

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON JULY 7, 2023 AT 10:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Effie Lekas	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Karen Peters	CSBM Senior Financial Manager
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager

ABSENT

Grazia Svokos	Member
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Dean Angelakos	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 June 30, 2023. On a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Ms. Rajpersaud, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Capetanakis started the meeting by thanking the Superintendent for her thorough report. He then continued by asking for a brief update on the construction in both schools. Mrs. Petrakos reported that in SI the building is almost complete. Audio equipment and the seats are being installed in the auditorium this month. Once that is done it will be finished. This morning, before our BOT meeting, I met with Mr. Leonardos and Mrs. Tettonis and I gave a tour of the updated work. It is looking great. We are now waiting for the letter of approval from the Fire Department to send it over to SED to schedule a walk through and complete this a checklist of items that they need from us in addition to the letter of approval from FDNY. We

hope we will have their consent to enter our building soon so that we can start preparing for the new school year.

Ms. Petrakos reported that in PS the last of the leasehold improvements will begin on Monday, July 10th. We are installing new floor tiles in the corridors of each floor of the old building including the Greek room on the first floor. The main office will have new furniture and we are fixing the sidewalk on 5th Ave, 18th Street and 19th Street. We are also seeking three proposals for the new school gate. New lockers for the middle school students were ordered. The same lockers as SI. They are beautiful with a pop of color.

Mrs. Kakleas reported that the trailers in SI are being removed today. They started dismantling last week and they finished today.

Mrs. Tettonis reported that in both schools we are hiring and training new teachers. She further informed the Board that they are working with the consultants to prepare two renewals and two annual reports. Summer school in full swing. She applauds both Principals. Summer boost is being utilized which is through the grant that they received. She also states that they will be sending the Board an updated academic school calendar for approval.

Mrs. Petrakos asked that the Board take a look at the corrected organizational chart with updates from the last school board meeting. Once the Board approves, Mrs. Petrakos would be submitting this organizational chart as a non material charter revision along with the renewal.

Mr. Moustakas asked about the teacher retention this year. Mrs. Tettonis said that in SI we are growing and need to hire additional teachers. A few teachers have resigned from PS. A few reasons for their resignations include moving back home or given other opportunities such as our ELA teacher who has a wonderful opportunity in Boston. Mr. Newman states this is just an organic process and there is no threat. Mrs. Kakleas reported that in SI they are hiring because they have three new classes in September to fill.

Mrs. Petrakos further reported that we are hiring two additional custodial staff. Two for SI and one for PS. For PS we are looking for a custodian/school aide individual. For SI we are looking for two additional custodians. This is all in the budget. Mr. Leonardos asked when hiring if we can look for someone with mechanical knowledge for both buildings. Mrs. Petrakos answered that a person with that type of knowledge will want a lot of money. Mr. Leonardos proposes that we hire one custodian with mechanical knowledge for both buildings. Mrs. Petrakos agrees to keep this mind for the future. At this time it is important to have someone to keep the buildings clean, manage deliveries and garbage and anything that is needed to maintain the buildings. Especially in SI. We have interviewed two individuals and will meet with me and Mrs. Kakleas today. In PS, no one is leaving from the custodial staff but we have recess and we need the man power. The challenges are tremendous. Security needs to keep our building safe but they need to be outside as well. In addition, our custodians need to clean the building and they need to help with the outside as well. Everyone is doubling up and before everything gets sloppy we will hire a custodian/school aide and the responsibilities would be to maintain the first floor clean and also serve as a school aide.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leonardos. Mr. Newman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on August 3, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON August 3, 2023 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Effie Lekas	Member
Grazia Svokos	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Karen Peters	CSBM Senior Financial Manager

ABSENT

Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Dean Angelakos	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.

Mrs. Petrakos began by introducing and welcoming Aki Davis from CSBM, the new senior Financial Manager. Karen Peters will be leaving CSBM.

Mr. Capetanakis asked Mrs. Petrakos to describe the three action items on the agenda. Mrs. Petrakos explained to the Board the importance of aligning our charter goals for both schools. The plan from the beginning from the last renewal into the replication was to create a new set of goals with our Staten Island school and then Park Slope would eventually follow. It is now time for Park Slope to hop onto the goals with Staten Island. Of course Staten Island in reverse will follow the middle school goals of Park Slope. We aligned the goals for both charter school renewals and they will have the same goals whether they are academic, organizational or financial. This is why we need to pass a resolution today. The academic, organization and financial goals will be the same in both schools. We have been following the new Staten Island goals for the past 4 years. A few academic changes were included in Mrs. Petrakos' attachments.

The second action item is a new HCCS policy, the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Filotimo policy. This policy is strongly recommended for our renewal. It is not required but strongly recommended by the NYSED that all schools have one. It will be submitted with the supplementary information and a few other documents such as letters of support and collaborative pieces that show Mrs. Tettonis(Superintendent) collaborates with other districts and schools. The DEIF Policy will be submitted in the Supplementary part of our Renewal. Mrs. Petrakos let the Board know that we added a twist to the standard DEI policy. We added the work FILOTIMO. Those of you who do not know what this word means, Filotimo is a Greek work that describes values and virtues such as honor, justice, dignity, pride, self-sacrifice, respect, gratitude and hospitality. Filotimo also describes an attitude without expecting anything in return, taking pride in doing what is right and honorable and being humble at the same time. Mrs. Lekas added that Mrs. Petrakos needed at least twenty English words to define this one Greek work. This is the Hellenic way.

Mrs. Petrakos continued, as required in Benchmark 6, we need to have Board evaluations. There are three written in our renewal. One is a self-evaluation, one is a Board performance evaluation and the third is an evaluation from the Chairman for each Board member. That evaluation will be a one-on-one meeting, not a written evaluation. Mrs. Petrakos attached the two written evaluations. If anyone would like to make any edits please let Mrs. Petrakos know.

Mr. Capetanakis motions to adopt two Board Resolutions. The HCCS PS & HCCS – SI Goal Alignment and the new HCCS Policy – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Filotimo (DEIF Policy). Mr. Newman seconds the motion. There being no further discussion the motion carries unanimously.

Mrs. Petrakos continues to report on the Charter Renewal. Mrs. Petrakos shared her screen and showed the Board the Charter Renewal portal and all the documents that were submitted and information that was inputted for Park Slope and Staten Island renewals. Mr. Capetanakis thanked her.

Mrs. Petrakos reminded the Board that she attached the 2023-2024 School Board meeting dates in her email.

Mrs. Tettonis thanked Mrs. Petrakos, Ms. Caban, Mrs. Kakleas, Mrs. Capetanakis and the whole team for working so hard on the renewal. Mrs. Tettonis also informed the Board about all the enhancements that both schools have been going under. Lots of renovations for both schools. Cement work, new tiles and lots of wonderful things in addition to all of this paperwork. New furniture in the main office in Park Slope. Also, the first part of the annual reports were completed. Assessments have not come in yet. We are continuing to hire. We are looking forward to the last week in August and starting our Professional Development and starting school on September 7th.

Mrs. Petrakos further reported that on July 28th Staten Island had their fire inspection. They are still waiting for the walk through.

The Staten Island school is looks great. The main office is mostly moved in. The classrooms are furnished, and they just need the teachers touch and the students to come in. There are

minor things that are needed in the old building. Kelmar is handling some flooding in the new building in Staten Island.

Mrs. Lekas asked if we will putting pavers outside the building in Staten Island. Mrs. Petrakos stated that they are still getting quotes.

Mrs. Tettonis added that summer school concluded yesterday. She congratulated both principals on a job well done. Park Slope had 80 students attend out of 109 recommended. Staten Island had 44 students attend.

Mrs. Caban reported that the State Education Department will be acknowledging the Greek regents.

Mrs. Petrakos spoke to the Board about a data entry system that Mrs. Capetanakis has been requesting. Mrs. Petrakos did some research and found this great app called Parent Square. She inquired, watched a tutorial and recommended the program to Mrs. Capetanakis and Mr. Underwood. This system will incorporate many different areas of communication and will streamline our schools in an effective way. Our families will be able to communicate with teachers, receive report cards, receive information and much more. They met with a representative and they loved the program. Mrs. Capetanakis further explained that this program will bring us out of the mom and pop world that we are still living with our date base systems. This will help bring an interactive platform for parents, families, faculty and administration. One of the big issues that we have is keeping the student names with their parent/guardian email addresses. It is also populating the classes each and every year. This platform seems to be able to take care of that without all of the tedious data entry that happens every year. The way we do it is labor intensive and tedious. It is also compatible with ATS. The data is entered once and that is it. This program ranges only \$6000.00. If we sign on by August 15th there is a \$1500.00 bonus. Mrs. Petrakos states that the next steps will be for Mrs. Capetanakis and Mr. Underwood meet with the cabinet and discuss everything to make sure this is what our schools need. At our next meeting we will let you know if we will go ahead with Parent Square. Mr. Capetanakis states that anything that can make the parental experience better the Board is in favor. All the Board members are in agreement.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Lekas. Mr. Moustakas seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on September 20, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Effie Lekas	Member
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Grazia Svokos	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Kamilah O'Brien	CSBM Senior Financial Manager
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager

ABSENT

Dean Angelakos	Member
Nik Mathews	Member

Mr. Capetanakis chaired the meeting. Joy Petrakos acted as recorder. There were eight 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 meetings on July 7, 2023 and August 3, 2023. On a motion made by Mr. Leonardos and seconded by Ms. Svokos, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Capetanakis asked if we can start the meeting with the financial report first. Mrs. Petrakos stated that Kamilah O'Brien will be presenting from CSBM. Ms. O'Brien informed the Board that she has been working with Karen Peters and is now taking over as client manager. For the last several weeks their time has been focused on the financial audits. She has been working closely with Mrs. Petrakos and Ms. Elboustani to get the auditors everything that they need. With very few items outstanding, they have started working on a draft of the financials for the Board's review and approval. The monthly financials are right on budget in terms of revenue and spending and we have received per pupil funding for July and August. We have received Summer Boost money and we have received some of the final payments for UPK from the last

fiscal school year. Everything is pretty much on track from the revenue received and the expenses we have had from the summer. Overall in terms of the balance sheet 2.8 million in the bank by the end of July between both schools. If you look at the balance sheet you might notice that your assets and liabilities are much higher than what you have seen in the past. This is because of the adoption of the new lease implementation standards. Our balance sheet will look a little different. When you meet with the auditor next month and when they present the finances, they will be able to talk about that. Everything is pretty on track with the schools finances. If there are any questions please let me know. Mrs. Petrakos thanked Ms. O'Brien.

Mr. Capetanakis congratulated the team on the opening of the new building in Staten Island. Mrs. Capetanakis thanked Mr. Leonardos for the idea of taking photos of the students in front of the new building. Mr. Leonardos suggests taking an outdoor picture of the student body on 18th street as well. Now that the weather is still good maybe we can bring PS to SI and let them spend the day there. Mrs. Petrakos let the Board know that last year one of the third grade students from PS begged her for a trip to SI. She has to hold her promise to this student. She also likes the idea of a school trip from one campus to another but maybe we can roll this out slowly by grade. The building looks beautiful and we are really excited and so proud. Mrs. Petrakos is so overwhelmed with so many feelings. Mr. Leonardos added that not everyone knows or understands what we went through, especially this past summer. Up until two days before school opened that we did not know if we could access the building or not. It was very frustrating. Mrs. Tettonis added that the students were excited to see the inside of the building when we gave tours to the families of the building.

Mr. Leonardos recommends that we should be taking notes on everything that we do and have done in the years of HCCS to maybe write a book in the future. Mrs. Petrakos states that she can print in chronological order certain emails and elaborate on them. Everything is reported in emails and telephone conversations that she has made notes on. She would love to do that when she has time.

Mrs. Tettonis continued to report how excited they are in both campuses. SI is awesome with a brand new building. Their kindergarten orientation was in the brand new auditorium. Mr. Leonardos asked what the response was from the community. Mrs. Petrakos answered that the two priests from the community came to visit. She has been in communication with the president of the community Mr. Economos concerning their festival. Everything is good. They will be setting up on the back end of the church. They will be setting up cones not to interfere with the school's dismissal. We have good communication. The only one thing that Mrs. Petrakos would like to discuss after the festival is that there are some parishioners that are parking right up against the new school building. We worry that they will damage the building.

The last item Mrs. Petrakos would like to bring to the Boards attention is the irrigation system that was not installed during the project for our landscaping. She met with the landscaper and he is ready to plant beautiful trees and plants but he cannot unless we get our sprinklers installed. This was not scheduled to be a part of our budget and we asked the contractors why and we are waiting for the answers.

Mrs. Tettonis reported that in order for us to get final approval to commence instruction in SI the SED representative needed to actually come to the building to do a walk through and make sure that we had the letter of approval from the FDNY. He did come on August 31st. Mrs. Petrakos and Mrs. Tettonis met with him to get the final commencement letter.

It is our 18th anniversary in PS and our 5th anniversary in SI.

We are really focused on the renewal.

We are preparing for site visits. We do not have a date yet.

There will be focus group discussions. There will be a Board group and she thanks the Board in advance. We were hoping to plan a board retreat. Whether it is virtual or in person please let us know. We will have our consultants there to support us. Just let us know if you prefer virtual or in person. Mr. Leonardos asked to find out what the requirements are and go from there. Prior to the focus group with SED we will plan out some kind of retreat. Mr. Capetanakis is willing to host a retreat. Mrs. Petrakos suggests the terrace in the Staten Island school.

Mrs. Petrakos reported that her Chief of Operations report states there are tons of renewal items submitted. Please be aware of the dates. Enrollment is good. Lease hold improvements in PS are great.

Mr. Capetanakis asked how we are doing on high school prep in PS. Mrs. Tettonis reports that Mrs. Etimos and the team are working on it. There are workshops planned. Xavier and Notre Dame have already been to PS to present to the eighth graders and parents. Mrs. Tettonis suggests that we expand on this and have more schools come here. Mr. Leonardos states that this is all because of the team and your hard work. Mrs. Svokos also states that she likes the idea of hosting schools and having them come to us. Mr. Capetanakis asked if the wave is more toward private schools acceptances. Mrs. Tettonis answered yes. He suggests that we reach out to Staten Island Tech and Brooklyn Tech to come to the school. Mrs. Tettonis agrees that this is a great idea but is not sure if they will come to us but they do a number of open houses. Mr. Capetanakis does not want our students to think that we are pushing only private schools. Mrs. Capetanakis is suggesting that we have a college night and invite many high schools to attend instead of having the schools come one at a time.

Ms. Caban added that we still have a healthy number of students interested in the specialized high school exam. Last year we had 25 students participating in the free test prep. Mr. Capetanakis said that either way the success is fine. Have any of the investors asked any follow-up questions? Mrs. Petrakos answered no, not since the last time. She stated that she is in communication with EDC and the Bank of New Melon.

Mr. Leonardos asked if we are having a ribbon cutting ceremony in SI and when? Mrs. Tettonis answered that now that we have settled in we will plan something. Mr. Leonardos has gotten a new price for the fencing for PS. There will be a meeting with the landlord to discuss.

Mrs. Petrakos would like the Board to know, due to the community's festival they have asked us if we can open the building for their band so they can store their equipment in our building. They will be on the side of the building, by the stage. Mrs. Petrakos will make sure the building is secure.

Mrs. Petrakos lastly reported to the Board that our SED liaison informed us that two of our charter revisions which are the goal alignment charter revision and the organizational charter revision needs to be duplicated, one for each school. We submitted one charter revision for both schools. During the next meeting there will be a resolution.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Lekas. Mr. Capetanakis seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on October 18, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON OCTOBER 18, 2023 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Effie Lekas	Member
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Cathy Kakleas	Principal - SI
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager
Redon Quello	SI Parent
Mrs. Pano	PS Parent

ABSENT

Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Grazia Svokos	Member
Dean Angelakos	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 September 20, 2023. On a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Ms. Rajpersaud, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Capetanakis reads the next three action items from the agenda which are numbered VI, VII and VIII and states that we are going to treat as one. They items are: VI. Approval of the duplication of the Organizational Chart Charter Revision; VII. Approval of the duplication of the Goal Alignment Charter Revision; VIII. Approval of the Park Slope name Charter Revision.

Mr. Newman motions to approve these three items. Mr. Moustakas seconds the motion. Mrs. Petrakos explains that we have already approved the Organizational Chart Charter Revision and

the Goal Alignment Charter Revision because we submitted it as one charter revision for both schools but the State Education Department asked us to submit one for each school. Basically, we duplicated the same exact Charter Revision for both and we just made one for Park Slope and one for Staten Island. It is a complete duplication. She further explained that we have the approval for the Park Slope school name Charter Revision. What does this mean? When we merged our two schools, our Park Slope school name remained Hellenic Classical Charter School even though Hellenic Classical Charter School – Park Slope is referenced many times in the merger. The entity is named Hellenic Classical Charter Schools, with an s at the end. Which covers both schools and any future schools. Staten Island is HCCS-Staten Island and Park Slope, HCCS-Park Slope. However, SED is not recognizing HCCS-Park Slope as “HCCS-Park Slope.” SED asked us to approve the name for HCCS-Park Slope at the next Board meeting after Mrs. Petrakos questioned this. The paperwork did not match and she kept referring to it as HCCS-PS and they kept referring to it as HCCS. This is why we need to make the name official she said. We have two schools. One campus is HCCS-PS and the other one is HCCS-SI however we are under the Hellenic Classical Charter Schools legal name. She thanked the Board for approving all three. She will submit everything to the SED and everything should be clear moving forward. She also brought to the Boards attention that this will not take effect until after the renewal. Mr. Capetanakis asked if there are any questions. There are none. The motions carries unanimously.

Mr. Capetanakis referred to Mrs. Tettonis and states that the email regarding the current tragedy was outstanding. Mrs. Tettonis thanked Mr. Capetanakis and the Board for their approval and she states that we are thinking of everyone and are praying for peace.

Mrs. Tettonis reported that there is an upcoming renewal site visit from the NY State Education Department. The site visits from the State will be on November 2nd, 2023 at HCCS-SI and November 3rd, 2023 at HCCS-PS. The Board interviews will be on November 3rd at 10:00am. Mrs. Tettonis thanked everyone for participating and for taking the time to be a part of the SED interview. Regarding everything else, she assured the Board that they are always ready for a review. She continued to inform the Board that we have our Instructional Deans reviewing our best practices with our teachers and staff. We are ready and excited.

Mrs. Tettonis continued to report that the New York State Education Department has released the 2022-2023 ELA and Mathematics assessment results. She is pleased to announce that HCCS-PS and HCCS-SI have outperformed NYC and Districts 15 & 31 in both ELA and Math in both our schools. I applaud our leadership teams, our teachers, families and most of all our children for their hard work.

2023 NYSED ELA Assessment Results:

HCCS-PS Grades 3 – 8 70%

NYC Grades 3 – 8 - 51.7%

District 15 Grades 3 – 8

62.7%

HCCS-SI Grade 3 and 4 only - 68.5%
NYC Grades 3 – 8
District 31 Grades 3 – 8
51.7%

2023 NYSED Math Assessment Results:

HCCS-PS MATH Percentage
HCCS-PS Grades 3 – 8 - 82%
NYC Grades 3 – 8
49.9%
District 15 Grades 3 – 8
63.2%

HCCS STATEN ISLAND MATH Percentage

HCCS Staten Island (Grade 3 and 4 only) - 77%
NYC Grades 3 – 8 - 49.9%
District 31 Grades 3 – 8 57.4%
District 31 Grade 3 and 4 - 58.95%

The spring 2023 assessments were new tests featuring the new Next Generation Learning Standards. New York State Assessment results are not released as of date. They are expected to be released in December 2023.

Mr. Newman was impressed and stated that as a Board when we get reviewed we are focused on outcomes. There are a lot of inputs and there are a lot that you do to create this environment. But these are real tangible outcomes and are quite remarkable. He congratulates Mrs. Tettonis and the whole community. He is impressed and moved by the whole degree of success.

Mrs. Tettonis thanked Mr. Newman and added that their success is a testament to the team. They care and that is why it works.

Mrs. Tettonis continued to report that we have a lot of parent engagement. This week alone, the principals, Ms. Caban and Ms. Kakleas both have *Learn with Me Week*. Parents are able to come into their child's classroom and get to see their children learn in class. We had Curriculum Night, we have Parents Teacher Conferences coming up, we are doing a lot of in-person this year. Student government, Ancient Greek Theater, National History Day Fair, Spelling Bee, OXI Day, lots of events. It is really nice to see. The teachers are excited.

We are presently conducting NWEA assessments in both schools.

She further mentioned that she did attend the Charter Group Growth Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona. There were many workshops but the main theme was on Artificial Intelligence. She thanked The Charter School Growth Fund for the opportunity to attend.

Chief of Operations Report

Kamilah O'Brien of CSBM could not be here this morning. She prepared the financials for the Board. Mrs. Petrakos stated that the ESSER funding has been exhausted. The 401k employer match for 2022 is being worked on and will be distributed in the spring '24.

Mrs. Petrakos continued to report that the audit is going well. She informed the Board that Mr. Capetanakis, Mr. Leonardos, Ms. O'Brien and herself had the annual meeting with the auditor from PKF. It went very well. The one thing the auditor will note is the covenant piece of the forty-five day cash on hand. She explained to the Board that due to the fact that our HCCS-SI school was not given the full rental assistance which we are still in litigation for, our 45 days cash on hand was lower than expected. The auditor will note that in the audit. We will also explain that this is due to the rental assistance not being received on our end. It is budgeted therefore that is why it shows.

In addition, our marketing initiative is going great. As we discussed in our previous meetings when Mr. Newman asked to see more and we began this digital marketing initiative and it has been going great. Our school is being advertised like never before. For example we have HCCS-SI in the Staten Island Advance, HCCS-PS in the local Brooklyn newspapers and the El Especialito newspaper. If anyone googles our school's name they will see the digital advertisements. It is a little costly, but we will continue to do it for this school year and target the English Language Learners and Students with Special Needs. We want to help the community. We distributed our brochures and are preparing for our Open House season. We are doing great and our families are spreading the word as well. Our families are our number one fans and they get the word out.

She continued to report that the cameras in PS were down for a few weeks because they were outdated. We needed to replace 29 cameras.

Mr. Newman asked for status on enrollment and waitlist. Mr. Petrakos reported that we are fully enrolled in both schools. We have not exhausted our wait list. Our first open houses will be in December for the 2024-2025 school year.

Mr. Capetanakis asked about test prep. Mrs. Tettonis answered that high school admission meetings have been on going and well attended. Ms. Etimos and Ms. Bonakis have been very active. We provide in house free tutoring for the students by our own staff.

Mrs. Capetanakis is trying to schedule more high schools to come and visit PS.

Mr. Newman stated that there is a new high school application process in New York City. There is a new complexity. This makes the work being done in our office even more critical. There is a lottery. Every student gets a place in the lottery. It is already determined what number you have. It makes the decision making process that much more important.

The good news is that our parents do have the opportunity to meet with Ms. Etimos one on one to sit and explain the high school process. It is very complex. We want to make sure that everyone knows what their options are.

Mr. Capetanakis asked Mrs. Petrakos to update the Board about the new building is SI. Mrs. Petrakos stated that our new building is due to receive the final Certificate of Occupancy soon. There are few more boxes that need to be checked off by the professionals. One of them being a traffic site study. This finally happened yesterday. The team asked Mrs. Petrakos to help and she reached out to the Department of Transportation and they got back to her right away. They scheduled this site visit for the traffic site study for yesterday. She is waiting to hear back from them. She asked our security team to make sure that our arrivals and dismissals are on point. Hopefully we will have the Certificate of Occupancy soon.

In PS she reports we still have a few home improvements things that are still pending. She recently had a meeting with Konrad from Kelmar. We should be finished with the leasehold improvements soon. They need to clean the exterior of the PS building and of course we are meeting with the landlord to finalize the fence which is the last item on the lease improvement list in Park Slope.

Mr. Newman asked about the water damage from the rainstorm two weeks ago. Mrs. Petrakos reported that everything was ok in both schools. The water just came in and went back out. It was too much water for the sewers and pipes to handle. There was no extreme damage. The custodial staff in both schools were able to clean out the water and it did not return. The plumbers took a look and everything is running well.

Mr. Capetanakis asked if we will be having a groundbreaking ceremony in SI. Mrs. Petrakos answered that we will be having one after we obtain the Certificate of Occupancy. Mrs. Capetanakis added that we have the materials from the original date so we are ready to go.

Dr. Theodoratou asked if there will be any preparation for the review? Mrs. Tettonis asked if October 25th is a good time. The Board agreed on October 25th. They will send out an agenda.

October 30th was proposed for a virtual Board retreat.

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 10:00 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on November 16, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON NOVEMBER 16, 2023 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Effie Lekas	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Dean Angelakos	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Anastasia Etimos	Guidance Counselor
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Kamilah O'Brien	CSBN Senior Financial Manager
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager
Lisette Kumar	Staten Island Parent

ABSENT

Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Nik Mathews	Member
Grazia Svokos	Member

Mr. Newman 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 meeting on October 18, 2023. On a motion made by Mr. Moustakas and seconded by Mrs. Lekas, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mrs. Petrakos introduced Kamilah O' Brien our CSBM financial consultant who prepared the October 2023 financial statements which everyone has received along with all the other reports for today's meeting. Ms. O'Brien reported that so far we have received 32% of expected revenue and we have spent 23% of the total expenses that we budgeted for the year. We are treading a little below the net income that was projected but we still have to do projections around staffing to see what that true number is.

She asked if there were any questions on the Balance Sheet or Profit & Loss Reports. There were none. Mr. Newman thanked her for the report.

Mr. Newman asked if Mrs. Petrakos had anything to add. Mrs. Petrakos reported to the Board that we have a new CSBM accountant, Courtney Erickson as well as Kamilah O'Brien who has been with our schools from the beginning of our partnership with CSBM. She wanted the Treasurer to know that everything is going great with the CSBM team. She continued to report that we are fully enrolled and the revenue will soon reflect our enrollment numbers. That is of course if the FTE matches the period with the monthly statements when we prepare them. That was the most important thing that Mrs. Petrakos wanted the Board to know. Mr. Newman asked if there was a wait list. Mrs. Petrakos answered that we have a healthy wait list in both schools and we are able to fill a vacant seat immediately. Of course, we are able to target our English language learners and our special education students first in the event that we have accepted all of the siblings first. We are happy to report that.

Mrs. Lekas asked if we have the numbers for the waitlist. Mrs. Petrakos answered that we have approximately 100 names on the waitlist.

Mr. Newman asked Mrs. Tettonis if there is anything from her Superintendent report that she would like to highlight. Mrs. Tettonis thanked Mr. Newman and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. She expressed that everyone at Hellenic is thankful to have the two best schools in the world. The students inspire us each and every day. The teams make everything look easy. She thanked the entire team and school board for everything. She reported that we had two great PTA meetings yesterday. We have positive energy in both schools. We have a strong amount of parent volunteers in both schools.

Mrs. Tettonis continues to report that we had a very successful site visit from the New York State Education Department as part of our renewal on November 2nd and 3rd. The site visits in both schools consisted of classroom observations, teacher focus group interviews, special population focus group interviews, leadership team interviews and school board interviews. They conducted observations in reading, mathematics, science, Paideia, Greek language, social emotional learning, special education, writing, social studies, technology, phonics, and academic intervention sessions. The review went very well. We are proud of our students, faculty and school board. Our renewal hearings are scheduled for November 16th at 5:30 pm. The Charter School Public Hearings and public comment for both schools will be this evening, November 16th at 5:30 p.m. Notices have been distributed to both communities. She asked if there were any questions. Mr. Leonardos asked if the hearing will be virtual or in person? Mrs. Tettonis answered that it will be virtual and anyone that would like to attend must register by the end of the day.

The NYSED Annual Report was submitted November 1, 2023. Mrs. Tettonis thanked the team, Ms. Caban and Ms. Kakleas and Mrs. Petrakos for preparing the annual report.

Parent Teacher Conferences for both schools were held on November 9th. They were in person only. Park Slope had over 425 parents attend and Staten Island had 340. During Parent

Teacher Conferences it has been our best practice to have parent volunteers running the book fairs.

Mrs. Tettonis also reported that we had family classroom visits during the week of October 16-20. Parents had the opportunity to visit their children's classrooms.

Mrs. Tettonis informs the Board that open house season is beginning.

The dates are:

December 4 Pre-K Staten Island, December 6 K- 6 Staten Island, December 5 Pre-K Park Slope and December 7 K-8 Park Slope

Michael Kohlhagen from CEI informed HCCS-PS that they will receive the project boost grant for the middle school.

HCCS-PS student body was sworn in at our school inauguration on the morning of Tuesday, November 7th. Our first student government meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 15th. Thank you to Maria Bonakis, Dean of Student Development and Greek Cultural Studies.

High School admission in HCCS-PS have been going well. Mrs. Etimos and Mrs. Bonakis have been working nonstop preparing for high school admissions. Ms. Donohue is preparing for next year in Staten Island.

Mrs. Tettonis informed the Board that we had the pleasure of hosting *Dr. Eleni Griva and Dr. Eleni Korosidis from The University of Western Macedonia. They were accompanied by the Deputy Education Coordinator of Greece in New York, Yiota Pehlivanidis, and the president of the American Hellenic Educators Federation, Stella Kokolis. They visited our school last week and toured our classrooms. They loved the visit.*

Mrs. Tettonis further reported to the Board that 100% of students in grades 1-8 for PS and SI have been assessed using NWEA MAP Growth. Individual student reports of the assessment results, along with a detailed overview on how to read and understand the reports were sent home to the families with report cards on November 9th.

Mr. Newman thanked Mrs. Tettonis for her report. He took this opportunity to thank Mr. Capetanakis for joining the meeting. Mr. Capetanakis thanked Mr. Newman. He asked if there were additional questions for the Superintendent. There were none.

Mr. Capetanakis asked to go into executive session. Mr. Newman seconds the motion. There being no unfinished business the meeting went to executive session at 9:55 a.m. All in favor.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on December 14, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 14, 2023 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – IN PERSON

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Effie Lekas	Member
Grazia Svokos	Member
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager

VIA ZOOM

Nik Mathews	Member
Kamilah O'Brien	CSBM
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Su Benavides	HCCS-SI Parent
Vasheena Brisbane	HCCS-SI Parent
Bree Driscoll	HCCS-SI Parent
Laura Rossini	HCCS-SI Parent
Desiree Quinn	HCCS-SI Parent
Miranda McAuliffe	HCCS-SI Parent
Christine DeGregorio	HCCS-SI Parent
Terri Houzouris	HCCS-SI Parent

ZOOM USER

ABSENT

Dean Angelakos	Member
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Mr. Capetanakis chaired the meeting. Joy Petrakos acted as recorder. There were nine 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 November 16, 2023. On a motion made by Mr. Moustakas and seconded by Mr. Leonardos, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Capetanakis began the meeting by asking Ms. O'Brien from CSBM to give the Board the financial report.

Mrs. O'Brien reported that PS has received about 30% of the budgeted revenue. We are using the numbers from the November and December invoice which is slightly under and waiting for the January invoice to be approved on the vendor portal with more accurate enrollment numbers. In terms of expenditures, we are at 31% of the budget. We ended November with about 1.1 million dollars in the bank.

In SI we received about 33% of your projected revenue. The special education projections are a little lower than projected so there is a slight variance of money spent. Spending is in line with the budget that we are at. We are at 31% expenditures and our net income is very close to what was budgeted at 1.76 million for net income. We ended with 1.4 million in the bank for Staten Island. Ms. O'Brien asked if there were any questions for either school's financial report. There were none. Mr. Capetanakis thanked Ms. O'Brien and confirmed that there is nothing material to be discussed. Ms. O'Brien stated there was none.

Mrs. Petrakos thanked Ms. O'Brien for her financial report.

Mr. Capetanakis then turned the meeting over to the Superintendent.

Mrs. Tettonis wished everyone a Happy Holiday and stated that 2023 has been a tremendous year on so many levels. She commends Mrs. Caban and Mrs. Kakleas for leading in an extraordinary way. They have both built wonderful communities. The children are growing and learning and it has been a wonderful experience watching them every single day. We had a great year in both schools. As you can see in both schools the attendance rate is so much higher than last year. Park Slope attendance rate is 95.2% and Staten Island attendance rate is 94.7%.

We had spectacular open houses in both schools. On day one, Park Slope had 119 applications and Staten Island had 169 applications.

We have two Holiday Spectaculars coming up. Mrs. Tettonis invites everyone to attend. We are excited to see everyone. Park Slope will have one show on Friday, December 22nd and Staten Island will have two shows on Thursday, December 21st.

Park Slope is invited to perform at the Greek Consulate on Friday, December 15th. Our band and choir will be performing the Greek kalanda (carols).

HCCS-PS hosted the Diverse Charter School Coalition from Nevada on November 30, 2023. They came to see our best practices, specifically to look at our upper grades. They were in our classrooms and observed lessons.

In addition, on November 6, 2023 two of our Greek teachers, Dionysia Alexandropoulou and Lambrini Lambrinou presented to the Federation of Hellenic American Educators and Cultural Associations of America Presenters: Greek Instruction Best Practices at HCCS via zoom.

Our charter renewal hearings were held virtually on November 16, 2023 at 5:30 for both schools. Mrs. Petrakos and I presented on behalf of our schools. Both our PTA presidents spoke favorably at the hearings along with other faculty members and parents. Charles Capetanakis and Nick Leonardos attended the hearings. CEC from District 15 also spoke. Mrs. Tettonis gave a huge thank you to everyone who came on to support. The next steps for the renewals are to put us in front of the regents earlier because we asked for some revisions. We are waiting to see when we will be contacted. It might be as early as March. Mrs. Tettonis also reported that both of our site visits were incredible. Everything went very smoothly.

Brooklyn Community Board 7 held a public safety meeting on December 5th at 6:30 pm. The CB7 committee is reviewing 2 cannabis adult-use retail dispensary applications for 585 5th Avenue & 700A 5th Avenue. Since these locations are in close proximity to HCCS, they invited us to share our thoughts on these proposed applications. Our Director of Community and Family Engagement, Dena Capetanakis and our PS PTA president, Mr. Linares attended the meeting and raised our concerns. In light of our concerns, we respectfully requested they explore alternative locations for the proposed cannabis dispensaries that would minimize its impact on our school community. Mr. Leonardos states that we have a very strong case. The community needs to also step up. This particular establishment is very close to our school. As long as they are less than 500 feet we can make a strong case. Mrs. Capetanakis reported that there are three proposed sites. Two sites are on Fourth Avenue and one is on Fifth Avenue. The one on Fourth Avenue did not have a lease and stated that they would be withdrawing their application.

Mr. Newman expressed to the Chairman that since the Board is present and there is unanimity that there be a more powerful statement as a Board. He suggests making a resolution and highlight in the resolution why we don't want a cannabis store so close to our school and what other information we can garner from other people opposed to these establishments. This would be step one. Step two would be to circulate it online with all the parents and have them sign off on it. That would be five hundred constituents plus the Board in unanimity so when we make an appeal we would have this resolution. Mr. Moustakas added that a license application for a dispensary made to the offices of Cannabis Management, that is a New York State license. He points out that a State license and a City license are not on the same page with respect to Cannabis Dispensary. The State has prevue over it. The City is also trying to gain some control but it is state law.

Mrs. Capetanakis also stated that some parents that live on 20th Street did come to express concern and are willing to meet with her prior to the full community meeting on the 20th and asked if we are willing to have her engage her neighbors and fellow community activist to attend the meeting. In addition, there are two convenience stores directly across the street from us that sell cannabis in the form of pens. Mr. Leonardos adds that the police will not issue a ticket for this. Overall, there are multiple applicants for the same location. It can be very difficult. Mr. Moustakas suggests contacting our local city councilman because they are aware

of the situation. Mrs. Grazia Svokos supports passing a resolution. She also suggests sending it to our families and getting an electronic signature from parents and students.

Mr. Newman suggests that we also have students sign the resolution. We should do some research as to what other advocates have done. Mr. Capetanakis states that there is a Board direction that Mrs. Petrakos draft a Board resolution.

Mr. Capetanakis asked the Chief of Operations for her report. Mrs. Petrakos reports that everything is going well with our schools. Financially and facility wise as well. We are fully enrolled in both schools. The Friends Of audit is almost complete. ARP and ESSER grants are exhausted. She wanted the Board to know the charter revision for the Hellenic Classical Charter Schools Park Slope school name change was submitted to NYSED. With the merger the name was not recognized as Hellenic Classical Charter Schools (with an s at the end) Park Slope. It is still being recognized as Hellenic Classical Charter School. Therefore, we submitted a charter revision with our renewal which is perfect timing to officially change the name under our entity of Hellenic Classical Charter Schools. Our two campuses will have the names of Hellenic Classical Charter Schools, Park Slope and Hellenic Classical Charter Schools, Staten Island.

Lastly, Mrs. Petrakos reports that our plan with American Fund, which is the platform used for 401K pension, is being changed from Record Direct Plan to the TPAR6 Platform. The reason for the change is to make it more accessible for our employees to have access to their 401K plans online. It is an upgrade and a lesser cost for us. Mr. Capetanakis asked if someone will explain to the employees how to use the new plan and how to invest. Mrs. Petrakos confirmed that she will be sending the staff the presentation that she was presented with when she met with them and the employees will have the new contact number. The money will be transferred smoothly.

Mr. Capetanakis asked if we are close to a C of O for SI? Mrs. Petrakos answered that our expeditor is working on it and we should be close to receiving it.

Mr. Moustakas states that we are looking for a January ceremony date? Mrs. Petrakos confirms that Mrs. Capetanakis is ready to go once we have the C of O.

Mr. Capetanakis asked when is our next presentation to the bond investors? Mrs. Petrakos answered that we are done with the July annual calls. It was for the first two years. We no longer have to present in July. Mrs. Petrakos states that we have to continue to have the January Investor calls and monthly reports until we get the C of O. Mr. Leonardos adds that if we are looking to refinance then we have to go back and ask the investors.

Mrs. Petrakos addresses the parents on zoom. As you know, during the school board meeting if there are any questions that need to be answered we need the questions to be submitted forty-eight hours prior to the Board of Trustee meeting as per our policies. If you would like to ask any questions at a Board of Trustee meeting please send us your questions forty-eight hours prior. For now, we have logged your questions and will be calling you with responses to your questions later on today or tomorrow.

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 10:30 a.m. All in favor.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on January 25, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON JANUARY 25, 2024 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
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Dean Angelakos	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Kamilah O'Brien	CSBM Senior Financial Manager
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager

ABSENT

Nik Mathews	Member
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Mr. Newman chaired the meeting. Joy Petrakos acted as recorder. There were nine 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 December 14, 2023. On a motion made by Mr. Leonardos and seconded by Mrs. Svokos, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Newman stated to the Board that they have received the Resolution that Mrs. Petrakos circulated about the cannabis dispensary opening close to the school and asked Mrs. Petrakos to briefly talk about it. Mrs. Petrakos stated that there has been concern about the opening of more than one of these establishments very near to our schools. She pointed out that our school community represented our school with these concerns and went to the community board meeting with Mrs. Capetanakis and P.T.A. President Chris Linares. Parents are concerned. Therefore, the Board decided on creating this resolution. She asked what the next steps are after this resolution is passed and she reminded the Board that at the previous meeting it was

discussed to share the resolution with our families. Mr. Newman asked if everyone reviewed and if there are any questions on the resolution. Mrs. Svokos motions to approve the resolution and Mr. Leonardos seconds the motion. Each member individually voted yes to the resolution. The resolution was unanimously approved and will be used to advocate for our position regarding the concern for the store.

Mr. Leonardos pointed out that this resolution should be used going forward in case other stores look to open close to the school (HCCS-PS). Secondly, he believes that we can raise opposition against these establishments opening close to the school, however, even the community board has no power against these establishments. It is the State that will decide at the end of the day whether these establishments will be licensed or not. He stressed that the more opposition that is gotten the more favorable that the State will go against these establishments.

Mr. Moustakas also brought to everyone's attention that the regulation regarding how close a dispensary can be in Section 4092 of the State Education Law says that a cannabis dispensary cannot be on the same road or within 500 feet of school grounds. Mr. Moustakas further states that right now he is physically at HCCS-PS and he did not realize how close this establishment is to the school. He stressed that it is important that we state the actual distance of the establishment to the school. Mr. Angelakos asked if we should think about asking our families to go in front of the landlord's office and start rallying. Mr. Leonardos thinks that this is a great idea. Mr. Leonardos pointed out that federally the sale of this product is illegal. Dr. Theodoratou states that this is very important and should be looked into. Mr. Moustakas suggests that more research be done. He will look into it and report his findings. Mr. Leonardos asked if there is a bus stop in front of the store. Mrs. Petrakos confirmed that the B63 bus stop is outside one of the establishments. Mr. Leonardos states that an argument can be that when our students are dismissed, they wait for the bus right outside this establishment. Mr. Moustakas added that these establishments cannot open in proximity of two hundred feet of a house of worship. Our landlord located next door can argue is. Mrs. Svokos asked if there is a federal law if getting caught with illegal drugs within a certain distance of a school you will be arrested. Mr. Leonardos answered that it is his understanding that if any establishment is caught selling cannabis they will be fined not arrested. Only the State can enforce this. Cannabis has been de-criminalized. Mr. Moustakas stressed that this first step should be the distance from the school and from there we should have a broader discussion.

Mr. Capetanakis asks how is the Resolution going to be resolved. Mr. Newman answered that we should try to support the resolution with the details of the distance from the school to the proposed site and add to that an indicator that our students at the end of the day take a bus in front of the proposed building. In addition, the organization of parents has become a very important component of what we want to do. This is a coherent action plan.

Mr. Capetanakis summarized that we voted in favor of the Resolution.

Mrs. Svokos suggests preparing a PR release of the Resolution and to add that we are not in favor of any establishment that sells this under the table. Mr. Leonardos agrees.

Mrs. Petrakos recaps that the next steps are to wait for Mr. Moustakas to get back to us with research to make sure that they are in line with the law.

Mrs. Capetanakis adds that we are on record as opposing this. She reminds the Board that there are three establishments that are trying to get licenses. Two are on Fifth Avenue and one is on Fourth Avenue. The one across the street is not a legal operating cannabis dispensary. Mrs. Capetanakis informs the Board that as of the last two Community Board meetings the establishment across the street had not applied for a license. Mrs. Capetanakis adds that New York State will only issue four hundred licenses. Provisionally all three of these applications are going forward. She also adds the Community Board supports these establishments. It is Mrs. Capetanakis opinion that we need to tread carefully with our families. We want to do our due diligence as a school, but we do not want to offend anyone. The language needs to be gingerly handled.

Mr. Capetanakis states that the resolution is going through.

Next on the agenda are the financials. Mrs. Petrakos asked that Ms. O'Brien present the financials for HCCS-PS and HCCS-SI. Ms. O'Brien began by reporting that HCCS-PS is at the half part of the fiscal year. The approved budget for the total revenue was supposed to be at 10.5 million dollars. And so far, to date we have received 4.1 million in revenue which is forty-nine percent of the budget. Overall the projections for total revenue expected will be about 10.6 million dollars which is ninety-two thousand dollars over budget. We are doing pretty well in revenue. In total expenses the approved budget was 9.9 million dollars but at forty percent expenditures. Mrs. O'Brien will be working with Mrs. Petrakos to see if the projections are accurate. We will have better numbers. In terms of total money in the bank, HCCS-PS in the end of December had 1.9 million dollars in cash in the bank. She asked the Board if there were any questions about Park Slope. There were none.

She continued to report that HCCS-SI projected approximately 10.2 million dollars for total revenue. We are projecting that you will receive a little over 10 million dollars. So a budget variance of negative \$13,000 to fluctuations of Gen Ed and Special Ed enrollment. That is 42% from the approved budget which has been received so far. In terms of total expenses HCCS-SI approved budget was 8.25 million dollars and we have spent forty-one percent so far. We are projecting to be slightly under in terms of total expenses at 8.1 with a variance of negative 1.6. Overall approved net income of the budget is 1.85 and we are projecting that the net income be 1.8. And going down to the balance sheet HCCS-SI at the end of December had almost two million in the bank. Mrs. O'Brien asked if there were any questions. Mr. Leonardos asked is the reason why we see a difference between the approved budget and the projects because we do not have enough enrollment. Is this the reason why we have not received all of the funds? Mrs. O'Brien answered yes. Mrs. Petrakos added we are down five students in HCCS-SI because two families with two children each moved to a public school closer to their home and another family moved to New Jersey. We are in the process of filling these seats.

In HCCS-PS we are fully enrolled however it takes a couple of cycles for the invoices to become normalized. This is due to the dates that the child(ren) where enrolled and discharged. The system does not recognize the FTE right away. This is why there are a few waves in the

numbers. Mr. Newman asked if we are confident that the tiny variance will catch up with us and essentially balance the budget. Mrs. Petrakos answered that she is confident it will by the end of the year.

Mr. Newman thanked Mrs. O'Brien for her report.

Mrs. Petrakos added that she will be meeting with the CSBM team tomorrow to review the budgets and bond account. She also informed the Board that she met with Kelmar to discuss a payment plan for the final requisition. Mr. Leonardos thanked Mrs. Petrakos and also mentioned that we will need to pay contractors insurance of \$20,000.

Mrs. Petrakos then went on to discuss the annual Investors Call which took place on January 18th. It went well. She wanted to let the Board know that we did not meet the forty-five day cash on hand convenience. That was due to not receiving the full rental assistance which was budgeted for therefore it impacted our financials. We added a note in the presentation which explained why we did not meet the forty five days cash on hand and also that the New York State Education Commissioner voted in our favor and approved the rental assistance. We should be receiving it in the near future. The investors were happy that this was a one time issue and that the commissioner approved in our school's favor to receive the full rental assistance. In order not to default we need to either have a consultant briefly look at our financials to note that everything is ok. Or we need to ask for a waiver in order to proceed. We did ask for a waiver but the bank told us that they do not process waivers. Mr. Leonardos reported that he feels that the team handled the presentation very well. Secondly, this is not the school's default. It is the Friends Of default. If we are required we will come back with a proposal if necessary. Mrs. Petrakos met with Paul Clancy, the Banker who spearheaded the Bond transaction and introduced him to Ms. O'Brien. Mr. Clancy is great to have on board with us. While meeting with him she asked him in the event that the rental assistance does not come through in 2024, would we be able to use the Friends Of funding in savings to offset the money that we are waiting to receive and he said yes.

Mrs. Petrakos would also like to ask the attorney Cliff Schnider for his opinion. The investors care about getting paid and being in compliance.

Mrs. Svokos asked if that amount varies according to the budget.

Mr. Newman asked Mrs. Tettonis if there are any highlights that she wishes to share. The Superintendent wished everyone a happy new year. She reported that Catholic high school admissions are great this year. Our students received unbelievable offers.

Mrs. Tettonis thanked Effie Lekas for donating the vasilopites to both schools.

She reported that we had amazing VIP visits in both schools.

Mr. Moustakas highlighted that our students are amazing which is a testament to the educators that are teaching them and giving them the ability to become leaders down the road.

Mr. Newman states that what Mr. Moustakas has just indicated is the reason that we are here and that is the outcome that is achieved for the kids. It balanced the meeting in a big way to highlight these outcomes.

Mr. Newman asked how HCCS-SI is dealing with the child that was injured in the car accident. Mrs. Kakleas let the Board know that the student is doing much better. She came to school the other day. She looks great and the students saw that she was fine. She is recovering very well. We are very grateful.

Mrs. Tettonis added that HCCS-PS National History Day students went to Greece and have returned. The Ancient Greek Theater group is going in February.

Mrs. Tettonis reported that The Charter School Growth Fund invited her and Mrs. Petrakos to be part of the consortium which is national on artificial intelligence. They signed up for consortium three. This is a think tank. They are truly honored to be invited to this.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Leonardos. Mr. Moustakas seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on February 15, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON FEBRUARY 29, 2024 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Effie Lekas	Member
Grazia Svokos	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager
Ms. Pano	HCCS-PS Parent

ABSENT

Harvey Newman	Secretary
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Dean Angelakos	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 January 25, 2024. On a motion made by Mr. Leonardos and seconded by Mr. Moustakas, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mrs. Petrakos reported that our CSBM Financial Director, Kamilah O'Brien is unable to attend this meeting but will be at next month's meeting to report. Mr. Leonardos asked Mrs. Petrakos to give the Board a quick update. Mrs. Petrakos began by informing the Board that we are in planning mode as we approach the planning period for the new budget FY'25. We are also checking payroll and making sure it is aligned properly with employees. We do this twice per year or as needed to make sure that employees are in the correct department. Sometimes payroll will switch it up according to their systems and for example a School Aide may erroneously get tagged under a Teacher Assistant or a Special Education teacher may erroneously get tagged as a General Education teacher. This happens each year and if we do not keep tabs on it, it can

impact the budget. We are working very well together with CSBM and with Carla Elboustani who is our full-time Financial & Operations Associate for both schools. As we come to a whole year with the new team, I wanted to express how happy I am working with them. Their knowledge, professionalism and efficiency is appreciated.

Mrs. Petrakos also reported that we were informed by the Charter Center that the estimated per pupil increase is 3.8%. They also said that it is subject to change. Mr. Capetanakis added that the budget will not be final until the New York State budget passes. The New York State budget is due midnight on March 31st, 2024. Mr. Leonardos stated that this increase is not a lot of money. Mrs. Petrakos answered that we will budget conservatively as we always do. Her recommendation will be to start the planning at 2%.

Mr. Capetanakis informed the Board that there was a bill introduced by State Senator Sepulveda and Assemblyman Zaccaro to undue wronged rental assistance. There are about 147,000 children in NYC public charter schools, 27,000 are affected by not having rental assistance. This will affect students that are not co-located. This is what we are up against.

Mr. Capetanakis asked if there are any questions for the Superintendent. Mrs. Tettonis informed the Board that on March 7th we will find out about high school admissions for public schools. Students took The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assessment for 4th grade. This exam tests the educational progress on a national level. Parents were informed.

Mrs. Svokos asked if the fifth grade will be taking state exams with a device and if they prepared? Mrs. Tettonis answered that both principals have been preparing our students since last year. They have been taking simulations on their devices. We are hoping that it will be a smooth process since we have been preparing with our team. There are always glitches when it comes to technology but we have been preparing for it.

Mrs. Tettonis added we went to remote learning on February 13th due to a snowstorm. She was pleased to report that we had 92% attendance rate on that day with no problems. The credit is due to Mrs. Petrakos who supervises our tech team, the two principals and our instructional leadership team. Mr. Leonardos suggests that this success be advertised.

Mrs. Tettonis thanked Mrs. Capetanakis, Stavroula Tsoutsas, Maria Bonakis, Natasha Caban and Joy Petrakos for their tremendous work on the AGT trip to Greece. Mrs. Capetanakis thanked the Board for allowing her the opportunity to serve the school in this role. She added that Mrs. Caban joined them this year for the first time. Mrs. Caban also thanked the board for allowing her to go to Greece with the AGT team. It was a life-changing experience and would love to go back.

HCCS-SI is preparing to take an NHD team next school year to Greece for their own research trip.

Mrs. Tettonis further informed the Board that the Greek Consulate and Stella Kokolis has reached out to her and Joy Petrakos about a convention that they are putting together in Athens,

Greece for Charter Schools in the United States on April 1 – April 5th. There have been appointments made with the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Education, and there is a long list of important dignitaries in Greece. Mrs. Tettonis has a draft of the itinerary. Mr. Leonardos feels that we should have great representation at this convening. Mr. Capetanakis agrees, and he would like Mrs. Lekas to be part of this planning. This is a wonderful opportunity.

Mrs. Capetanakis gave credit to Mrs. Petrakos for having long lasting relationships with the Greek ministry of education and the Greek press.

Mr. Capetanakis would like to know if this is worthy enough for Hellenic to attend. Mr. Leonardos would like to know how many schools are attending this event. Mrs. Petrakos stated that she and Mrs. Tettonis will let the Board know once we have additional details.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked to go into executive session. Mrs. Lekas seconds the motion. The meeting went to executive session at 10:05 a.m. All in favor.

The Board returned from executive session at 10:13am. There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to adjourn, Mr. Leonardos made the motion and Mrs. Lekas seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:14am.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on March 13, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MARCH 13, 2024 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Harvey Newman	Secretary
Effie Lekas	Member
Grazia Svokos	Member
Nik Mathews	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Anastasia Etimos	Guidance Counselor
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Kamilah O'Brien	CSBM Senior Financial Manager
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager

ABSENT

Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Dean Angelakos	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 February 15, 2024. On a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Ms. Lekas, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Capetanakis asked if there are any questions for the Superintendent, Mrs. Tettonis. Mrs. Lekas congratulated the team on the high school admissions. Mrs. Tettonis thanked Ms. Caban, Ms. Etimos, Ms. Bonakis on their hard work. The students did phenomenal. The team makes it look easy but it is tedious work to get them prepared for the high school exams.

Mrs. Tettonis reports that we are thrilled with our high school results (53 students). They were accepted into:

- NYC Specialized High Schools: Stuyvesant - Staten Island Tech - Brooklyn Tech: 3 students
- Laguardia High School of Music & Art & Performing Arts: 4 students
- Beacon High School: 1 student
- Leon Goldstein: 5 students
- Fort Hamilton Honors: 5 students
- Other Offers: Telecommunication Arts and Technology, Williamsburg High School for Architecture and Design , Fort Hamilton Dramatic Arts Academy, Fort Hamilton Instrumental, Urban Assembly New York Harbor School, Urban Assembly School for Leadership and Empowerment, Edward R. Murrow High school Instrumental, Midwood High School Medical Science Institute, Park Slope Collegiate , Beacon High School, Brooklyn Prep , New Utrecht HS, Academy of Art & Design , Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School Steam and Creative Arts, Brooklyn High School for the Visual Arts, Science Skills Center for Science, Technology and the Creative Arts, High School of Telecommunication Arts and Technology , Millennium Art Academy , High School of Economics and Finance, Susan E. Wagner High School, Brooklyn Collaborative Studies, CSI High School for International Studies, A-Tech High School Academy of Automotive Specialists, John Dewey Academy for the Fine and Performing Arts, Frank Sinatra School of the Arts High School Dance.

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled to be held on Thursday, March 14. Report cards for the second and third marking periods were distributed or emailed to families for grades K – 8. We anticipate another successful PTC as we approach the end of the school year. If parents cannot make it they can make appointments with their teachers.

The annual NYCDOE surveys have been distributed to our families, students and staff. The survey window closes on Friday, April 5th. We have distributed the surveys to families via paper and email. Last year, 87% of families participated in the survey. Our staff and middle school students will also participate in the surveys.

Our sixth grade team won **FIRST PLACE** in The NYC National History Day Fair: Their documentary is entitled, "OXI: How One Word Changed the Course of History in WWII." This year's NHD Theme is, "Turning Points in History." Congratulations to the entire team.

HCCS has once again won the Ezra Jack Keats Bookmaking Competition. The winning book is entitled, *Slower Than the Rest* by Coco and Demi. They are Brooklyn Borough winners in the middle school level. We acknowledge Julia Molloy, who supervised the students who created the book. We are very proud.

HCCS has begun preparing its students for the state assessments. We have launched test prep units. NYSED ELA, Math, Science and regents examinations will be administered to students in grades 3 -8. As per testing guidance, students will be administered session 1 and session 2 for both the ELA and Mathematics examinations. All ELA, Math and Science exams will remain untimed. With the release of the NYSED testing calendar, we are preparing to administer the ELA, Math, Science and regents examinations to students in grades 3 -8. We have resumed our test prep program for this school year for grades 3 – 8 every Tuesday and Wednesday for ELA and Mathematics. This year, grade 5 and 8 will be administered

computerized assessments in ELA, Math, and Science this school year. Each year, the NYSED will add a grade to computerized testing.

Mrs. Lekas asked what staff hiring we are planning for in Staten Island. Mrs. Tettonis answered that we are looking at the staffing table and we are starting to recruit because we are planning for middle school. Mrs. Tettonis reminisced about when they started middle school hiring in Park Slope.

Mr. Capetanakis asked to go into executive session. Mrs. Svokos seconds the motion. The meeting went to executive session at 9:43 a.m. All in favor. The Board returned from executive session at 10:10am. There was no vote taken during the executive session.

Kamilah O'Brien reported that for the month of February the PS financials the year to date the school has earned 57% of the revenue that was budgeted and in terms of expenses, the school has spent 56% of its budgeted revenue. The balance sheet shows the school has 2.2 million dollars in the bank as of February 29th. Looking further down to the budget versus actuals that is where you can get all the details as to line items where we might be over budget or expect to be. Ms. O'Brien asked if there are any questions for Park Slope.

Mr. Capetanakis asked if we are materially high on any expenses or over budget. Ms. O'Brien answered there might be some compensation items projected to be over by 2.73% other than that she would say no.

Ms. O'Brien continued to report for Staten Island the total revenue is 55% over budget. In terms of projected total revenue, it is slightly lower than budgeted by \$58,000 and expenses are at 57% over budget. You are pretty much on board with your expenses. Your total operating net income for the year is at 1.8 million dollars. And then looking at the net incoming 1.2 million dollars for the year. Looking at the balance sheet we have over 2 million dollars in the bank. There are no questions.

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 10:17 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on April 17, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON APRIL 17, 2024 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
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Nik Mathews	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Anastasia Etimos	Dean of Guidance
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Kamilah O'Brien	CSBM Associate Director
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager

ABSENT

Dean Angelakos	Member
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Mr. Capetanakis chaired the meeting. Joy Petrakos acted as recorder. There were nine 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 March 13, 2024. On a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Mrs. Svokos, the minutes were approved by seven votes. There were two abstentions (Leonardos and Svokos). Motion carries.

Mr. Capetanakis asked Kamilah O'Brien to begin with the financial reports. Ms. O'Brien informed the Board that as of March 31st, 76% of budgeted revenue has been earned for HCCS-PS, 68% of budgeted expenses have been spent and total revenue is projected to be over budget by a net of \$144K. Total expenses projected to be over budgeted expenses by \$256K. Going down to the balance sheet at the end of March you have about 1.3 million dollars in the bank and we have one more per pupil coming in towards the end of April. Now going to page three and four we can look through to see if you have any additional questions about Park Slope.

Mr. Newman asked if we have any rent reconciliations between now and the end of the year that we should be accounting for? Ms. O'Brien answered that the rent reconciliation is not submitted until the month of July. Unless there is a change in enrollment Ms. O'Brien does not foresee a balance. In terms of what was budgeted for students with special needs in Park Slope we budgeted \$394,000 and we are at \$407,000.

Mrs. Petrakos adds that we are currently fully enrolled. She stated that during the school year there are waves of students leaving for whatever reason (ex. moving away). This causes FTE changes. It is either in between invoices or at the tail end of it and it is not recorded until one month after. That is why you see the inconsistencies. During the reconciliation period we submit the report and then based on the FTE of each student, it is calculated and money is giving back to us if owed because of the gap or if we are not fully enrolled we owe it back to the DOE. Currently, we are projecting that we probably will either be very close to being even or the DOE will give us what is owed to us. We have been successful in filling in the vacant seats from our waitlist. Mr. Leonardos asks that we are comfortable that we don't owe money to the DOE. Mrs. Petrakos answered that she is comfortable at the moment. Again, she stated based on our records we filled every seat whenever a seat was vacant.

Moving on to HCCS-SI, 62% of our budgeted revenue has been earned, 68% of budgeted expenses have been spent. In terms of operating income we are expecting to be at 1.8 million dollars as a profit in HCCS-SI and looking at the non-cash adjustment we are projecting that the actual net income will be about 1.1 million dollars overall. Going down to the balance sheet at the end of March we had about 1.2 million dollars in the bank for SI and then and you can look at page 3 and 4 for individual line items. Mr. Capetanakis asked about some expenses that are way under budget.

Mrs. Petrakos stated that we are moving forward on the budget for next year based on what we have analyzed this year's budget. She thanked CSBM and reported that they meet on a weekly basis. The operations managers have been doing the backend work to make sure the money has been allocated properly. Ms. O'Brien asked if the Board had a chance to review the 990. There were no issues reported. Mrs. Petrakos asked a question regarding the 990, there is an Investors Bank donation that is reflected on the 990 that is for Park Slope not for Staten Island. Mr. Leonardos states that overall the auditors should not be concerned with any surprises. All the numbers have already been submitted to the auditors. Mr. Newman asked what other obligations do we have? Do we have to offer it to the public for example presenting it to the public in some way. What he says he has done in the past is present it on a table at a public meeting. Kamilah suggests having a link on our website. Mrs. Petrakos said that our audits are but not the 990. Mr. Newman wants to make sure what our obligations are met.

Mrs. Tettonis reports that both schools have been very busy. On April 8 all students received protective eye glasses purchased by the school to ensure their eyes were protected from the solar eclipse. Students were released an hour earlier and after school students stayed in school and viewed the eclipse in the school yard. All teachers conducted lessons on the solar eclipse in class.

On April 5th NYC experienced an earthquake with 4.8 magnitude. Both schools felt the rocking from the earthquake but everyone was safe and fine.

Greek Independence Day Performances were on March 22nd.

The Greek Independence Day Parade in New York City was on April 17, 2024. Both schools proudly marched in the parade. School Board Members Charles Capetanakis and Nick Leonardos lead HCCS in the parade.

HCCS-PS National History Day Fair 6th Grade Team Wins Second Place in The New York State History Day Fair. They will be representing New York State at The National History Day Fair in June. Their documentary is entitled, "OXI: How One Word Changed the Course of History in WWII." This year's NHD Theme is, "Turning Points in History." Congratulations to the entire team. Our National History Day team revised and edited their documentary, and annotated bibliography using the feedback from the judge evaluations of the New York City regional contest. They competed on Sunday, April 14th. After presenting and being interviewed by a panel of judges in first and final rounds, they won second place in New York State in the Junior Group Documentary category and will be advancing to the National History Day Fair competition in Maryland this June.

Mrs. Dena Capetanakis represented HCCS PS & SI at the Symposium of Charter Schools in Athens Greece on April 1 - April 5, 2024. The mission of the symposium was to showcase the mission and work done by the Hellenic Charter Schools in the U.S. In addition, to seek cooperation and support from the Greek Government, as well as educational and cultural institutions in Greece.

Greek Parliament visits HCCS-PS. Honorable Philip Fortomas, President of The Greek Committee of Greeks Abroad and a Member of The Greek Parliament visited HCCS-PS on April 16th, 2024. Honorable Mr. Fortomas was greeted outside our school building by members of our student government and serenaded by our talented marching band. He met with our school leaders and board members, toured our school, met with a Greek class while in session, and watched our 2023 NHD winning documentary. Mr. Fortomas had great discussions with our team and was very pleased to meet our students and visit our school. We also had the pleasure of having Mrs. Stella Kokkolis, the President of The Greek Federation for Education and Mrs. Panagiota Pechlivanidis, Acting Coordinator of The Greek Consul of Education in NY visit with Mr. Fortomas. Mr. Capetanakis recommends that we have a separate meeting to discuss the symposium in the future. We are a real public school. The other charter schools are emergent schools which teach classes in Greek. Frankly, as we think about the future there are other possibilities out there. We need a Board brainstorming session. Mrs. Svokos adds this could be a wonderful opportunity to actually do a symposium on this type of teaching.

NYSED English Language Arts Assessments were administered to students in Grades 3- 8 on April 11 and 12.

In person March Parent Teacher Conferences were well attended:
291- Staten Island
428- Park Slope.

Parent Surveys for 2024 were submitted to the NYCDOE. Surveys were distributed to our families during parent teacher conferences. Teachers and middle school students also completed the surveys.

There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked to go into executive session. Mr. Leonardos seconds the motion. The meeting went to executive session at 10:06 a.m. All in favor.

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 10:50 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on May 16, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MAY 16, 2024 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
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	Member
Dean Angelakos	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager
Dr. Pantelides	HCCS-PS Parent
Mrs. Michelle Pantelides	HCCS-PS Parent

ABSENT

Nik Mathews	Member
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Mr. Capetanakis chaired the meeting. Joy Petrakos acted as recorder. There were nine 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 April 17, 2024. On a motion made by Mr. Newman and seconded by Dr. Theodoratos, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mrs. Tettonis reported that we just completed NYSED Testing in ELA, Math and Science administered in May. The tests were untimed. Tests 5th and 8th were computer based testing. It was also the first time that 5th grade took the Science exam. Mrs. Tettonis thanked Ms. Caban and Ms. Kakleas and the team that makes it all happen. The testing continues with regents exams happening in June. This year we had students in PS & SI take the Greek Proficiency Test Ellinomathia on May 15.

We are awaiting NYSED renewal information -- anticipating to be notified for June Regents Meeting.

Summer programs have all been planned with the grant that we have. Both school teams have already started planning schedules, teacher hiring, parent notification and protocols for Summer Boost.

HCCS-PS AGT is having their performance of ORESTIS on Thursday, May 23, 2024.

HCCS-SI is having our annual Gala this Friday, May 17th. Committees are working hard on a daily basis.

HCCS-PS had our National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony last night May 15th for 6th, 7th and 8th grades.

Mrs. Tettonis gave a huge shout out to Mr. Adam Konstantopoulos, Dean of Sports, He has done a tremendous job putting all of our sport events together including the soap box event in Staten Island.

Mrs. Tettonis also reminded the Board about the data included in her report regarding high school placement for our students. They did absolutely amazing. That includes specialized high schools, La Guardia High School, private schools with full scholarships and of course all of the public high schools which we are really proud of. Mr. Capetanakis asked if the parents in sixth and seventh grades are aware of these results and do they know that we offer this prep course specifically for the specialized high schools? Mrs. Tettonis stated the parents are aware that we have test prep for specialized high schools beginning with the sixth grade. The test takes place by the end of October of their senior year. We have a whole teacher team including Ms. Etimos, Ms. Bonakis and other teachers who work with the middle school team, the parents and the students to write excellent letters of recommendations for their high school applications. It is a lot of work. The parents start to get prepped from the sixth grade.

Mr. Capetanakis asked to go into executive session. Mr. Leonardos seconds the motion. The meeting went to executive session at 9:53 a.m. All in favor. The Board returned from executive session at 10:12am. There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to adjourn, Mr. Leonardos made the motion and Mrs. Lekas seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:14am.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on June 28, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary

**MINUTES OF
HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON JUNE 28, 2024 AT 9:30 a.m.**

Members and Staff – via Zoom Conferencing

PRESENT

Charles Capetanakis	Chairman
Nikolaos Leonardos	Treasurer
Effie Lekas	Member
Bianca Rajpersaud	Member
Spiros Moustakas	Member
Dean Angelakos	Member
Christina Tettonis	Superintendent
Joy Petrakos	Chief of Operations
Natasha Caban	Principal HCCS-PS
Cathy Kakleas	Principal HCCS-SI
Dena Capetanakis	Director of Community & Engagement
Kamilah O'Brien	CSBN Senior Financial Manager
Stacy Kokkoros	Operations Manager

ABSENT

Harvey Newman	Secretary
Grazia Svokos	Member
Dr. Liana Theodoratou	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 May 16, 2024. On a motion made by Mr. Leonardos and seconded by Mr. Moustakas, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Capetanakis and Mr. Moustakas both congratulated the eighth grade students on their graduation.

Mrs. Tettonis congratulated the Board and the team for the renewals and of course the approval to expand to HCCS-SI to eighth grade. She continued to specifically thank Mr. Capetanakis, Mr. Leonardos and Mr. Moustakas from the Board for going up to Albany on this day. We were very proud in the presence of the Board of Regents to receive the wonderful announcement and to hear the vote that we were renewed in both schools. Tremendous accolades to both schools and for the entire team for making it happen. It would not have happened without the Board's support, vision and guidance. Of course we could not have done it without the administrative team Mrs. Petrakos, Mrs. Caban, Mrs. Kakleas and Mrs. Capetanakis, all the Deans, faculty, students and families. This is huge news. This was over a year's worth of preparation.

We had a great graduation. Thank you to Mr. Capetanakis for speaking and acknowledging our alumni. A huge thank you to Ms. Rajpersaud for being our keynote speaker. You were tremendous. Last day of school was yesterday, June 26, 2024. There was a lot of excitement in the building. Congratulations to all of our students and sending off our eighth grade students was emotional beyond words. We are very proud of them. It was a tremendous year for all of them. They got into the best high schools in New York City. That includes Specialized High Schools and Catholic High Schools with scholarships, etc.

So far, we have one hundred percent passing in the Living Environment regent exams. The Algebra regent grades are not in yet.

Attendance rate did go up from last year to this year.

Summer school starts on Monday, July 1st.

School starts on September 5th.

The rest of our celebrations are listed in the Superintendent's report.

Mrs. Tettonis thanked Dena Capetanakis for her tremendous work with the graduations in both schools. Mrs. Capetanakis added that we are a team. She thanked Stacy Kokkoros from Park Slope and Maria Krisilas from Staten Island for all of their hard work.

Mr. Capetanakis stated that our eighth grade student performance in high school was amazing and he requests that we put out a list of high schools as well as the cumulative amount of scholarship money that they received. Mrs. Petrakos has already put this together and it is being advertised in the National Herald, Greek News and Anamniseis paper this weekend.

Mr. Capetanakis motioned to approve the two budgets. One for HCCS-PS and the second for HCCS-SI of which both have been disseminated to the board. Mrs. Lekas seconds the motion to approve preliminary budgets for both schools. Mr. Capetanakis asks if there are any questions, comments or concerns. There is no discussion. The budgets for HCCS-PS and HCCS-SI are unanimously approved.

Mr. Capetanakis commented that outside looking in this renewal process looked easier than in the past. Why was this? We would like to learn from best practice for next time. Mrs. Tettonis thanked Mr. Capetanakis for acknowledging this.

She said the success of the renewal report/process was a combination of our effective communication/clarity with all our cabinet/team/staff members, our past experience with charter renewals, our renewal consultants that provided professional guidance, and our on-going focus on our charter goals, mission and vision.

Mrs. Tettonis asked Mrs. Petrakos to talk about this further because she worked very hard on the renewals and should talk about it. Mrs. Petrakos thanked the Board and Mrs. Tettonis. She began by expressing that it does get a little easier with experience. The best practice is to work every day as if it is a renewal year. We had amazing consultants, Empire Charter Consultants. Your consultant plays a huge role on how you focus and stay organized. We weren't working for the consultants but working with them. They encouraged us. They themselves are a power team. They acted as our cheerleaders. This was the first time that we had renewals for two schools. Having wonderful consultants allowed us to remain confident, focused and they pumped us for information in a positive way that made it easy. The third thing is that we have such a strong team and it is not hard to come together as one to talk about our amazing schools. It is done so organically that it is easy for the consultants to manage and write the narrative. Our systems are in place. We have an amazing Board. It starts with the Board and with you trusting us. The renewals of our schools was time consuming, it took away from our already busy schedules with running two schools but it was smoother and seemed easier. Mrs. Petrakos added that having a good relationship with your authorizer helps. If any questions arise it is good to reach out to your authorizer and they were great if we needed to reach out. Mr. Capetanakis thanked Mrs. Petrakos.

Mrs. Tettonis added that we have Deans that specialize in each subject area and worked on those components. Their expertise really mattered. We are really fortunate to have content specialists on staff that were able to talk about the data and how we manage to work on the data in order to support the instructional needs of our students. Mr. Capetanakis stated that having a great bench is important. Frankly, the Board is confident because the team is great. Mr. Moustakas added that the prep session with the Board was invaluable.

Ms. Kamilah O'Brien was asked to report on the financials. She began with the PS monthly report first. As of the end of May we are at 92 % of the revenue, and we are expecting that we are going to be receiving \$10.6 in revenue for the year which is slightly over budget by \$123,000. In terms of expenses as of May we are at 83% of the budget and we do expect to go slightly over by \$191,000. We have to factor in the summer pay that the staff will be receiving. Overall the net income will be at \$466,000 and then we have our total other expenditures which are the depreciation and cash adjustment of \$796,000. The overall net income will be at negative \$330,000 but the authorizer and auditor are all aware of the stop cash adjustments. We are in a good place. If you would like to look at all of this in more detail everything is in the report provided.

Ms. O'Brien continues with the HCCS-SI monthly report. SI is at 76% of revenue as of May 31, 2024. This is because we are still waiting for the facility spending debt. We are budgeting as if we are going to get the full amount. By the end of the year, we should receive \$10.16 million. Which is slightly under budget by \$16,000. In terms of total expenses as of end of May we are at \$7.1. We are expecting to end the year at \$8.4 which is certainly more than what was budgeted by \$240,000. The operating net income will be \$1.6 million. Once we factor the non-cash adjustments the net income for SI will be a little over \$1 million.

Mr. Capetanakis stated that there is a disputed and a non-disputed period for the rental reimbursement. The DOE is not paying us basically for the time that the building was not occupied. This adds up to approximately \$1million. Since we occupied the building, the DOE has continued to not pay the rental reimbursement which violates the contract but violates the law and is frankly immoral. Mr. Capetanakis adds that they are not paying us any time soon. He does not think that the rental reimbursement numbers should be included.

Ms. O'Brien continued reporting that SI is a little over \$971,000 as of yesterday and PS is about \$1.4 as of yesterday.

Mrs. Petrakos agreed with Mr. Capetanakis that moving forward since we are budgeting the rental assistance, we do need to add a footnote. Ms. O'Brien would like to clarify that we do not want to show the full amount of the rental assistance in the budget for the next fiscal year. Mr. Capetanakis agreed not the full amount. They are paying us some rental assistance for the old building. Ms. O'Brien asked if there any further questions.

Mr. Leonardos asked how many students are we calculating for PS for the 2024-2025 school year? Ms. Petrakos answered 498. Ms. O'Brien stated overall, total revenue will be \$10.8 million plus grants, contributions, foundation grants, etc.

Mrs. Petrakos explained to the Board that the PS After School Program is run by HCCS. After the YMCA left us we started our own program. The parents are very happy. We are very inexpensive. Mr. Leonardos asked how do we manage charging a fee for services provided since we are a not-for-profit. Ms. O'Brien answers that we are reporting this as an expense.

Mrs. Petrakos informed the Board that the school will be putting forth fundraising efforts for this upcoming fiscal year. There will be ten different fundraising events throughout the year run by the school. We will be meeting to discuss the ten different fundraising events. Mr. Leonardos and Mr. Capetanakis proposed a Board fundraiser. There will be more discussion at the next Board meeting. Mrs. Lekas asked if the spreadsheet with this information can be shared with her. Mrs. Petrakos will share the fundraising event document.

Mrs. Petrakos reported to the Board that the Staten Island Borough President gave SI \$20,000.00. We are very grateful and the funds will go towards our music program.

Ms. O'Brien continued with her report. In terms of expenses, we can review the summary page. Payroll expenses are pretty much in line with last year in terms of staff members getting a three percent raise across the board and additional compensation as warranted.

Mr. Capetanakis and Mr. Leonardos reported that they met with the Board executive committee they are working with the landlord on acquiring new space for our PS expansion.

Mr. Moustakas asked how are we doing with teacher retention. Mrs. Caban reported that PS teachers are happily returning. We will provide the organization list at the August BOT meeting. Mrs. Petrakos has had many conversations with teachers that have approached her and she is guiding them on obtaining their certifications. Everyone did receive their three percent raise and the 3% 401k match. Mrs. Petrakos added that the teachers value greatly the culture and the way our school is family oriented and run. Many of our teachers and staff prefer to stay with us even if they may find higher paying teaching positions.

Mrs. Kakleas reported that as of right now they are losing only one teacher because she is moving to Florida. Mrs. Caban said, there are many situations that occur during the summer and therefore we won't hear anything until the end of August. Mrs. Tettonis added on a positive note that we have an alumni coming in as a teacher assistant in Park Slope.

Mr. Capetanakis asked to go into executive session. Mr. Leonardos seconds the motion. The meeting went to executive session at 10:15 a.m. All in favor. The Board returned from executive session at 10:40 a.m. There being no unfinished business, Mr. Capetanakis asked for a motion to adjourn, Mr. Leonardos made the motion and Mrs. Lekas seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom Conferencing on July 23, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

Harvey Newman

Harvey Newman, Secretary