



Hebrew Language Academy

CHARTER SCHOOL

Board Meeting via Zoom
Tuesday, February 9, 2021
6:00 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order & Reminder for Public Comments
2. Adoption of February 2021 Agenda
3. Approval of January 2021 Minutes
4. School Leadership Update
5. Network Update
6. Adjournment



Board of Trustees Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

6 pm

Minutes

Trustees Present

Elly Rosenthal
Ellen Green
Mike Tobman
Shari Lipner
Alice Li

Also Present:

Daniella Steinberg, Head of School, HLA
Jon Rosenberg, CEO, Hebrew Public
Valerie Khaytina, Chief External Officer, Hebrew Public
Emily Fernandez, Chief Schools Officer, Hebrew Public
Lauren Murphy, External Relations Manager, Hebrew Public
3 members of the public

1. Call to Order/Public Comments

Shari Lipner called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and reminded everyone in attendance to use the “chat” feature to sign up for public comments or to email the board at info@hebrewpublic.org and the comments will be addressed within 48 hours.

2. Adoption of January 2021 Agenda

Shari Lipner asked for a motion to adopt, Ellen Green made a motion to adopt the January 2021 agenda. Mike Tobman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of December 2020 Minutes



Shari Lipner asked for a motion to approve. Mike Tobman made a motion to approve the December 2020 minutes. Ellen Green seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. HOS Search Update

Jon Rosenberg, CEO of Hebrew Public, briefed the board and members of the public on the Head of School search process. The Hebrew Public talent team along with senior leadership and an outside consulting firm began an aggressive approach to find a candidate to fill the position in mid-Fall. The position was widely advertised; many applications were received. The search committee conducted phone screens then interviews, and finally narrowed down the pool of candidates to four including Daniella Steinberg who became Interim Head of School in October. The search committee made a unanimous decision to recommend Daniella Steinberg as Head of School. Last Friday, January 8th, Daniella had a final interview with three HLA board members who collectively agreed with the search committee's recommendation.

After the brief discussion, Shari Lipner asked for a motion to approve Daniella Steinberg as Head of School. Mike Tobman made the motion, Ellen Green seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Network Update

Jon Rosenberg, CEO of Hebrew Public, shared the following with the board:

- COVID-19 Updates
 - Hebrew Public closed all school buildings in late December until Early March
 - Communication regarding the closure was sent to families, staff, and board members once the decision was finalized
 - Since September, HLA has been forced to close multiple times due to COVID-19 positive cases, and community spread
 - Closures are distracting and disruptive to families and staff
 - Large numbers of staff needing to quarantine have made it nearly impossible to continue in-person learning for the time being
 - The number of cases in NY increased by 10% from September 21 to December 21
 - Additional evidence to support Hebrew Public's decision of closure
 - Health & Safety is the number one priority
 - New strains of COVID-19 are even more communicable
 - People who are recovering from the virus are experiencing lingering symptoms
 - COVID-19 Vaccine



Hebrew Language Academy
CHARTER SCHOOL

- Strong evidence of efficacy
- City & State opened up category 1B which includes teachers and those who work in educational settings
- Exploring creating a partnership with other charter schools as a vaccine staff
- A memo went out to all staff with guidance on registration for vaccination
- No guidance from City & State regarding vaccine requirements/protocols for school buildings

6. Leadership Update

Daniella Steinberg, Head of School, informed the board of the following:

- Staffing Update
 - Daniella gave a big shout out to all of the staff members who have been working tirelessly throughout the school year
- Remote Learning - Hybrid Model
 - Shifting to a stronger model K-4
 - Smaller class size for differentiated instruction
 - Four days of synchronous and asynchronous instruction
 - Four days of Hebrew instruction (formally 2 days)
 - Special Education & MLL services continuously implemented and monitored
 - Math targeted 1-hour review and guided reading on Wednesdays
 - More live instruction and face time for kids
- Supporting Students
 - All teachers have weekly check-ins with Deans of Culture and Social Worker support
 - Social and emotional learning
 - Weekly assemblies, morning meetings, advisory, closing circle
 - At-risk counseling
 - “Lunch Bunch”
 - Wednesday fun activities: dance, art...etc
- Family Support
 - Technology Distribution
 - Town Hall meetings
 - WiFi support
 - Differentiated approach for each family

7. Adjournment

Shari Lipner asked for a motion to adjourn. Ellen Green made a motion to adjourn. Mike Tobman seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.