

HAVEN CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Board of Managers Meeting

Date: February 11th, 2026

Location: Hybrid Zoom

Time: 5:30 pm – 7 pm

The following Members were present:

- Daniel Diaz
- Bruce Rivera
- Angel Hernandez
- Elyse Zlotnikov
- Jannett Santana

Commented [1]: @ashley.hernandez@havenhs.org updated board minutes for Feb 11, 2026
Assigned to ashley.hernandez@havenhs.org

The following were not present

- Caitlin Dooley
- Nereida Barbour
- Alex Vasquez
- Robert Pondiscio

1. Call to Order

- A meeting of the Board of Trustees for Haven Charter High School met in a regular session on February 11th, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.
- Daniel Diaz made a motion to review the previous meeting's minutes, which was approved by Bruce Rivera and Elyse Zlotnikov

2. Executive Director's Report

A. Regents Transition & State Policy Changes

The Executive Director provided an update on New York State's transition toward a new graduation framework. The current freshman cohort remains in a transitional phase and will still be required to complete certain Regents exams, including Biology. Students in this cohort will be held accountable under the current Regents requirements.

Leadership expressed optimism about the long-term direction of the state's shift and will continue monitoring updates closely. The Board will be kept informed as changes are finalized.



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B. Regents Readiness Plan

The school is officially in Regents countdown mode, with a focus on test readiness.

Preparation strategies include:

- 8-week structured countdown following Spring Break
- Weekly mock Regents exams
- Daily Regents-style questions displayed in hallways
- Integrated math and science question prompts at dismissal
- Increased academic drilling in core subject areas

The goal is to maintain rigor while preserving student engagement and school culture.

3. Student Programming & Events

A. TED Talk Showcase

- 11 student finalists will present TED Talks to families and invited guests.
- Approximately 51 RSVPs confirmed.
- Community partners, feeder schools, and East Side House representatives were invited.
- Event structured as a coffeehouse-style experience with spotlight staging.
- Professional recording arranged through the East Side House Development team.

The event serves both as a celebration of student voice and a recruitment/visibility opportunity.

B. CPR Certification

- 31 students are officially CPR certified.
- Certificates to be awarded during the upcoming Town Hall.
- Celebration coincides with the 100 Days of School milestone.

C. Suture Lab Experience (March 5)

- A nationally recognized surgeon will conduct a hands-on suture lab.
- Approximately 40 students will participate.
- Students will practice suturing techniques on medical models (including pig hearts).
- Initiative aligns with the school's medical and CTE exposure mission.

This experience provides early, real-world medical field exposure for freshman students.

4. Enrollment & Recruitment Update

- 201 applications are currently submitted.



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- Open Houses showing strong conversion rates (20 attendees at last Saturday's session; all applied).
- Target projection: Approximately 300 applicants to yield 100 seats (industry estimate ~1:3 ratio).
- Lottery scheduled for April 1.
- Ongoing outreach to feeder schools and community partners.
- Social media engagement is increasing via Instagram and Facebook.

New recruitment flyers will be distributed for February and March.

Report from Board Chair

5. Media Exposure

- Continued efforts to increase visibility for school programming and events.
- Media coverage expected around the Surtur lab event

6. Facilities Update – Gymnasium Project

- No negative updates reported; timeline remains on track.
- Groundbreaking is expected in March.
- Prefabricated gym structure to follow.
- Projected completion: Second semester of next academic year.
- Flooring selection confirmed (appropriate athletic-grade surface).

Additionally, external visitors may tour the school to observe its CTE model, which could inform replication efforts elsewhere.

7. Workforce Development & Strategic Partnerships

Discussion included potential partnerships and monetization models related to the school's CTE programming.

Board member, referenced (Elyse):

- Models in Brooklyn combining technical programs with university partnerships.
- Track-based models in Florida (Palm Beach County).
- Workforce development conversations at the Governor's advisory level.

Leadership will explore opportunities for collaboration and expansion.

9.Next Board Meeting Location



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Via Zoom at Haven Charter High School, March 18th, 2026

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm



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