



Board Meeting Agenda

October 26th, 2021, 6 pm

Location: Zoom

1. Call to Order & Reminder for Public Comment(s) Sign Up
2. Adoption of the October 2021 Agenda
3. Approval of the September 2021 Meeting Minutes
4. School Leadership Update
5. Network Update
6. HLA2 October 2021 Dashboard Review
7. Public Comments
8. Adjournment



Hebrew Language Academy 2
CHARTER SCHOOL

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2021, 6 pm

Location: Zoom

Trustees Present

Alice Li
Sue Fox
Mike Tobman
Will Mack

Also Present:

Ashley Furan, Head of School, HLA2

Brandon Parker, Director of Operations, HLA2

Jon Rosenberg CEO, Hebrew Public

Lauren Murphy, External Relations Manager, Hebrew Public

1. Call to Order

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 September 2021 Meeting Agenda

Sue Fox asked for a motion to adopt the September 2021 meeting agenda, Mike Tobman made a motion to adopt the meeting agenda. Alice Li seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of August 2021 Minutes

Sue Fox asked for a motion to approve the August 2021 meeting minutes, Alice Li made a motion to approve, Will Mack seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Leadership Update

Ashley Furan, HLA2's Head of School updated the board on the following:

- Staffing
 - Introduction to Brandon Parker, Director of Operations
 - 7 Vacancies
 - Increase in staff referrals will be shared out tomorrow evening
 - Merged three 4th-grade classes into two classes
- Health & Safety
 - Social distancing and mask-wearing
 - Ensuring all student desks are facing the same direction
 - Students are maintaining a 3ft distance from one another
 - All HLA2 staff have received at least their first dose
 - All HLA2 staff are expected to be fully vaccinated by October
 - COVID Testing
 - All clear, without incident this Monday
 - Weekly testing every Monday
 - One incident of quarantine thus far
 - 3rd grade, 10 days
- School-Wide Systems & Procedures
 - Last week was the first full week of school, Monday through Friday
 - Emergency Drills (fire alarm) will begin next week
 - Arrival and Dismissal
 - Student temperature checks occur every day at the front door before a guardian leaves
 - 10-minute arrival window in the AM
 - Continuing to stress safety and traffic flow (U-turns, parking in the bus stop...etc.)
 - Bussing
 - Challenges
 - City-wide struggles with OPT
 - Shortage of drivers
 - Timing
 - Shortage of bus attendants
 - Listening to family feedback and making changes
 - Departures are on-time
 - Seeking Attendants
 - Hourly opportunity



Hebrew Language Academy 2

CHARTER SCHOOL

- Important for ensuring safety: mask-wearing, seatbelts, social distancing...etc.
- School Culture
 - LatinX Heritage Month
 - Bullying Prevention Month
 - Kicks off on Friday
 - Spirit Days in October
 - Virtual Community Meetings
 - Friday at school K-2 & 3-5
 - OLAM Values
 - Reviewing school procedures with students
 - Movie Night
 - Tomorrow at 6 pm
 - Big shout out to all staff who have been working tirelessly to create joy for the students
- Enrollment
 - Currently, 308 students, typical fluctuation for this time of year
 - Several students have left for public, private, and/or other charter schools
 - Many families transitioning outside of the city and/or state
 - Actively monitoring social distancing in classrooms and making offers off the waitlist where seats are available

5. Network Update

Jon Rosenberg, Hebrew Public's CEO updated the board on the following:

- HLA2 Charter Renewal
 - HLA2 is in the 4th year of the first charter term (5-year term)
 - Almost parts all of the charter application have already been submitted
 - Site Visits (November 9th and 10th)
 - Classroom observations (most likely in person)
 - Leadership team interviews
 - Board capacity interview
 - There will be a prep meeting prior to the interview
 - At least three board members in officer roles to participate
 - Public Hearing required to be conducted by the city
 - All three Hebrew Public NY schools are up for renewal, this year the city has requested one public hearing for all
 - Wednesday, October 13th at 5:30 pm via Zoom
 - 1 board member from each of the schools to speak briefly during the hearing
 - Members of the public and parents can sign up to speak during the public comment portion

- Building Construction
 - Ramping up the occurrence of check-in meetings with the building company, DBI, our building representatives, Ashley, and Hebrew Public's Operations Team
 - Cautiously optimistic for an on-time delivery
- NYC Announcement of Relaxation of Quarantine Standards
 - These changes apply to district schools, but not to public charter schools such as ours
 - The announcement comes from a review of the CDC guidance released in late August defining "close contact" in a K-12 setting
 - Situations such as lunch, riding the bus, gym class, and regular classroom instruction, cannot always guarantee the 3 ft distance is kept all the time
 - Proposed revisions of Hebrew Public guidelines will be stricter than the city
 - Hebrew Public will be presenting recommendations to HOS'
 - Looking at alternative learning/teaching models for students who have been exposed and are required to quarantine
 - Zoom Rooms technology for simulcasting
 - Finding a Balance Between:
 - Health and safety
 - Programmatic effectiveness
 - Every time we quarantine a child, the families need to figure out childcare
 - Statue of COVID-19 cover has expired

6. HLA2 September 2021 Dashboard Review

Jon Rosenberg reviewed the September dashboard, sharing key indicators. The dashboard will change based on what is pertinent at the time (enrollment, test scores, financial data...etc.).

- Enrollment
 - Slightly below the budgeted number of students
 - Currently offering seats to students on the waitlist while keeping in mind COVID-19 social distancing guidelines for classrooms
- Vacancies
 - Each school year vacancies are common, this year more so than ever, schools in NY and around the country are struggling with staffing shortages
 - 7 vacancies, 12%
 - Fully staffed leadership team
 - Incentives:
 - Referral bonuses
 - Hiring bonuses
- COVID-19 Impact
 - 1 Vaccine-related termination
 - 1 COVID-19 case among students

- Staff Demographic Data
 - Efforts to increase staff diversity continues

7. Board Member Recruitment

Jon Rosenberg encouraged board members and members of the community to nominate qualified individuals to join the board of trustees. Ideally, the board should have at least nine individuals to create functional committees, representative of the school population and community, and have a diverse skillset.

8. Public Comments

N/A

9. Adjournment

Sue Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 pm, Will Mack seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously. The board will meet next on October 26th at 6 pm.