



## Harmony Public Schools

### Minutes

March 28, 2026 HPS Board Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Saturday March 28, 2026 at 9:00 AM

#### Location

Harmony Public Schools - Central Office  
1255 Enclave Pkwy  
Houston, TX 77077

**\*\*We will serve breakfast following the conclusion of the board meeting\*\***

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#### Directors Present

H. Koc, H. Sherwood (remote), K. House (remote), L. Gonzalez, M. Argin, O. Celepcikay, S. Koch

#### Directors Absent

*None*

#### Guests Present

C. Lambert, E. Akyildiz, E. Cavusoglu, F. Ay, George Perez, J. Hoffer (remote), M. Baca, N. Bayhan, U. Alpaslan

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### I. Opening Items

#### A. Call the Meeting to Order

O. Celepcikay called a meeting of the board of directors of Harmony Public Schools to order on Saturday Mar 28, 2026 at 9:06 AM.

## **II. Public Comments**

### **A. Public Comments**

None.

Dr. Celepcikay congratulated the Harmony Finance Team and administration on their achievements, noting that Harmony Public Schools received the highest Moody's rating in Texas. He also recognized the district for earning two TASBO Financial Accountability Awards, commending the team for their strong financial management and commitment to excellence.

## **III. Consent Agenda**

### **A. i. Consider Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2026**

H. Koc made a motion to approve the minutes from February 28, 2026 HPS Board Meeting on 02-28-26.

L. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

### **B. ii. Consider Approval/Ratification of the Minutes and of the Actions of the Finance Committee Meeting on March 7, 2026**

H. Koc made a motion to approve the Minutes and of the Actions of the Finance Committee Meeting on March 7, 2026.

L. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

### **C. iii. Consider Approval/Ratification of the Minutes and of the Actions of the Academic Committee Meeting on March 7, 2026**

H. Koc made a motion to approve the Minutes and of the Actions of the Academic Committee Meeting on March 7, 2026.

L. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

## **IV. Review and Approval of 2025-26 Fiscal Year 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments**

### **A. Review and Approval of 2025-26 Fiscal Year 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments**

Mr. George Perez, Budget Director for Harmony Public Schools, presented the 2025–2026 Fiscal Year Second Quarter Budget Amendments. He explained that the Q2 budget reflects updated revenue and expenditure projections based on financial activity through

the second quarter. Mr. Perez informs the board that this was also reviewed during the March 7th Finance Committee Meeting.

Mr. Perez reported that the overall financial outlook for FY 2026 remains positive, with a budgeted change in net assets of \$17.7 million, representing an increase of approximately \$5.7 million from the previous quarter. He noted that this increase is primarily due to revenue growth outpacing expenditures, with significant contributions from gifts and bequests and other funding sources.

Mr. Perez further stated that the district continues to maintain a strong financial position, building upon the initial budgeted surplus established at the beginning of the fiscal year. The updated budget includes all funding sources, including General Fund, federal grants, and other revenue streams, and reflects ongoing efforts to align expenditures with district priorities.

S. Koch made a motion to approve the 2025-26 Fiscal Year 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments.

H. Koc seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

## **V. Review and Approve the 2026-27 Academic Calendars for all HPS Districts**

### **A. Review and Approve the 2026-27 Academic Calendars for all HPS Districts**

Ms. Minh Baca, Chief Compliance Officer for Harmony Public Schools, presented the 2026–2027 Academic Calendars for all HPS districts. She explained that the proposed calendars were developed to support instructional planning, operational consistency, and compliance with state requirements across the organization.

Ms. Baca reviewed the structure of the calendars, noting that Central Texas, Houston North, Houston South, and Houston West will each operate under one district-wide calendar, while West Texas and South Texas will each have three calendars to accommodate regional and campus-specific needs. She stated that summaries of each calendar were provided for Board review, along with detailed one-page calendar documents.

Ms. Baca emphasized that the calendars are designed to balance instructional time, staff development, and student needs while maintaining alignment with district goals and academic priorities.

The Board reviewed the proposed 2026–2027 Academic Calendars and considered approval of the calendars for all Harmony Public Schools districts as presented.

L. Gonzalez made a motion to the 2026-27 Academic Calendars for all HPS Districts as presented.

M. Argin seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

## **VI. Approval of Resolution to authorize the Superintendent to submit**

### **A. Approval of Resolution to authorize the Superintendent to submit low attendance waivers to the TEA for all HPS Charters due to inclement weather, or other health and safety concerns**

Ms. Minh Baca, Chief Compliance Officer for Harmony Public Schools, presented a resolution authorizing the Superintendent to submit low attendance waivers to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for all HPS charters. She explained that certain campuses experienced low attendance due to inclement weather and student and staff health and safety-related concerns.

Ms. Baca stated that these campuses recorded attendance levels at least 10 percentage points below the prior year's overall average attendance. As a result, the district is requesting waivers from TEA to excuse affected instructional days from Average Daily Attendance (ADA) and Foundation School Program (FSP) funding calculations. She emphasized that submitting these waivers will help mitigate financial impacts resulting from circumstances beyond the district's control while maintaining compliance with state requirements.

M. Argin made a motion to approve Resolution to authorize the Superintendent to submit low attendance waivers to the TEA for all HPS Charters due to inclement weather, or other health and safety concerns.

S. Koch seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

## **VII. Review and Approve for a Board Resolution to submit**

### **A. Review and Approve for a Board Resolution to submit Staff Development Days waivers to TEA for all seven HPS districts**

Ms. Minh Baca, Chief Compliance Officer for Harmony Public Schools, presented a resolution to submit Staff Development Days waivers to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for all seven HPS districts. She explained that this is an annual waiver request that allows the district to dedicate time during the school year for staff training in lieu of student instruction.

Ms. Baca stated that the waiver enables campuses to provide professional development focused on instructional strategies designed to improve student performance and support overall academic success. She noted that some campuses that do not qualify for the Additional Days School Year (ADSY) grant will utilize this waiver to request the exemption of up to 2,100 instructional minutes.

Ms. Baca emphasized that the waiver supports continuous improvement efforts by ensuring staff have dedicated time for training while maintaining compliance with TEA requirements.

H. Koc made a motion to approve Board Resolution to submit Staff Development Days waivers to TEA for all seven HPS districts.

K. House seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

## **VIII. Review and Approve the written performance agreements and board resolutions**

### **A. IX. Review and Approve the written performance agreements and board resolutions to apply for the High-Quality Campus Designation for the following HPS Charters' campuses: i. Harmony Science Academy - Research Park under Harmony Public Schools - South Texas (CDN: 015-828) ii. Harmony Science Academy - Irving under Harmony Public Schools - North Texas (CDN: 161-807) iii. Harmony Science Academy-Pearland (025-25/2) and Harmony Science Academy-Missouri City (025-25/1 under Harmony Public Schools- Houston South (CDN: 101-846)**

Ms. Minh Baca, Chief Compliance Officer for Harmony Public Schools, presented written performance agreements and board resolutions to apply for the High-Quality Campus Designation for selected HPS charter campuses. She explained that the designation is required in order to submit applications to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and qualify for start-up grant funding for new campuses.

Ms. Baca reviewed the campuses included in the request: Harmony Science Academy–Research Park under Harmony Public Schools South Texas; Harmony Science Academy–Irving under Harmony Public Schools North Texas; and Harmony Science Academy–Pearland and Harmony Science Academy–Missouri City under Harmony Public Schools Houston South. She noted that the written performance agreements outline the academic, operational, and accountability expectations required to meet TEA's high-quality campus standards.

Ms. Baca emphasized that obtaining the High-Quality Campus Designation will support the successful launch of these campuses by providing access to grant funding and reinforcing the district's commitment to strong academic performance and operational excellence.

H. Koc made a motion to Approve the written performance agreements and board resolutions to apply for the High-Quality Campus Designation for the following HPS Charters' campuses: i. Harmony Science Academy - Research Park under Harmony Public Schools - South Texas (CDN: 015-828) ii. Harmony Science Academy - Irving under Harmony Public Schools - North Texas (CDN: 161-807) iii. Harmony Science Academy-Pearland (025-25/2) and Harmony Science Academy-Missouri City (025-25/1 under Harmony Public Schools- Houston South (CDN: 101-846).

M. Argin seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**IX. Closed Session Pursuant to Govt. Code**

**A. X. Closed Session Pursuant to Govt. Code 551.071 (Consultation with Legal Counsel), 551.074 (Personnel) i. Consider Staff Grievance Appeal from Harmony Science Academy – Midland.**

Dr. Celepcikay informs the board that we will look to table the following closed session item and will need a motion from the board.

H. Koc made a motion to table the proposed item for a future meeting.

L. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**X. Resume Open Session, act on items discussed in closed session:**

**A. i. Potential action on Staff Grievance Appeal from Harmony Science Academy – Midland.**

**XI. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

Dr. Celepcikay wishes the staff a Happy Women's Month for the month of March.

S. Koch made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

L. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:29 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Lambert