



## **HLA Board Meeting Agenda**

October 12, 2021, 6 pm

Location: Zoom

1. Call to Order & Reminder for Public Comment(s) Sign Up
2. Adoption of October 2021 Agenda
3. Approval of September 2021 Minutes
4. School Leadership Update
5. Network Update
6. Public Comments
7. Adjournment



## **Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

September 21, 2021, 6 pm

Location: Zoom

### **Trustees Present**

Elly Rosenthal
Ellen Green
Mike Tobman

### **Also Present:**

Daniella Steinberg, Head of School, HLA

Jon Rosenberg, CEO, Hebrew Public

Valerie Khaytina, Chief External Officer

Lauren Murphy, External Relations Manager, Hebrew Public

### **1. Call to Order/Public Comments**

Ellen Green called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and reminded everyone in attendance in order to sign up to make a public comment prior to our board meeting, email [boardhla@hebrewpublic.org](mailto:boardhla@hebrewpublic.org). Members of the public who missed the public notices were given a chance to sign up during the meeting using the chat function. Members of the board and staff do not typically respond to public comments at the time they are made. However, unanswered questions will be responded to within a few business days.

### **2. Adoption of September 2021 Agenda**

There was no quorum present, so the agenda could not be adopted.

### **3. Approval of August 25, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes**

There was no quorum present, so the minutes could not be approved.

#### 4. School Leadership Update

Daniella Steinberg, Head of School shared a brief update with the board:

- General School Update
  - HLA welcomed students into the building on September 1 and they are so happy to be back!
  - Keyboard Lab
    - A new class, introductory to piano
- Family Connections
  - Virtual Meet the Teacher Night
    - Held on August 28th
    - Classroom expectations
  - Culture Orientation
    - 9/1 6th-8th grade
    - 9/2 Kindergarten-5th grade
    - School expectations were discussed, run by the Culture team
    - Every single student in the building signed a contract showing their understanding of expectations and their commitment to the school
- Afterschool Programs
  - Free After School Program for K-5 (Monday-Friday)
    - Ends at 6 pm and 3:30 pm on Fridays
    - 200 Students Enrolled
      - Grouped by grades to be mindful of COVID-19 protocols
    - Guided reading and homework help
    - HLA staffed
    - HLA STARS
      - 6-8 Grade volunteers
        - Student teaching and reading support
        - They are leaders in the building and good examples to younger students
- Upcoming Clubs and Teams
  - COVID-19 restrictions apply. According to the Charter Athletics Association, any student on a sports team must be vaccinated. This information has been communicated to all families.
    - 6-8 Grade Girls Volleyball Tryouts on 10/5
    - 7-8 Dance Team Tryouts on 10/5
    - 3-4 Grade Choir Tryouts on 10/5-10/7
- MAP Testing
  - Begins on Thursday, September 23rd
  - The results will help to begin formal small groups based on concrete data
  - Intervention support

- Targeting students who have fallen behind and making sure they have what they need
- Opportunity to gather data to support students in a very specific way
- 1:1 devices will help testing run smoothly
- Bus Concerns
  - First week of school, we had private bussing
    - As expected there were delays
  - Beginning September 13th, DOE bussing began
  - Challenges arose with stops and routes but were quickly resolved
  - Dismissal has been streamlined and is now running smoothly
  - All routes have drivers and steady plans
- Hebrew Library
  - Pilot program for grades 3-4
  - Will begin as an after school club in mid-October

## 5. Network Update

Jon Rosenberg, Hebrew Public's CEO, shared a brief update on the following:

- NYC Announcement of Relaxation of Quarantine Standards in District Schools
  - The announcement comes from a review of the CDC guidance released in late August defining "close contact" in a K-12 setting
    - If a student is at least 3 ft away from someone else (masked) but in contact with them for 15 minutes or more, and the person with whom they are in contact with tests positive, it does not need to be considered direct contact
  - Situations such as lunch, riding the bus, gym class, and regular classroom instruction, can not always guarantee the 3 ft distance is kept all the time
  - Hebrew Public is examining the city's shift in policy and will be recommending changes but likely will not be as drastic as NYC
  - Other considerations for changes
    - Hebrew Public's top priority remains, the health and safety of all students and staff members
    - Delta variant is still a major concern in the community
    - Effectiveness of programming
    - Impact of quarantine on families
- State Assessment Test Results
  - Should be available soon

- Only a subset of our students tested last year
- Charter Renewal Application
  - Most relevant pieces have been submitted
  - NYCDOE Site Visit - 3 Days - October 12, 13, 14 (1 Day In-person)
  - Board Capacity Interview directly follows the October 12 Board Meeting
    - Board Officers
    - Will have a prep session prior
  - Public Hearing is on Wednesday, October 13 at 5:30
    - This year the city has requested one public hearing for all three of our NY schools
    - 1 board member from each of the schools to speak briefly during the hearing

## 6. Board Member Recruitment

- The HLA board is looking for new members. Ideally, the board should have at least nine individuals in order to create functional committees
- Candidates should reflect the school population, believe in the mission of our school, preferably a Brooklyn resident, and be able to attend most board meetings
- Below is the process for adding board members:
  - Review Candidates resume
  - Meet with Jon Rosenberg
  - Visit our school
  - Meet Head of School
  - Meet with Board Chair or Governance Committee
  - Reference check (if the board is ready to move forward)
  - The prospective trustee must complete application documents
  - Formal vote from the Board of Trustees
  - Submit documents to the state for approval

## 7. School Dashboard

Jon Rosenberg reviewed the September Dashboard which provided some key data points focused on the below criteria:

- **Enrollment**
  - i. Retention and Returning Students
    - a. Applications are continuing to be submitted



- b. Budgeted for 517 students this year
  - c. Total enrollment numbers shift, dramatically during 1st month of school
- **Staff Demography**
  - i. This information is taken each year, typically from October to December. From 2015-16 to September 2021, the HLA staff has become more diverse
- **Staff Vacancies & COVID-19 Impact**
  - i. Small number of vacancies
    - a. 5 total with one offer extended for a Hebrew teaching position
    - b. The charter sector as a whole is struggling to fill positions
  - ii. Site-based COVID tests at HLA
    - a. All families are notified of positive cases
    - b. Everyone working in school is either fully vaccinated or scheduled to get their vaccines

## **8. Public Comments**

No public comments were made during this time.

## **9. Adjournment**

Ellen Green made the motion, Elly Rosenthal seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm. The board will meet next on October 12 at 6:00 pm.