

**Horizons at The Episcopal Academy (HEA)  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 9, 2023**

**In attendance:** Ellen Blommer, Lorraine Brown, Laurie Collins, Donna Corrato (virtual), Courtney Delaney\*\*, Yamini Durani, Jennifer Franklin, Lisa Herbster\*, Brenda Holston (virtual), Ann Kraftson (virtual), Ryan Learn\*, Jen Lederman, SooHee Lim, Bonnie Lo, Mike Morgan (virtual), Nina Rogers, Mallory Silva (virtual), Alisha Slye, Holly Stanley, Ayinde Tate\*, Mo Toure (virtual), Melissa Trala

**Not in attendance:** Jen Fifer\*, Tamika Gamble, Beth Hanssens, Beth Hixson, Muniya Khanna, T.J. Locke, Karen Marston, Theresa Clark-Rihn, Zach Walker\*

\*Board Observer

\*\* Non-voting Board Member

Also, in attendance, Meredith Foote (for her presentation time only) and Christine Gonzalez (Horizons Administrative Associate).

1. Call to Order - Board Meeting called to order at 8:21 a.m. by Bonnie Lo.
2. Minutes – January 2023 Board Meeting Minutes were approved.
3. Strategic Plan – HEA 2023-2026 Strategic Plan was approved.
4. Program Update – Ryan Learn
  - Recapped February 4<sup>th</sup> Super Saturday and February 6<sup>th</sup> Parent Program.
    - Eighty students attended the February Super Saturday at EA. Activities included a service project through @studentsrebuild, Valentine’s Day cookie decorating, bingo and a movement class with Coach B.
    - All students gifted grade level biographies of famous black leaders.
    - Held a parent program on financial literacy at Overbrook Educational Center on February 6<sup>th</sup> with guest speaker Rachael Hanible, a personal finance coach, author, and inspirational speaker.
  - Provided update on school year tutoring program.
    - Noted 90% attendance rate of students offered tutoring services.
  - Reported on Summer 2023 staffing.
    - New positions added: Middle School Math Specialist, Middle School Language Arts Teacher, Assistant Program Director.
  - Shared update from Horizons National Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
5. “Our Why” – Meredith Foote, Principal at Overbrook Educational Center

- Discussed current trends in math and reading achievement; stressed importance of students being at grade level for reading by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- Noted high annual attendance rate (95%) of Horizons students at OEC.
- Shared parent feedback and testimonials.

## 6. Committee Updates

- **Event** – Holly Stanley
  - *Taking the Reins for Horizons* will be held Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at Radnor Hunt. Invitation to EA community will be emailed next week.
  - Sponsorships currently at 125k.
  - Encouraged board members to spread awareness of event and to volunteer.
- **Program** – Holly Stanley
  - Recapped successful February 4<sup>th</sup> Super Saturday.
  - Continue to research summer field trips and middle school elective offerings.
  - Shared planning for May 13<sup>th</sup> Super Saturday Orientation.
- **High School Program** – Alisha Slye
  - Eleven students attended February 4<sup>th</sup> Super Saturday and worked on interview skills with HEA Board Members.
  - Announced Ayinde Tate will be joining committee.
  - Continue to track College Possible activities and impact, as well as research other potential partners.
  - Discussed Summer '23 opportunities for students.
- **Finance** – Ellen Blommer
  - Shared 2022 Financials.
    - Revenue exceeds budget by \$155K (27%). Expenses in line with budget.
- **Fundraising** – Melissa Trala
  - Recruited three new Horizons Heroes for 2023.
  - Researching new strength-based messaging for Heroes campaign.
- **Governance** – Bonnie Lo
  - Announced HEA Board nominations: Dee Adeyemo, Kelly Crowley, Melissa Trala, and Monica Wondrasch.
  - Announced officer nominations: Holly Stanley (Chair), Mallory Silva (Vice Chair), Laurie Collins (Treasurer), and Bonnie Lo (Secretary).
  - Board members and officers to be voted on at May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- **Marketing** – Donna Corrato

- Information session to be held at Newtown Post on Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 – 9am.
- Continue to explore ways to educate the EA community about Horizons.

4. Final Takeaways – Bonnie Lo

- Encouraged board members to spread the word about our *Taking the Reins for Horizons* event on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, as well as volunteer for our May 13<sup>th</sup> Super Saturday.

***Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 8:15 a.m.***

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.