

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON JUNE 29, 2022, AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Effie Lekas	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Anastasia Etimos	Guidance Counselor
Christina Portelos	Director of Finance & Operations
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager
Spiros Moustakas	Guest

ABSENT

Grazia Svokos	Member
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Dean Angelakos	Member
Nik Mathews	Member
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement

Mr. Capetanakis chaired the meeting. Joy Petrakos acted as recorder.

The first item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes of the meeting on May 26, 2022. On a motion made by Harvey Newman and seconded by Ms. Lekas, the minutes were unanimously approved.

The second action item is the approval of the two budgets. Mr. Leonardos motions to approve the two budgets. Mr. Capetanakis seconds the motion. He asked if there are any questions on the budget. Ms. Petrakos reported that the schools budgets are in good shape and stated the following:

- The teachers received a salary increase of 3%
- We were able to continue with the 401k 3% Board pension match
- We are expecting a 10% increase in health benefits but have not received the updated premiums. The employees will continue to pay 7% of the cost of employee benefits. The school will continue to pay the 93%
- Very happy to continue with the longevity bonuses at both schools for employees who have completed their 10 year anniversary. They will receive a \$3k bonus.

Mrs. Petrakos wanted the Board to understand the impact of the salary employee increases in comparison to last year, 2022, for HCCS-SI which excludes shared employees. The impact will be about \$113k in HCCS-SI and for HCCS-PS which includes the shared employees the impact will be about \$300,000. We are balancing the budget and we are doing well. She asked if there are any questions. Mr. Capetanakis added that the salary increases evened out with the increase in the per pupil allocations.

Mr. Newman asked what are the comparative salaries between the DOE and our schools if any. Mrs. Tettonis answered that she asked Mrs. Petrakos and Mrs. Portelos to create a chart comparing our salaries to the DOE salaries. The reason that she asked for this is to understand if we are compatible with the DOE and to help us have an idea of where our teachers would be. In addition, for various state reporting purposes, Mrs. Petrakos and Mrs. Portelos had created a tracking system to include teacher certifications, college degrees, years of experience and any specialties. The salary comparisons will be included in the same spreadsheet.

Mr. Newman asked if there is any feedback about salary structures on a comparative basis. He asked if we have lost staff to the DOE. Mrs. Tettonis answered that she does not believe that we have. Mrs. Petrakos added that we are also creating our own entry level scale system. She added that we start off our teachers a little under what the teachers start with in the DOE. We cannot sustain what the DOE pays. However, Mrs. Portelos and Mrs. Petrakos stated that they are in the process of creating their own salary scale based on credentials. There are so many variables to consider. Mr. Leonardos asked if this system is compatible with other charter schools. Mrs. Petrakos answered that she is part of a city and a nationwide operations network, and she receives many emails with information. Each school has its own system that is similar to each other. Mr. Newman stated that there is no way you can compare as a financial package on a long term basis because of the pension. The pension is the critical factor. Hearing that it is stable is encouraging.

Mr. Capetanakis asked if there are any further questions or discussions on the motion to pass the two budgets. The motion to pass was voted unanimously.

Mr. Capetanakis stated that we are coming up on our renewal and to please reconnect with Paul, the banker and tell him we want to refinance.

Mr. Capetanakis reported that the superintendent's report was excellent.

Mr. Capetanakis congratulated the HCCS-PS students for coming in second place in the country for the National History Day Fair. He watched the documentary, and he was really impressed. Mrs. Tettonis explained to the Board that the five 6th grade students from HCCS-PS came in 1st place in the City of the New York, 1st place in the State of the New York and 2nd place in the nationals in the theme debate and diplomacy category. Mrs. Caban further explained that the theme this year was Triumph & Tragedy. The Documentary Title was Shirley Chisholm: Championing Domestic Workers through Debate and Diplomacy. Mrs. Tettonis congratulated our new theater director, Per Jansen, and our Dean of Student Development & Greek Cultural Studies, Maria Bonakis, for doing an amazing job along with the five 6th grade students who did the research. This is the first time that we competed in a documentary category.

Mrs. Tettonis thanked her team for a great year. She thanked both principals for a successful year. She thanked Mrs. Petrakos and Ms. Portelos for all of their hard work. She continued to thank Mrs. Etimos for high school admissions. She also thanked administrative staff Stacy Kokkoros and Dena Capetanakis who did not stop with all of the events. The majority of our events were in person this year, she added. We had the American Revolution and Award ceremonies. Everything was fabulous.

Great end of the school year she said. Thank you to Mr. Capetanakis for speaking to our students and giving them their diplomas at 8th grade graduation. We especially thank the Board for sticking by us and giving us moral support. It means so much to us. She continued to report that the children took the Living Environment, Greek Regents and Common Core Algebra Regents exams. She congratulated everyone. Fountas and Pinnell results are in the superintendent's report. The state exams are not released yet.

Mrs. Tettonis reported to the executive board that after the students take the State exams they are sent to a vendor called SME who grade the exams. SME made a mistake this year and then it was corrected. This was brought to everyone's attention including the NYSED and the NYCDOE. She has been assured that it was corrected. It had nothing to do with Hellenic. She thanked her leadership team for an amazing job. The NWEA results are in the report. The annual report will include all of these scores. Everyone worked very hard.

We have summer school programs in both schools funded by Summer Boost NYC. She thanked both principals for putting the programs together. Mr. Leonardos asked if the construction in HCCS-SI will affect the summer school program. Mrs. Petrakos answered that it may. She will put a plan together.

Mr. Capetanakis asked about high school admissions. Mrs. Etimos informed the Board about the changes that were made in the DOE. The goal was to increase the diversity in screened schools. This is the second year that we had students with disabilities, students with low averages and ELL students that were accepted into screened schools. Screened schools used to rely on attendance, high grades and test scores. However, this year, they looked at the 7th and 8th grade report cards. They put the students in different groups and they select them through lottery. All this was done to increase to diversity in screened schools, she said. It worked out well for our students. Fifty percent of our students received their first choice. Seven percent received their second choice. We did very well. As far as specialized high schools most of our students do not apply. Three students made it in. Only twenty-two students took the exam. Our students do very well in the Catholic High schools and receive scholarships. Mrs. Etimos answered that our students received \$212k in scholarships. Mrs. Etimos continued to report that it is unclear what direction the new mayor and chancellor will take. There are a lot of changes in store. It is very confusing for parents. We had many families with high academic averages and test scores and did not receive an offer. This is the disadvantage. But it is Mrs. Etimos' opinion that because they are good students they will succeed. Mr. Newman asked how many of those students did not get an offer. Mrs. Etimos answered that 5 out of 52. Mr. Newman said that this is important. Listening to your data it is reflection of the realistic guidance from your team. The process is overwhelming. Fifty percent is bravo to you Mrs. Etimos. He is really impressed. Mrs. Lekas also thanked Etimos. Mrs. Etimos holds the families' hands, and this makes all the difference in the world. You make yourself available said Mrs. Lekas. Mrs. Etimos said that Mrs. Tettonis taught her that they are a team. She said that we have an amazing team. Mrs. Lekas said that she made the difference. Mr. Newman said that he knows that there are 9-12 schools in the city that are considered the most competitive. Of the 50 students that were admitted to their first choice, what are some examples of these school? She answered the following schools: Leon Goldstein, Millennium, Fort Hamilton Honors, Midwood Screened.

Mr. Newman thinks that the fact that these students were accepted into these schools is very important. He compliments Mr. Etimos for adapting. He said that Mrs. Etimos is a resource for HCCS-PS. Mrs. Etimos said that the goal is for our students go to the top schools. Specialized high schools are not for everyone. Mr. Newman asked about the five students that did not make it into their choices. He asked if Mrs. Etimos stays in contact with them over the summer? She answered that she does. She offers two workshops and has virtual office time. She continues to help them. Mrs. Lekas states that this is the key.

Mrs. Petrakos stated that she will be working on the Board evaluations. Mrs. Lekas asked if the Board evaluation will be annual. Mrs. Petrakos answered yes.

Mrs. Petrakos reported that she met with two members of the Holy Trinity church board in regard to the outdoor playground and electricity that may temporarily be needed through the church to supply the school building with power because there will be an interruption of electricity due to the construction. With the new infrastructure Con Edison will need to make upgrades to bring service into the new building. Since the building does not have electricity, we will be connected to the church. The church has a different electrical feed. In regard to the outdoor playground she reported that they have an issue with us updating the playground because they do not have space during the day and they were thinking of creating a new room where the playground is located. Mrs. Petrakos offered them another solution. When the new building is ready they will give the church the present main office or administrative space. We only need a space for an early childhood administrator. Mrs. Petrakos added that if we update the playground, it must be done this summer.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Newman Mr. Lekas seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on July 21, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON JULY 21, 2022 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Effie Lekas	Member
Dean Angelakos	Member
Grazia Svokos	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Anastasia Etimos	Guidance Counselor
Christina Portelos	Director of Finance & Operations
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager

ABSENT

Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Nik Mathews	Member

Mr. Capetanakis chaired the meeting. Joy Petrakos acted as recorder. There were seven board members present at the Board meeting as such having quorum.

The first item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes of the past two meetings on May 26, 2022 and June 29, 2022. On a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mr. Leonardos, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Capetanakis moved to amend the minutes from the meeting on May 26, 2022 to reflect that we did not have quorum. There was an action item for the approval of the two budgets. Mr. Leonardos motioned to approve the two school budgets. Mr. Newman second the motion on the adoption of the budgets. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to go to executive session. The motion was made by Mr. Leonardos and Mr. Newman seconded the motion. The meeting went to executive session at 9:36 a.m.

The meeting resumed at 10:19 a.m.

Mrs. Tettonis' described in her report that the children received summer enrichment packets to complete over the summer. The summer packets included reading lists, reading response activities, a school wide activity, math enrichment, supply lists and a school calendar. The teachers with the direction of their instructional leaders collaboratively authored curriculum maps for math, science, social studies, reading

and writing. Our students received their final report cards on the last day of school. The individual NWEA scores were included in their report cards. The Summer Boost Program was offered to students in grades K-8, from July 5, 2022 to August 4, 2022.

In addition, The New York State Education Department will provide the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics (math) preliminary assessment data to schools prior to the beginning of the 2022-23 school year. Schools will receive their preliminary data in August so it can be used to help inform instructional decisions and to develop individualized learning plans for our students at the start of school. This will also allow parents to receive their student's information much earlier than in past years. This change will have final Grades 3-8 ELA, math, Grades 4 and 8 science, New York State Alternative Assessment (NYSAA), New York State English as a Second 2 Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT), and Annual Regents Examinations. SED has not released the Math and ELA scores as of date. We have received instructional reports for grades 3-8.

Mrs. Petrakos presented to the Board a proposal to bring in a new system of using finger print identification for clocking in and clocking out every day for the staff in both schools. Mr. Leonardos asked how is it is being currently performed. Mrs. Petrakos explained that the staff physically signs in and out of a binder in the main office. Mr. Leonardos asked what the cost of this new system. Mrs. Petrakos answered that the cost is low. Each machine will cost approximately \$250 and the monthly fee for the software will be \$129 for 100 employees.

Mr. Leonardos stated that he likes it. Mr. Angelakos added that with automation there is concern with security for personal information. He asked if adequate security is provided with this system. Mrs. Petrakos explained that this system will work off of our Wi-Fi which is protected by strong firewall systems that are constantly being updated by a two-step authentication system. Mrs. Petrakos will give the Board a full report on how we are protected. If our Wi-Fi is protected, we are protected. Mrs. Petrakos stated that this system works independently from our payroll company. Only our IT department will be doing any updates on this system. The only staff members that will have access to this system are Mrs. Petrakos, Mrs. Portelos, Mrs. Caban, Mrs. Kakleas and Mrs. Tettonis. They will have a log in and they will be able to track employees to see who is late and who is in or not. It will be a more efficient system rather than just grabbing a binder and see who signed in or not.

Mrs. Caban also added that the only information on this system will be the teacher's name and their fingerprint. This system is not connected to the payroll company.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Lekas. Mr. Newman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on August 26, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON AUGUST 26, 2022 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Effie Lekas	Member
Grazia Svokos	Member
Dean Angelakos	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Christina Portelos	Director of Finance & Operations
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager

ABSENT

Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Nik Mathews	Member

Mr. Capetanakis chaired the meeting. Joy Petrakos acted as recorder. There were six Board members present at the Board meeting as such having quorum.

The first item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes of the meeting on July 21, 2022. On a motion made by Mr. Newman and second by Mr. Leonardos, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mrs. Tettonis stated that we are preparing for a new school year and she is very proud of both school teams. She made the Board aware that the YMCA is no longer going to be operating in HCCS-PS. We were surprised by this news given the late notice, however, Mrs. Petrakos already went into action and we will be starting our own after school program. Our families have been notified and pleased we will be coordinating our own program.

Next, Mrs. Tettonis reported that there is a new phase of the pandemic. Many of the restrictions have been lifted and there are new guidelines. We are excited for a more back to normal opening. Our new plan, which was approved by our legal team, is posted on our website.

She also reported that the NYSED assessment scores have been sent to the schools but they have been embargoed; therefore, they cannot be discussed. There are no comparisons since they have not been made public.

The board was informed that there are vacancies in both schools for teaching positions and we are actively looking for teachers. Mrs. Tettonis explained that she is confident that we will fill the vacancies. As of date, the following positions needed to be filled: HCCS-PS has (2) math; (1) special education, (1) ESL and (2) teacher assistant vacancies. HCCS-SI has (1) classroom-4th grade, (1) Greek, (1) Special Ed and (1) physical education vacancy.

Mr. Newman stated he is concerned since we are a week away from school opening. Mrs. Caban answered that it has been difficult throughout the city. Mrs. Kakleas answered that vaccinations are also a factor. Mrs. Petrakos added that several positions require special qualifications and charter school salaries are slightly lower than what the DOE is offering. Mr. Newman suggests that we revisit this. Mrs. Petrakos stated that we are doing our best within our budget. Mr. Newman explained that we are only as good as our teachers and this is a major priority. Mrs. Petrakos stated that the only challenge she would have with increasing entry level salaries is that we need to ensure veteran teacher salaries are also adjusted accordingly.

Mr. Newman answered that a plan must be created to address this. We must have an understanding of what the scope of our need is and create budgets moving forward. We have great leadership, and we need great classroom teachers. Mrs. Svokos added that she agrees and she understands that we would need to shift every salary up and figure what the salaries are and figure if we are underpaying the veteran teachers. Mrs. Tettonis added that there is a shortage of teachers nationwide. This is also a factor. Mr. Newman stated that this is discouraging talent from going into the teaching profession.

Mr. Capetanakis suggests that they discuss this matter after the Board's weekly construction meetings on Fridays. Mrs. Petrakos recommends that the financial team meet to brainstorm. Mrs. Petrakos also stated that sustainability is a matter that needs to be discussed. Mrs. Lekas agrees and suggests that we revisit fundraising.

Mrs. Tettonis added the training a teacher receives while working at Hellenic is superior. We have an excellent system in place to train new teachers. Even if a trained teacher decides to relocate to a different school, in a different state, it is comforting to know that children will benefit from highly skilled teachers we trained at HCCS.

Mr. Newman stated that our benefits package will never compete with the DOE. We have to figure out how to market ourselves to attract new teachers and to keep them as long as we can. Mrs. Petrakos is optimistic that we will find great teachers.

Mrs. Capetanakis reported that the galas for both schools are set for April 2023. Save the dates will be sent out soon.

Mrs. Petrakos let the Board know that over the summer they had a visit from Mr. Spiros Moustakas with his family in Park Slope. They toured the school. He is eager to join the

Board. Mr. Capetanakis asked if there are any objections to him joining the Board. There are none.

The lawsuit against SED has been filed for the miscalculation concerning the PPA for a prior year. It was also discussed that the DOE is disallowing the full amount of rental reimbursement for HCCS-SI that we are entitled to. There have been discussions with our legal team and plan on sending the DOE legal notice.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Lekas. Mr. Svokos seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on September 29, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman
Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2022 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Effie Lekas	Member
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Dr. Grazia Svokos	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Prospective Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Christina Portelos	Director of Finance & Operations
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager
Myra Alejandra Aguilar	HCCS-SI Parent
Alexia Parent	HCCS-SI Parent

ABSENT

Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Dean Angelakos	Member
Nik Mathews	Member

Mr. Capetanakis chaired the meeting. Joy Petrakos acted as recorder. There were five Board members present at the Board meeting as such having quorum.

The first item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes of the meeting on August 26, 2022. On a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Dr. Theodoratou, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Capetanakis congratulated the superintendent for her thorough report. He asked if anyone had any questions on her report. Ms. Lekas asked if all the vacant positions were filled in the two schools. Mrs. Tettonis responded that we are fully staffed, and she wanted to thank Mrs. Caban, Mrs. Kakleas Mrs. Petrakos and the whole team for an incredible job. In HCCS-PS we only have one vacancy for a teaching assistant. We are actively looking to fill the position. We are very pleased with our selections. She thanked everyone for their support. She mentioned that an added benefit to our staff is that we offer robust professional development for all

teachers. We also have our Deans of Academics that provide the professional development for all the new hires.

Mr. Capetanakis stated that given what is going on in academia today the fact that we found teachers and we are happy with our selections, is tremendous. Mr. Capetanakis asked how many students are registered for the high school exam prep course that we offer. Mrs. Caban responded that we are still receiving permission slips. We have about 10-15 students enrolled as of today. The test prep begins on October 3rd. Mrs. Bonakis, our Dean of Student Development & Greek Cultural Studies and Mrs. Etimos, our Dean of Guidance are both overseeing the program. Mr. Wong, our 8th Grade Common Core Algebra Teacher, is teaching the math portion and Ms. Wright, our 7th grade ELA Teacher is teaching the reading portion. The test is scheduled for December 3rd or 4th. The SHSAT test date has not been confirmed yet. The TACHTS test is scheduled for November 5th. Today will be our first High School meeting for 8th grade families geared specifically for the private high school application process. The next meeting will be for the public school application process. They are two very different processes. Mr. Capetanakis informed everyone that the Board has authorized test prep courses to all students for free. It is important for the Board to help the students. Mrs. Caban added that in previous years we used Kaplan for test prep but we recently had our own staff performing the test prep as we have found that our own staff is more effective. Mr. Moustakas added that it is evident through the results. He is very excited.

Mr. Capetanakis stated that he toured the HCCS-SI building with the Staten Island Borough President last week when he granted the school \$10k grant. He also stated that the new building looks awesome. Mrs. Petrakos updated the Board that the construction in HCCS-SI is on schedule. There were a few delays regarding deliveries, which was a nationwide issue. Moving forward, the fence pricing has been received. The brick work looks great. It is underway. The building is moving along nicely. It is gorgeous, said Mrs. Petrakos. The inside is also shaping up well. The room wall partitions are up. We are on track for a January completion and expecting to move in during the February break.

Dr. Svokos asked if we are planning an opening day. Mrs. Petrakos answered that Mr. Leonardos had an idea to do a ribbon cutting for the new building to share with the Board and the whole community.

Mr. Capetanakis asked if the mobile classrooms, which are amazing, he added, if they can be easily removed. Mrs. Petrakos answered that they can be removed within a couple of days. It involves the actual removal of the classrooms and then the electrical, plumbing, etc. She added security is there at all times. The parking lot is closed off so there is no movement when school is in session. It really has worked out well. There is staff watching the students as they move from classrooms to gym, to lunch and back to the classrooms. Mrs. Tettonis added that Mrs. Petrakos will have a whole transition plan in place for how the students will be moved into the new building once it is ready to be occupied. Mrs. Petrakos will have a plan in place and will work with Mrs. Kakleas and the team to make sure that it happens seamlessly. Mrs. Petrakos added that after the mobile units are gone the gravel in the parking lot will be removed and the parking lot will be new.

Mrs. Petrakos reminded the Board that the consultants meet on site every Tuesday. The minutes are distributed and the whole team knows the status of the project. It is an incredible team.

Mrs. Tettonis added that we had successful in person Curriculum Night events. Parents were able to see their children's classrooms. In HCCS-SI the parents were able to visit the mobile units and were able to see how amazing they are.

Mr. Capetanakis asked if there were any further questions for the Superintendent. There were none.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked to go into executive session. Mr. Newman seconds the motion. The meeting went to executive session at 9:50 a.m. There were no votes taken during executive session.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on October 26, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman
Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON OCTOBER 26, 2022, AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Effie Lekas	Member
Grazia Svokos	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Prospective Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Christina Portelos	Director of Finance & Operations
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager

ABSENT

Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Dean Angelakos	Member
Nik Mathews	Member
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations

Mr. Capetanakis chaired the meeting. Christina Portelos acted as recorder. There were six Board members present at the Board meeting as such having quorum.

The first item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes of the meeting on September 29, 2022. On a motion made by Mr. Leonardos and seconded by Ms. Svokos, the minutes were unanimously approved.

The second item on the agenda is the approval of the Financial Policies and Procedures Manual on the agenda. Mr. Capetanakis entertains a motion to adopt the approval of the Financial Policies and Procedures Manual. Mr. Newman seconds the motion. There being no discussion the motion carries unanimously.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked to go into executive session. Mrs. Svokos seconds the motion. The meeting went to executive session at 9:46 a.m.

Meeting resumes at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Leonardos informed the public that there were no votes were taken during the executive session.

Mrs. Tettonis reported to the Board that HCCS-PS and HCCS-SI exceeded the NYS and NYC Exam in both Districts in both ELA and Mathematics. She applauded both leadership teams, the parents and especially the students for all of their hard work.

Mr. Leonardos asked for an analysis of how the scores compared to pre-pandemic. Mrs. Tettonis will prepare this for him. But she stressed that the pandemic did affect the students and there are gaps.

Mrs. Kakleas reported that the open houses were very successful. Applications are coming in every day. She continued to report that the construction is moving forward. Tiles are being installed in the hallway and the bathrooms and windows are being installed. Turf is also being installed in the playground. The church has rented a lift to replace the gym lights.

Mrs. Tettonis added that HCCS-PS will be going to Greece twice this year. The National History Fair students will be going in January to research Dr. Georgiou Papanikolaou. The Ancient Greek Theatre Club (AGT) will be going in February to research Antigone which they will be performing in May. We are very excited, she added. Mrs. Tettonis will be attending the NHD trip in January.

Mrs. Caban reported that we are preparing for high school admissions. We have already had two high school eighth grade meetings with the families and one for the seventh grade families. This year the criteria has changed for acceptances. Students will be put in tiers based on their averages. Fifteen percent is based on averages and that is how they will receive their high school acceptances. Our students are being prepared for the SHSHAT exam in November. They are also taking the TACHS exam as well. Transcripts are being put together. She believes that most of our families will be leaning towards the private sector. Mrs. Caban showed the slides from the high school meeting showing the Board the breakdown of high school acceptances. Twenty-two students have been taking the prep course. Students are preparing brag sheets for the teachers to write their recommendation letters.

Mrs. Caban added that one of the second grade teachers resigned and we are now transitioning in a new teacher into the position. We will make the transition smooth for the children.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Leonardos asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Svokos seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on November 22, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman
Harvey Newman, Secretary