

School Lane Charter School
3340 Tillman Drive, Bensalem, PA 19020
www.schoollane.org

Board of Trustees Work Session/Action Meeting
Minutes
July 27, 2023

Executive Session: Held to discuss student issues, personnel and legal concerns.

Public Meeting: 7:00 pm and Live Streamed via Zoom

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm

In Attendance: Peter Hyams, Ed Guster, Kelly Magee, Heather O'Donnell, Bharvin Patel, Vivek Patel, Joy Snyder, Surya Vedula, Ashley McKinley Scrivner, Esq. and Karen Schade, CEO

Pledge of Allegiance

Adjourn the Board Meeting of June 8, 2023

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 6-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

Swearing in of New Board Members

Ashley McKinley Scrivner, Esq. swore in new board members Vivek Patel and Heather O'Donnell.

Adopt the Agenda

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			

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Surya Vedula	X			
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REPORTS:

Administrative Report: Sent out to board in advance. No additions. No questions.

Financial: Sent out to board in advance. No additions. No questions.

Personnel Report:

- New hires: 11
- Resignation, reduction in force, termination, leave of absence, retirement: 17
- Change in pay rate: 13
- Other: 1 (return from FMLA)

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MOTION ITEMS:**1. Accept Board Meeting Minutes from June 8, 2023****MM:** Bharvin Patel**SM:** Ed Guster**Action:** Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

2. Accept Academic Report**MM:** Bharvin Patel**SM:** Ed Guster**Action:** Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			

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Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

3. Accept Financial Report**MM:** Bharvin Patel**SM:** Ed Guster**Action:** Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

4. Accept Personnel Report**MM:** Bharvin Patel**SM:** Ed Guster**Action:** Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

5. Accept July & August payments to vendors**MM:** Bharvin Patel**SM:** Ed Guster**Action:** Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			

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Surya Vedula	X			
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6. Accept July & August payments of hourly, per diem, and salaried employees

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

7. Approve Vendor List for 2023-2024

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

Annual list sent out each July sharing approved vendors . W9s are up to date for all vendors.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

8. Approve Updates to Employee Handbook

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

Mrs. Schade added that changes were minor. Sick and Personal time was combined into one PTO bank for employees. All protocols related to time off remain unchanged. This should create clearer balances for employees and the HR department.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			

Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

9. Approve Updates to IB Campus Code of Conduct

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

Mrs. Schade added that there were two notable changes. One change involves additional repercussions for excessive latenesses. The second was related to student cell phone usage in school.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

10. Accept Bucks County Community College Dual Enrollment MOU

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

Mrs. Schade added that there are 12 students signed up to attend in the 23-24 school year in courses covering real estate, and criminal justice among others. This is open to seniors for now. There are GPA requirements and/or testing required by Bucks County Community College. Students have access to a writing center, library, and all other student services available to BCCC students. Many students are completing the coursework online while at SLCS. We are continuing to investigate a partnership with Philadelphia Community College as well.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

11. Accept Review of Anti-Bullying & Anti-Hazing Policy

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

Updates were minor in nature and related to training of staff.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

12. Review & minor updates to ARP ESSER Health & Safety Plan for 2023-2024

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

While receiving funds under ARP ESSR, we must update this policy annually. No major changes to this policy.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

13. Approve Tuition Reimbursement for Jim Munizza

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			

Surya Vedula	X			
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14. Accept FM Financial Services Agreement

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

Information is related to the broker of record for health benefits. Information was shared in advance.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

15. Accept Language Learning Network Services Agreement

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

This covers the possibility of adding a Spanish language teacher through this vendor to cover an open teaching position in our Language Acquisition department. The goal is that there is one person, in person, to cover this position teaching our curriculum.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

16. Approve Student 243-22 settlement agreement

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X

Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

17. Approve Student 449-22 settlement agreement

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

18. Approve Student 198-23 settlement agreement

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

19. Approve Penn-Jersey Athletic Association Agreement – high school

MM: J

SM: x

Action: Approved 8-0

Students put a proposal together to join a new league for High School soccer. We plan to offer high school soccer for both a boys and a girls team. Home games will take place at Firefighter's Field and practice will be across the street at Our Lady of Fatima. Non-athletic opportunities through this partnership would open the possibility of competitive Chess, Robotics, and Debate.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

20. Approve Metropolitan Philadelphia Athletic Association Agreement – middle school

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

The SEPCAL sports league that we have been a part of has decided to disband. The Metropolitan Philadelphia Athletic Association agreed to absorb those teams. It is more expensive than the previous league and would involve more travel.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

21. Approve Appointment of Board Officers

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

Peter Hyams nominated Bharvin Patel as Treasurer as well as Kelly Magee as Secretary. Ed Guster self-nominated as Vice President. Ed Guster nominated Surya Vedula as President. All accepted nominations.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			

Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Schade highlighted achievements of the Class of 2023 including:

Class of 2023 Graduation Report

Student Postsecondary Outcomes:

	Class of 2023	Class of 2022	Class of 2021	Class of 2020
2 Year College	17%	28%	25%	30%
4 Year College	68%	45%	35%	44%
Trade/Technical School	4%	2%	5%	7%
Apprenticeship	2%	1%	3%	2%
Workforce	4%	20%	27%	15%
Military	2%	4%	3%	NA
Undecided / Not Reported	NA	NA	2%	2%
Gap Year	3%	NA	NA	NA
	68 students	75 students	60 students	59 Students

Applications:

	Class of 2023	Class of 2022	Class of 2021	Class of 2020
Total Applications Submitted	437	313	215	243
Number of Different Colleges Applied	141	109	99	79
Number of Different Colleges Attending	26	18	15	18

Letters of Recommendation:

	Class of 2023	Class of 2022	Class of 2021	Class of 2020
Number of Teacher Recommendations	144	157	196	129
Counselor Letters of recommendation	38	22	10	24

Class of 2023 Application Highlights:

- 437 applications submitted to 141 different colleges; this was our most diverse and expansive group of applicants to date.
- 61 out of 68 (90%) seniors applied to 1 or more colleges.

- On average a student applied to 7 different colleges.
- Out of the 435 applications submitted 294 were accepted for admissions, 66 were denied, 15 were waitlisted/deferred, and 60 were unknown/ didn't receive a decision.
- The class of 2023 was accepted to 78 different colleges across the country. 38 of the 78 universities were outside of PA.
- The class of 2023 is attending 26 different colleges across the country. This is the highest number of different colleges a graduating class is attending in SLCS history. 8 students will be attending 6 colleges outside the state of Pennsylvania.
- For the first time SLCS students will be attending Bryn Athyn College (PA), DeSale University (PA), Arcadia University (PA), Keystone College (PA), New Jersey City University (NJ), Widener University (PA), University of Pittsburgh (PA), University of Virginia (VA), Boston University (MA), University of South Florida (FL)

Top 10 Colleges SLCS students applied to:

2023	2022	2021	2020
Temple University (38)	Pennsylvania State University (All Campuses) (27)	Pennsylvania State University (All Campuses) (18)	Pennsylvania State University (All Campuses) (30)
Pennsylvania State University (All Campuses) (36)	Temple University (26)	Temple University (16)	Temple University (26)
Drexel University (32)	Drexel University (20)	Drexel University (11)	Drexel University (18)
West Chester University (18)	La Salle University (15)	Holy Family University (11)	West Chester University (17)
La Salle University (17)	Bucks County Community College (13)	Community College of Philadelphia (10)	Bucks County Community College (12)
Thomas Jefferson University (17)	Holy Family University (11)	Bucks County Community College (9)	La Salle University (12)
Saint Joseph's University (17)	West Chester University (11)	Thomas Jefferson University (7)	Jefferson University (6)
University of Pennsylvania (17)	Thomas Jefferson University (11)	La Salle University (7)	Community College of Philadelphia (6)
Holy Family University (12)	Community College of Philadelphia (10)	West Chester University of Pennsylvania (7)	University of Pennsylvania (6)
Bucks County Community College & University of Pittsburgh (9)	Manor College, Gwynedd University, University of Pennsylvania, University of the Sciences, Saint Joseph's University (6)	University of the Sciences (6)	Saint Joseph's University (5)

Top Colleges SLCS students are attending:

2023	2022	2021	2020
Temple University (12)	Bucks County Community College (13)	Bucks County Community College (7)	Bucks County Community College (11)
Drexel University (9)	Pennsylvania State University All Campuses (7)	Community College of Philadelphia (7)	Pennsylvania State University, All Campuses (6)
Bucks County Community College (7)	La Salle University (6)	Holy Family University (4)	Temple University (6)

Community College of Philadelphia (4)	Community College of Philadelphia (6)	Drexel University (3)	Community College of Philadelphia (6)
Holy Family University (3)	Drexel University (6)	Jefferson (3)	Jefferson University (3)
Rutgers University (3)	Temple University (4)	La Salle University (3)	University of the Sciences (3)

Note: This is the first year in SLCS history a school outside of Pennsylvania has made it into the top 5 (Rutgers University, NJ) This is the first time in SLCS history that Bucks County Community College was not the top college SLCS students attend.

Top Majors SLCS students plan to complete:

2023	2022	2021	2020
Nursing/ Health Sciences/ Biology (pre-medical and pre-pharmacy)	Nursing/ Health Sciences	Business	Business
Engineering (Biomedical, Civil, Computer, Environmental, Mechanical)	Psychology	Nursing	Biology
Computer Science/ Cybersecurity	Business Work	Biology	Health Sciences; Nursing, Pharmacy, Radiology , Occupational Therapy
Business (Risk Management and Insurance, Business Administration, International Business)	Education	Psychology	Arts; Graphic Design, Film Production
		Computer Science/ Computer Engineering/ Cyber Security	Cosmetology

Unique Majors Class of 2023: Actuarial Science, Art Therapy, Musical Theater, Veterinary Technician.

Class of 2023 Accomplishments:

- The class of 2022 was awarded \$1.2 million in scholarship and grant money for their 1st year of college that they will be using at the colleges they were accepted.
- Students received full tuition scholarships at Delaware State University, La Salle University, Alabama A&M, Talladega College, Temple University, Holy Family University.
- One of our Full Diploma program students was a finalist with the Questbridge Scholarship Program and received a substantial scholarship to the University of Virginia through the program.
- A Full Diploma Program Student won the Finer Womanhood Scholarship through the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.
- Our students were accepted to honors programs at : Drexel University, La Salle University, Jefferson University, Saint Joseph's University, University of Pittsburgh.
- Students are attending accelerated programs in Pharmacy (6 year program at Rutgers University), Engineering (Drexel University), Medical Laboratory Sciences (Thomas Jefferson University), Law (Drexel University).
- One student was accepted to the Saint Joseph's Dean's Leadership program after they were invited to apply and interview for the program which is typically reserved for rising freshmen.
- One student was accepted into the The SEA-PHAGES Program at the University of South Florida which is a research based program.
- Our students are entering into the following trades: cosmetology and electrical.
- Two students enlisted in the PA Army National Guard.

School Lane Charter School ACT Scores

Year	Number of students tested	Composite Score Mean	Math Score Mean	Science Score Mean	English Score Mean	Reading Score Mean	Writing Score Mean
2021-2022	2	17	15.5	18	17	17	
2020-2021	7	18.6	17.7	18.7	18.3	19.1	7.5
2019-2020	4	16.8	15	16.8	16.5	19	8
2018-2019	26	18.5	17.2	18.2	18.3	20.1	7.4
2017-2018	19	20.7	20.2	19.8	20.2	21.7	6.8

2022-2023 ACT scores available in the Fall of 2023.

School Lane Charter School SAT averages

SAT Avg by Year of Graduation	Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
SLCS Number students tested	47	43	36	29	48
SLCS Average ERW	496.8	482	514	531	501
SLCS Average Math	508.1	475	509	510	480
SLCS Average Overall	1004.9	957	1023	1048	981
PA State Average ERW	547	545	534	550	551
PA State Average Math	539	537	543	566	540
PA State Average Overall	1086	1082	1078	1123	1091

Peter Hyams offered congratulations to Mrs. Schade and her team on a successful charter renewal and thanked them for all the work that was put into that process.

Surya Vedula offered congratulations on the 10 students who earned a full DP diploma. Mrs. Schade offered some insight on what we learned from test results and student responses and how we will prepare students for these exams in a deeper way earlier in their IB career than we ever have before. There will also be a concerted effort to keep students focused and dedicated to their studies through the exams rather than let down after they are accepted to colleges and receive scholarship packages. Discussion ensued about the value of an IB education at local colleges and universities and how that view varies in different regions of the United States.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Adjournment: Recess the Board Meeting of July 27, 2023.

MM: Bharvin Patel

SM: Ed Guster

Action: Approved 8-0

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Peter Hyams	X			
Joe Cummons				X
Ed Guster	X			
Kelly Magee	X			
Heather O'Donnell	X			
Bharvin Patel	X			
Vivek Patel	X			
Joy Snyder	X			
Surya Vedula	X			

Board Meeting:

The next scheduled Board of Trustees Work Session/Action Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Minutes recorded by: J. Munnings

Attested by: Kelly M. Gier

Date: 8-24-2023