



Hebrew Language Academy
CHARTER SCHOOL

Board Meeting via Zoom
Tuesday, November 10, 2020
6:00 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Reminder for Public Comments
3. Adoption of November 2020 Agenda
4. Approval of October 2020 Minutes
5. School Leadership Update
6. Network Update
7. Board Action: Charter Amendments for Board Vote
 - a. Resolution re: MLL/ELL
 - b. Resolution re: Enrollment Decrease
 - c. Resolution re: KDE (key design elements)
8. Adjournment



Hebrew Language Academy

CHARTER SCHOOL

Board of Trustees Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

6 pm

Minutes

Trustees Present

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| Elly Rosenthal |
| Shari Lipner |
| Ellen Green |
| Stella Binkevich |
| Alice Li |
| Brian Tobin |
| Mike Tobman |

Also Present:

Daniella Steinberg, Interim Head of School, HLA

Jon Rosenberg, CEO, Hebrew Public

Valerie Khaytina, Chief External Officer, Hebrew Public

Lauren Murphy, External Relations Manager, Hebrew Public

2 members of the public

1. Call to Order/Public Comments

Shari Lipner called the meeting to order at 6:04 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 Agenda

Shari Lipner asked for a motion to adopt, Ellen Green made a motion to adopt the October 2020 agenda. Mike Tobman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

Shari Lipner asked for a motion to approve. Elly Rosenthal made a motion to approve the September 2020 minutes. Mike Tobman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Academic Calendar

Shari Lipner asked for a motion to approve. Ellen Green made a motion to approve the 2020-21 Academic Calendar. Alice Li seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Leadership Update

Jon Rosenberg briefly introduced HLA's new Interim Head of School, Daniella Steinberg, who then informed the board of the following:

- Leadership staffing update
 - Kevin Morris Jr., Assistant Head of School 5-8
 - Lyvette Robles, Assistant Head of School- Operations
 - Maria Rosen, Academic Dean for Literacy
 - Ben Coleman, Academic Dean for Mathematics
 - Kadidiattou Ouedraogo, Dean of Culture K-4
 - John Richardson, Dean of Culture 5-8
 - Olivia Toomey, Special Education Coordinator
- Connection with Families
 - In addition to Around the Mill, classroom newsletters, from every teacher are being sent to families on Fridays
 - Lunch Bunch
 - Partnering with HLA2
 - Lunch groups focusing on developing social and emotional growth
- Partnering with PTO
 - Paint & Sip with Mr. Powell on 10/28, all families are encouraged to participate
- Remote Learning
 - HLA's school building has been temporarily closed for students due to City and State regulations
 - The response to closing was immediate, and based on both in-house research and feedback from families, HLA continues to make adjustments to remote learning
 - Family technology training was previously provided to enable a quick transition to a full remote schedule if/when needed

- The current daily schedule includes live instruction for core subjects as well as a mix of video content that is network-created (read aloud, phonics, novel study), and professional (Great Minds)
- Solidified content expectations for leaders and teachers
 - Intellectual prep and teacher coaching helps to enable high-quality live instruction
- HLA is supporting all learners
 - IEP meetings
 - IEPs shared with families
 - Adapted IEPs to create “Special Education Remote Learning Plans”
 - These were shared with families to ensure that they are able to support the implementation of IEP’s at home
- School Culture
 - Weekly virtual assemblies with school Deans
 - Blend of culture and social-emotional learning
 - Focused on building community and increasing student aptitude for becoming global citizens
 - October Focus: OLAM Values

6. Network Update

Jon Rosenberg shared the following with the board:

- COVID-19 Closures
 - Currently, HLA is in a 2-week “hold” as public health in the area is evaluated
 - Zip-code based closure plan, HLA is in the orange zone
 - The mandated closure had nothing to do with the infection rate in school but in surrounding neighborhoods
 - HLA continues to look to our government (City and State) for guidance on how to reopen as safely as possible
 - HLA will share all plans for a return to school or an extension of remote learning as soon as the school is informed of the local ruling and new guidelines
 - HLA anticipates resuming the Hybrid schedule upon reopening
- Presentation of the proposed resolution for discussion: changing approved maximum enrollment
 - Compliance:
 - According to NY State Charter law, we are required to have a student enrollment no less than 85% of our authorized maximum enrollment
 - Currently, our authorized maximum enrollment is 783 students

- Number is tied to old projections that our model would be 3 full classrooms per grade K-8 with an avg max 29 children per class
 - Struggled to get even close to that number even now that HLA has a full K-8 grade span
 - Currently, HLA has around 600 students enrolled
 - Recruitment and Enrollment efforts have been robust and active
 - Community Outreach
 - Canvassing the Neighborhood
 - Social Media Ads
 - Print Ads
 - Unfortunately, there has not been significant growth in enrollment
 - We are proposing to reduce max enrollment to 675 students (25 kids per section on average) 85% of that is 574
 - Confident HLA enrollment can stay at that number (574) or above it.
 - A board vote will take place during the November meeting
- Presentation of the proposed resolution for discussion: Adding an English language learner/Multilanguage learner (ELL/MLL) weight in the lottery
 - Definition- children learning English, not as their first language
 - HLA does not meet the percentage of English language learners/Multilanguage learners (ELL/MLL) that is required by Charter law
 - This is a significant challenge
 - 5% of our population is ELL/MLL vs. 12% in district 22
 - Outreach efforts to try to increase the percentage:
 - Neighborhoods we recruit in
 - Multi-Languages for applications
 - Radio stations (different languages)
 - Although outreach & recruitment efforts have been immense, they have not succeeded thus far
 - We are proposing to add a 1.25% weight for ELL/MLL students to our school lottery in order to meet Charter law requirements
 - This may not be enough, and we may need to re-evaluate again in the future
 - A board vote will take place during the November meeting

7. Adjournment

Shari Lipner asked for a motion to adjourn. Ellen Green made a motion to adjourn. Elly Rosenthal seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

**HEBREW LANGUAGE
ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL**

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

UPDATED KEY DESIGN ELEMENTS

November 10, 2020

The resolutions hereinafter set forth as the action of the Board of Trustees of HEBREW LANGUAGE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL (the "School") have been duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the School (the "Board") duly called and held for such purpose, and do hereby direct that these Resolutions be filed in the minute book of the School:

WHEREAS, the School was granted a charter (the "Charter") by the New York State Board of Regents (the "Board of Regents") at a regularly scheduled meeting on January 6, 2009, to operate pursuant to its charter application (the "Application") which was incorporated by reference into the Charter Agreement (the "Charter Agreement") by and between the New York City Department of Education ("Authorizer"); and

WHEREAS, the Charter was subsequently renewed and extended by the Board of Regents for additional consecutive terms on January 8, 2014, March 12, 2015 and May 8, 2019, respectively, with the current Charter expiring on June 30, 2022;

WHEREAS, the Board in conjunction with School Leadership has determined that the School and its students would benefit from updating the School's key design elements by incorporating values, techniques and forms of instruction into the original key design elements as set forth in the School's Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Board has further determined that proposed updates to the key design elements align with the School's mission and values.

BE IT RESOLVED, pending approval from the authorizer, that the Charter shall be amended to update the key design elements to include, modify and/ or expound on the following elements:

- OLAM values
- Research-Based ELA Instruction and Differentiation
- Research-Based Math Instruction and Differentiation
- Support for at-risk Students
- Immersive Hebrew Instruction
- Social and Emotional Learning and Responsive Classroom
- Professional Development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School is authorized to make a request (the "Revision Request") to the Authorizer to amend the Charter Agreement to reflect the Updated Key Design Elements beginning with the 2021-2022 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that that any Trustee or officer of the School or Board designee from Hebrew Public, Charter Management Office (the "CMO") of the School (each, a "Proper Representative"), be and hereby is authorized and directed, jointly and severally, to execute and deliver the Revision Request and any other documents consistent with the transactions described above and such further agreements, assignments, pledges, instruments, consents and documents ancillary to the Revision Request or necessary in the determination of any Proper Representative, in the name of and on behalf of the School, in order to fully carry out the intent and accomplish the purposes of the foregoing resolutions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all actions heretofore taken by any Proper Representative, for and on behalf of the School in connection with the Revision Request shall be and hereby are ratified and approved, and that the authority given hereunder shall be retroactive and any and all acts hereunder performed prior to the passage of these resolutions are hereby ratified and approved.

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

The undersigned does hereby certify that the foregoing resolutions of Hebrew Language Academy Charter School were duly adopted by the Board of Trustees of Hebrew Language Academy Charter School on November 10, 2020.

Brian Tobin, Secretary

**HEBREW LANGUAGE
ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL**

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

AMENDMENT TO MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT

November 10, 2020

The resolutions hereinafter set forth as the action of the Board of Trustees of HEBREW LANGUAGE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL (the "School") have been duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the School (the "Board") duly called and held for such purpose, and do hereby direct that these Resolutions be filed in the minute book of the School:

WHEREAS, the School was granted a charter (the "Charter") by the New York State Board of Regents (the "Board of Regents") at a regularly scheduled meeting on January 6, 2009, to operate pursuant to its charter application (the "Application") which was incorporated by reference into the Charter Agreement (the "Charter Agreement") by and between the New York City Department of Education ("Authorizer"); and

WHEREAS, the Charter was subsequently renewed and extended by the Board of Regents for additional consecutive terms on January 8, 2014, March 12, 2015 and May 8, 2019, respectively, with the current Charter expiring on June 30, 2022;

WHEREAS, the Charter Agreement allows for a maximum enrollment of 783 students in grades K-8 at full capacity and sets a minimum enrollment of 85% of the aforementioned 783 for a total of 666 students;

WHEREAS, the School's current enrollment is 600 Students;

WHEREAS, the Board, in consultation with Hebrew Public and School leadership, believes that an enrollment maximum for the School of 675 students (the "Modified Enrollment") more accurately reflects current enrollment trends and that such Modified Enrollment, will allow the School to more effectively allocate its resources to best serve the School's students;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the School is authorized to make a request (the "Revision Request") to the Authorizer to amend the Charter Agreement to reflect the Modified Enrollment beginning with admissions for the 2021-2022 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that that any Trustee or officer of the School or Board designee from Hebrew Public, Charter Management Office (the "CMO") of the School (each, a "Proper Representative"), be and hereby is authorized and directed, jointly and severally, to execute and deliver the Revision Request and any other documents consistent with the transactions described above and such further agreements, assignments, pledges, instruments, consents and documents ancillary to the Revision Request or necessary in the determination of any Proper

Representative, in the name of and on behalf of the School, in order to fully carry out the intent and accomplish the purposes of the foregoing resolutions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all actions heretofore taken by any Proper Representative, for and on behalf of the School in connection with the Revision Request shall be and hereby are ratified and approved, and that the authority given hereunder shall be retroactive and any and all acts hereunder performed prior to the passage of these resolutions are hereby ratified and approved.

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**HEBREW LANGUAGE
ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL**

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**ADDING A WEIGHT TO LOTTERY PREFERENCE -CATEGORIES FOR
ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS**

November 10, 2020

The resolutions hereinafter set forth as the action of the Board of Trustees of HEBREW LANGUAGE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL (the "School") have been duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the School (the "Board") duly called and held for such purpose, and do hereby direct that these Resolutions be filed in the minute book of the School:

WHEREAS, the School was granted a charter (the "Charter") by the New York State Board of Regents (the "Board of Regents") at a regularly scheduled meeting on January 6, 2009, to operate pursuant to its charter application (the "Application") which was incorporated by reference into the Charter Agreement (the "Charter Agreement") by and between the New York City Department of Education ("Authorizer"); and

WHEREAS, the Charter was subsequently renewed and extended by the Board of Regents for additional consecutive terms on January 8, 2014, March 12, 2015 and May 8, 2019, respectively, with the current Charter expiring on June 30, 2022;

WHEREAS, at its meeting on November 15, 2016, the Board duly amended the School's lottery preference categories beginning with admissions for the 2017-18 school year, to the following in order of preference: 1: siblings of enrolled students; 2: children of staff; 3: residents of community school district twenty-two; 4: out-of-district residents;

WHEREAS, after further consideration and planning, the Board has determined that adding a weight to the aforementioned lottery categories (3) and (4) for English Language Learners (as defined in the School's charter application and agreement) will better help better serve the needs of all of the the community's children; and

WHEREAS, the Board has further determined that that adding a weight to the aforementioned lottery categories (3) and (4) for English Language Learners, will help further align the School with its mission by increasing diversity amongst the student body's population;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Charter shall be amended to include a 1.25 weight to each English Language Learner applicant in the aforementioned categories 3 and 4, as compared with a weight of 1.00 for non-ELL applicants, pending approval from the Authorizer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School is authorized to make a request (the "Revision Request") to the Authorizer to amend the Charter Agreement to reflect the Adding a Weight

to Lottery Preference Categories (3) and (4) for English Language Learners beginning with admissions for the 2021-2022 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that that any Trustee or officer of the School or Board designee from Hebrew Public, Charter Management Office (the "CMO") of the School (each, a "Proper Representative"), be and hereby is authorized and directed, jointly and severally, to execute and deliver the Revision Request and any other documents consistent with the transactions described above and such further agreements, assignments, pledges, instruments, consents and documents ancillary to the Revision Request or necessary in the determination of any Proper Representative, in the name of and on behalf of the School, in order to fully carry out the intent and accomplish the purposes of the foregoing resolutions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all actions heretofore taken by any Proper Representative, for and on behalf of the School in connection with the Revision Request shall be and hereby are ratified and approved, and that the authority given hereunder shall be retroactive and any and all acts hereunder performed prior to the passage of these resolutions are hereby ratified and approved.

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Brian Tobin, Secretary