

**Board of Trustees**

Gabrielle Apollon (Vice President)  
Lord Crawford  
Ankur Dalal  
Katie Embree  
Maureen Higgins (President)  
Mirlande Joachim  
Kristopher John (Treasurer)  
Salone Kapur  
Lindsey Moschet (Secretary)  
Jennifer Ng  
Elizabeth Pernick



**St HOPE Leadership Academy Board of Trustees  
Board Meeting**

**MINUTES**

December 12, 2024 from 6:30-8:00 pm  
Meeting Conducted In-Person at 222 W. 134<sup>th</sup> Street

- **Welcome**

Call to Order

Gabrielle Apollon	Present (Virtual – Address Provided)
Lord Crawford	Present
Ankur Dalal	Absent (Excused)
Katie Embree	Absent (Excused)
Maureen Higgins	Present
Mirlande Joachim	Present
Kristopher John	Present
Salone Kapur	Absent
Lindsey Moschet	Present
Jennifer Ng	Absent (Excused)
Elizabeth Pernick	Absent (Excused)

Also present at the meeting: Meghann Persenaire, Principal.

- **Public Comment**

No requests for public comment were received.

- **Consent Agenda**

Minutes from the November 21<sup>st</sup> Board meeting were unanimously approved by the Board.

- **Nominating Committee**

- Ms. Persenaire announced that the Board candidacy of Lord Crawford was approved by the school's authorizer and that Mr. Crawford was now a full, voting member of the Board.
- Board continued the discussion of the Board Engagement Committee, confirming the expectation that every Board member engage directly with the school community at least once each academic year. Options this year include attending an honor roll dinner, an honor roll assembly, visiting classrooms during the school day, attending an NJHS meeting, attending graduation, participating on the scholarship selection committee, or another activity suggested by the member. Ms. Persenaire will create a Google Doc where Board members can sign up, remembering that two members are needed to participate in the scholarship interviews on Saturday, March 22nd.

- **Finance Committee**

- *November Finance Report* - Ms. Persenaire presented the November Finance Report for discussion, stating that revenue and expenses have remained consistent. Current projected cash surplus is \$42,000 with projected surplus of \$164,000 including depreciation. Ms. Persenaire made particular note of revenue line

4502 and expense line 6119 which represent the pass-through of scholarship funds from the investment account to the checking account that pays out scholarships. The Finance Committee will meet next month with a representative from CSBM to discuss how scholarships impact the budget.

- *Recruitment and Enrollment* – Ms. Persenaire reported that recruitment continues for this year with new scholars continuing to enroll. Underdog will actively recruit over the break including canvassing with hopes that new scholars will enroll in January. Recruitment for next year is also underway. On January 8th, Ms. Persenaire will host Donuts with the Principal with 5th grade families from PS92. Visits are also scheduled to other feeder schools including Harlem Link and Sisulu Walker.
- The Board will review the 990 at the January Board meeting.

- **Accountability Committee**

- *November Dashboard* – Ms. Persenaire reviewed the November dashboard that showed that enrollment had increased by two scholars from the prior month to a total of 182, with the attendance average and number of suspensions being the same as this time last year. The Board noted the large increase in the percentage of 8<sup>th</sup> graders considered College and Career Ready, from 25% to 33%.

- **Principal Update**

- Ms. Persenaire reported that the first Honor Roll Dinner of the year was a tremendous success with excellent scholar and family turnout. The school also invited families of scholars experiencing homelessness to ensure that families were able to take home food for the Thanksgiving break.

- **Executive Session**

- The Board voted at 7:35 to enter Executive Session to discuss a scholar issue.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

I, Lindsey Moschet, do hereby certify that I am duly qualified 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 December 12, 2024 at which quorum was present throughout. (December 13, 2024).