penn.

M. Argin made a motion to approve the Financial Auditor and Form 990 Engagement Letter as presented.

S. Koch seconded the motion.

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

VI. Approval of a resolution to submit a non-expansion amendment

A. Approval of a resolution to submit a non-expansion amendment for the relocation of Harmony Science Academy - Midland (Campus Number: 071806009) in the HPS West Texas District (071-806).

Ms. Minh Baca, Chief Compliance Officer HPS presents Approval of a resolution to submit a non-expansion amendment for the relocation of Harmony Science Academy - Midland (Campus Number: 071806009) in the HPS West Texas District (071-806). Ms. Baca informs the board Harmony Science Academy-Midland will be relocating from the modular buildings to the newly constructed building located at 4601 Waxwing Drive, Midland, TX 79705. Last school year, the main building was not ready and we had to house our students in modular buildings.

O. Celepcikay made a motion to approve the resolution.

M. Argin seconded the motion.

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

VII. Approval of a resolution to submit a non-expansion amendment

A. Approval of a resolution to submit a non-expansion amendment for the relocation of Harmony Science Academy - Exploration (Campus Number: 101846102) in the HPS Houston South District (101846).

Ms. Baca, Chief Compliance Officer HPS presents Approval of a resolution to submit a non-expansion amendment for the relocation of Harmony Science Academy - Exploration (Campus Number: 101846102) in the HPS Houston South District (101846). She informs the board Harmony School of Exploration located at 9305 W Sam Houston Pkwy S, Houston, Texas 770999 will be relocating their PK - Kindergartens students to a nearby building located at 9303 W Sam Houston Pkwy S, Houston, TX 77099. As informed previously the Central Office will be moving locations and our programs department was housing in this location that will now be used for our PK and Kindergarten students from our Exploration campus.

S. Koch made a motion to approve the Resolution to submit expansion amendments to TEA for the relocation of Harmony Science Academy - Exploration (Campus Number: 101846102) in the HPS Houston South District (101846).

M. Argin seconded the motion.

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

VIII. Approval of a resolution to submit a non-expansion amendment

A. Approval of a resolution to submit a non-expansion amendment for the relocation of Harmony Virtual Academy (Campus Number: 101846008) in the HPS Houston South District (101846).

Ms. Baca, Chief Compliance Officer HPS presents Approval of a resolution to submit a non-expansion amendment for the relocation of Harmony Virtual Academy (Campus Number: 101846008) in the HPS Houston South District (101846). Ms. Baca informs the board Harmony Virtual Academy located at 5435 S Braeswood Blvd., Houston, TX 77096 will be relocated to 9321 W Sam Houston Pkwy S, Houston, TX 77099. Again, this comes with the moving of our Central Office headquarters.

M. Argin made a motion to approve the Resolution to submit expansion amendments to TEA for the relocation of Harmony Virtual Academy (Campus Number: 101846008) in the HPS Houston South District (101846).

S. Koch seconded the motion.

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

IX. Approval of a resolution to submit missed day waivers

A. Approval of a resolution to submit missed day waivers to TEA due to Weather or Student/Staff Health Safety related issues for all 7 HPS Charters.

Ms. Baca, Chief Compliance Officer HPS presents Approval of a resolution to submit missed day waivers to TEA due to Weather or Student/Staff Health Safety related issues for all 7 HPS Charters. Ms. Baca informs the board we are requesting a signed board resolution to submit missed days waivers to TEA related to impacts of weather conditions, and health and safety needs for all 7 HPS districts. This was due to missed instructional minutes as some of our campuses and districts were closed due to weather as well as plumbing related issues. This waiver is for TEA to excuse those missed instructional minutes.

O. Celepcikay made a motion to approve the Resolution to submit missed day waivers to TEA due to Weather or Student/Staff Health Safety related issues for all 7 HPS Charters.

S. Koch seconded the motion.

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

X. Closed Session Pursuant to Govt. Code

A. Closed Session Pursuant to Govt. Code 551.071 (Consultation with Legal Counsel) and 551.082 (Student Discipline) i. The Board will consider a Parent Grievance Appeal from Harmony School of Innovation – Garland.

Dr. Celepcikay announces that the board members will be going into closed session as permitted by Govt. Code Code 551.071 (Consultation with Legal Counsel), 551.082 (Student Discipline and Employee Grievance), and 551.074 (Personnel Matters).

Closed Session begins 9:33AM.

XI. Resume Open Session, take action on items discussed in closed session:

A. Resume Open Session, take action on items discussed in closed session: i. Consider and take possible action on Parent Grievance Appeal from Harmony School of Innovation – Garland.

Dr. Celepcikay starts regular session at 9:39 AM. Dr. Celepcikay states in closed session the board discussed the item announced and no action was taken.

M. Argin made a motion to deny the parent grievance appeal and uphold the administrations decision.

S. Koch seconded the motion.

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

XII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Mr. Lambert reminds the board that 4 Resolutions will need to be signed. He also reminds the board members of their mandatory training requirement and deadline.

S. Koch made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

M. Argin 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 9:40 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Lambert