



Hebrew Language Academy 2
CHARTER SCHOOL

HLA2 Special Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, August 3, 2021, 6 pm

Location: Zoom

1. Call to Order & Reminder for Public Comment(s) Sign Up
2. Adoption of August 3, 2021, Special Meeting Agenda
3. Approval of July 2021 Minutes
4. Action Items
 - a. Approval of Application for Charter Renewal Certification
 - b. Approval of the Application Cover Letter
5. Public Comments
6. Adjournment

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2021, 6 pm

Location: Zoom

Trustees Present

Alice Li
Sue Fox
Mike Tobman
Adam Miller
Stella Binkevich

Also Present:

Ashley Furan, Head of School, HLA2

Marie Lucas, Director of Operations, HLA2

Elyse Castellano, Chief of Staff, Hebrew Public

Lauren Murphy, External Relations Manager, Hebrew Public

1. Call to Order & Reminder for Public Comments

Sue Fox called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and reminded everyone in attendance in order to sign up to make a public comment prior to the board meeting, email boardhla2@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 July 2021 Agenda

Sue Fox asked for a motion to adopt, Adam Miller made a motion to adopt the July 2021 agenda. Alice Li seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of June 2021 Minutes

Sue Fox asked for a motion to approve, Adam Miller made a motion to approve the June 2021 minutes. Stella Binkevich seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.



Hebrew Language Academy 2
CHARTER SCHOOL

4. School Leadership Update

Ashley Furan, Head of School gave an update to the board on the following:

- Playstreet Application Approved!
 - Students will be able to safely enjoy physical activity outside of the building
- HLA2's Charter Renewal Application is in Progress
- Building Construction Began Today for 2 New Classrooms
 - Building work is moving quickly and is scheduled to be completed by the end of next week
- School Leadership Team Launch
 - Shared goals of collaboration and coaching
 - Focus on Data
 - Focus on Equity
 - Book Club: *Coaching for Equity: Conversations That Change Practice* by Elena Aguilar
 - Growing personal skills
 - Including DEI in summer training with staff
- Interviews for Staffing Positions
 - Highest need: Hebrew teachers
- Enrollment is steady with 335 students
 - Potential to make a few more offers for certain grades

5. Board Actions: Charter Revisions

HLA2 is approaching the end of its initial five-year charter term and is preparing its renewal application for submission to the New York City Department of Education in August. Before the board meeting, background information regarding the charter revisions was shared with staff, families, and board members. The following are the proposed changes to the school charter.

a. School Calendar

The school calendar has been updated to reflect HLA2's increased focus on staff professional development. The new calendar includes early student dismissal (at 1 pm) on Fridays to allow for concentrated weekly staff training. This change is consistent with the practices of many of the most academically successful charter school networks in the city.

Sue Fox asked for a motion to approve the discussed revision to the school calendar, Mike Tobman made the motion, Alice Li seconded, and it was passed unanimously with, no objections or abstentions.

b. Updating Key Design Elements

The current charter lists several Key Design Elements (KDEs) that make HLA2 distinct from other schools. Based on experiences over the first 5 years of HLA2's existence, and input from staff and families, these are the proposed changes to the KDEs.

1. OLAM Values
2. Modern Hebrew Language
3. Differentiated Instruction
4. Professional Development & Career Pathways
6. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
7. Partnership with Hebrew Public

5. SEL

Combined with a rigorous curriculum, it is believed these proposed design elements will help move the school community forward and will ensure that each child served thrives and succeeds at a high level.

Sue Fox asked for a motion to approve the aforementioned Key Design Elements. Adam Miller made the motion, Mike Tobman seconded, and it was approved unanimously with, no objections or abstentions.

c. Updating the Organizational Chart

HLA2's organizational chart has been updated to reflect the changes in the leadership and staffing structure, over the past several years.

Sue Fox asked for a motion to approve the updated organizational chart. Mike Tobman made the motion and Adam Miller seconded and it was approved unanimously with, no objections or abstentions.

6. NY State Data Privacy Requirements

- a. Adoption of Data Security and Privacy Policy
- b. Adoption of Parent's Bill of Rights Data Privacy and Security

These policies have been updated to reflect changes in the New York State law. Although, not a charter revision, the updates are required to be approved by the board.

Sue Fox asked for a motion to approve the NY State Data Privacy documents. Adam Miller made the motion, Mike Tobman seconded, and it was approved unanimously with, no objections or abstentions.

7. Network Update

Elyse Castellano, Chief of Staff of Hebrew Public, shared the following with the board and members of the public:

- Surveying Families On



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CHARTER SCHOOL

- Intent to return forms
- Request for remote accommodations
- Family needs
- Responding to questions or concerns
- Network Team Focus
 - Leadership professional development
 - 3-day program
 - Developing all staff PD in late August
- Renewal Applications Update
 - All three of our NY schools
 - Due in early August
 - Board Members will have access to review the full application

8. Determine a date for a special meeting in the first week of August to Certify the Renewal Application

Date determined, August 3rd at 6 pm.

9. Public Comments

No public comments were made during this time.

10. Executive Session

No votes were taken during this time.

11. Adjournment

Sue Fox asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm. Alice Li made the motion, Mike Tobman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.