



HCCPS Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

August 13, 2025 6:30pm

HCCPS, 1 Industrial Pkwy, Easthampton, MA 01027

Also: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83679293502?pwd=bjZya3FvVTFmd216WlkvZDVPLzhjZz09>

Meeting ID: 836 7929 3502

Passcode: 7dvsWu

The Hilltown Cooperative Charter Public School was founded in 1995 as a Massachusetts Public Charter School. Our mission is:

- To engage students in a school that uses experiential, hands-on activities, the arts, and interdisciplinary studies to foster critical thinking skills and a joy of learning.
- To sustain a cooperative, intimate community of students, staff, families and local community members, which guides and supports the school and its educational program.
- To cultivate children’s individual voices and a shared respect for each other, our community, and the world around us.

Prework:

- ADD HERE - packet; Close read Gender Non-Discrimination policy

Facilitator: Lily Newman

Topic (estimated time)	Who	Action	Estimated Time
Welcoming (read mission statement): (5 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Announcements, appreciations, acknowledgement ● Agenda Check: Appoint timekeeper, list keeper ● BOT Visibility leading into start of year ● Approve minutes from June BoT mtg 	Lily Newman	Decision	6:30 pm
Public Comment (5 min)	Lily Newman		6:40
School Leader Updates (15 min) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Report, Student Opportunity Act, Accountability Plan, and Integrated Monitoring Plan CAP Hiring (Prisms Humanities, Music, Health, SEL) Capital improvement (playground, parking lot) SIS (board members as early adopters/ambassadors!) Summer curriculum work/grade realignment 	Chris Kusek, Rebecca Belcher-Timme	Discussion	6:45

<p>f. Professional Development/Curricular Initiatives planned for SY25-26</p>			
<p>BOT Composition & Business: (15 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approve new and returning members - Projected leadership structure for FY26 - Domain Council change vote and FYI on new approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. For leadership strategizing and alignment/coordination with the BOT: HOS advisory group with BOT leaders and others as needed to advise on key matters, including those pertaining to the BOT b. For transparency with staff and opportunity to hear about and discuss BOT agenda topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. HOS or DoTL will provide a BOT mtg agenda preview with Q&A time at strategically timed staff meetings each month ii. BOT leaders will host trimester or quarterly drop-in sessions at the school where teachers can come discuss concerns, issues, learn more about the BOT, etc. 	<p>Lily Newman</p>	<p>Decision Vote</p>	<p>7:00</p>
<p>Head of School Evaluation & Next Steps (10 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seeking approval/a vote for an adjusted approach to the HOS evaluation rubric - Rationale: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Folks got a good start to this last spring but didn't make a lot of progress before BOT leadership change - This tool can capture what Hilltown believes are the most important leadership elements and should therefore not be rushed - Many indicators for academics cut across our two leader roles and this needs to be considered - We still used it to discuss HOS progress and are using it to draft goals - Valuable to work on for January 	<p>Lily Newman</p>	<p>Discussion and Vote</p>	<p>7:15</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asking former advisory members to consider continuing - Ben, Neal, Grace, Steve - Official committee? Advisory Group? Would include some input from staff and students 			
<p>Academic/Accountability Committee (15 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recap of where we left off after June retreat - Next steps: to hone in on the specific purpose and monitoring content and approach - Proposal: Solicit a small working group to hone the title and parameters for an official proposal and vote in September 	Chris Kusek Lily Newman	Discussion and Decision	7:25
<p>Policy Updates and Decisions (15 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender Nondiscrimination policy proposal (consider and vote) - Other policy updates for Faculty and Staff Handbook (Restraint Policy, etc.) 	Chris Kusek, Rebecca Belcher-Timme	Discussion and Vote	7:40
<p>Wrap Up (5 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Action items review - Next steps/September meeting preview - Minutes finalization, Newsletter blurb - Snacks and drinks for September - Action Items review 	Lily Newman	Decision	7:55
<p>Adjournment</p>	Lily Newman		8:00