



Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

630 PM

147 Saint Nicholas Avenue

Board Meeting

**AGENDA**

- 1. Call to Order and Reminder to Sign Up for Public Comments**
- 2. Adoption of December 2019 Agenda**
- 3. Approval of November 2019 Minutes**
- 4. Leadership Update**
- 5. PTO Report**
- 6. Public Comments**
- 7. Staff Comments**
- 8. Executive Session**
- 9. Adjournment**



## **Board of Trustees Meeting**

November 13, 2019

630 PM

147 Saint Nicholas Avenue

New York, NY 10026

### **Minutes**

#### Trustees Present

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman
Linda Tarry-Chard
Scott Wickham
Sara Bloom
Linda Aristondo
William Allen

#### Also Present:

Emily Lynn Carson, Head of School for Instruction

Jason Epting, Head of School for Community and Outreach

Elly Rosenthal, Hebrew Public

Mark Fink, Hebrew Public

Brian Murphy, Hebrew Public

Jonathan Werle, Hebrew Public

Emily Fernandez, Hebrew Public

Roger Katz, Hebrew Public

Jon Rosenberg, Hebrew Public

Elly Rosenthal, Hebrew Public

Shlomit Arbas, Co-Chair of the PTO  
Ursula Vericain, Director of Operations  
Meral Kathwari, Operations Associate  
7 HH Community Members

**1. Call to Order and Reminder to Sign Up for Public Comments**

Linda Aristondo opened the meeting at 6:41 pm and reminded anyone in attendance who wished to speak to sign up for public comments.

**2. Adoption of Agenda(s)**

Scott Wickham made a motion to adopt the November 2019 agenda. Sara Bloom seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Linda Aristondo made a motion to adopt the October 2019 minutes. William Allen seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**4. Leadership Report**

The board was informed of the following:

1. Two incidents involving students bringing prohibited items to school were handled expeditiously. No one was harmed and both students were removed from the school by their parents/guardians, permanently. School leadership reiterated that there are 2 security guards, 2 social workers, 2 deans of culture and crisis counselors on the premises all day to ensure the continuous safety and wellbeing of the students. Additionally, leadership considers bussing to be an extension of the school building. As such, any behaviors that are not tolerated on the school grounds, are likewise not tolerated on the school buses.
2. Responsive classroom is in effect so that teachers can address their student's needs as they arise. School leadership explained to the board how this works and the protocols that are in place should student(s) enter into crisis.
3. The school schedule has been reconfigured so that all classes will have 25 minutes of outdoor space on the school roof, weather permitting.
4. The swimming program continues to be a success with many families receiving full or partial scholarships to take swimming lessons at Millbank. With the help of board member, Linda Tarry-Chard, 3k of additional scholarships have been secured for families in need.
5. PTO conferences will take place next Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. To ensure that all parents/guardians who wish to come are able to, *King*, one of the school's afterschool providers will have an afterschool program set up for children whose parents/guardians are at the conferences.

6. Interim assessments for the first quarter have been completed.
7. OLAM enrichment hour will launch on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Students and their parents/guardians will be able to pick elective classes that they are interested in taking.
8. Harlem Studies will begin on Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> for all grades.
9. Middle school advisory workshops are being held for all 5<sup>th</sup> grade families to help them select the right middle school for their child.
10. A new second grade teacher has been hired.
11. Book fair and picture day will take place next week.
12. Cultural Diversity Day will take place on December 13<sup>th</sup>. More information will be forthcoming,
13. After a successful coffee chat between Co-head of school, Jason Epting and school parents, another chat will take place on November 22<sup>nd</sup>.
14. 3 forums have been held for the Harlem Hebrew families to answer their questions about the potential co-location with KIPP Beyond in the upcoming school year. Additionally, Harlem and Hebrew Public staff will meet with KIPP staff to discuss potential shared building space allocation and usages.

## **5. PTO Report**

PTO Co-Chair, Shlomit Arbas, briefed the board on the following:

1. Almost all of the *class parent* posts have been filled.
2. The PTO is setting up for next week's book fair.
3. The recently held PTO-Parent event was a great success with over 40 families attending. Further meetings are being planned to encourage communication and good relations between the PTO, the parent/guardian community and school personnel.

## **6. Public Comments**

I HH Community Member thanked the school leadership for their work on ensuring the safety of the school's students.

I HH Community Member asked about the Hebrew program and how paraprofessionals were being deployed throughout the building.

I HH Community Member recommended more home visits from school staff to help decrease the incidents of students in crisis.

I HH Community Member asked about teacher vacancies and substitutes.

## **7. Staff Comments**

None.

## **8. Executive Session**

Linda Aristondo made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Scott Wickham seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Linda Aristondo made a motion to exit Executive Session. Linda Tarry-Chard seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

No votes or actions were taken during this time.

## **9. Adjournment**

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman made a motion to adjourn. Sara Bloom seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.