



Board Meeting Agenda

December 14, 2021, 6 pm

Location: Zoom

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

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2021, 6 pm

Location: Zoom

Trustees Present

Stella Binkevich
Sue Fox
Mike Tobman
Will Mack
Adam Miller

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

Adam Miller called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and reminded everyone in attendance in order to sign up to make a public comment before 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 November 2021 Meeting Agenda

Adam Miller asked for a motion to adopt the November 2021 meeting agenda, Sue Fox made a motion to adopt the meeting agenda. Mike Tobman seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

3. Approval of October 2021 Minutes

Adam Miller asked for a motion to approve the October 2021 meeting minutes, Will Mack made a motion to approve, Sue Fox seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

4. Approval of HLA2 21-22 Safety Plan

The updated 2021-22 HLA2 Safety Plan was shared with the board last week and will be posted on the school website for community members. The document has been updated modestly from prior years and under the charter, it is required to be approved yearly by the board of trustees. Adam Miller asked for a motion to approve HLA2's 2021-22 Safety Plan, Will Mack made the motion to approve, Stella Binkevich seconded, and the motion went to a vote where it was passed unanimously with no objections or abstentions.

5. Approval of HLA2 Bylaw Amendment Resolutions

As shared during previous board meetings, HLA2 is revising the Bylaws to better meet the changing needs of the school while aligning all Hebrew Public NYC school bylaws for consistency, the following changes are being proposed:

- a. Eliminating the Executive Committee
- b. Renaming Governance & Nominating Committee to Governance Committee
- c. Renaming the Finance Committee as the Finance & Audit Committee
- d. Renaming the Education Committee as the Education & Accountability Committee
- e. Reduce the minimum number of board members from 7 to 5 and reduce the maximum number of trustees from 15 to 11. This would enable the Board to continue to take action if its active membership fell below 7 for a brief period of time.

The Board Chair would also chair the Governance Committee, and the Treasurer would continue to chair the Finance & Audit Committee.

Members of the HLA2 board agreed to continue discussing board member recruitment and the possibility of adding a parent representative or community member.

After a brief discussion amongst the board members, Adam Miller asked for a motion to approve the aforementioned proposal. Sue Fox made the motion to approve, Stella Binkevich seconded, and the motion went to a vote where it was passed unanimously with no objections or abstentions.

6. Approval of Non-Material Charter Revision

- a. Facilities Update for Fall 2022-23



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HLA2 is scheduled to change locations from the current Stillwell Avenue location to its new home at 2286 Cropsy Avenue in Brooklyn. This move is needed for HL2 to serve its maximum K-5 enrollment. Due to the pandemic, there has been an increasing delay in the supply chain for necessary building materials. Hebrew Public was notified by the building developer that the new school building will not be ready for the start of 2022-2023 as expected. Hebrew Public in partnership with HLA2 leadership anticipates welcoming families into the Cropsy Avenue building no later than January 2023.

Knowing the constraints of the current Stillwell Avenue building, the likely plan is to move one or two grades, along with some leadership staff, to an additional space while waiting for the permanent facility to be ready. A less desirable plan would be to get creative and figure out a way to make the current building work. There would need to be a big emphasis on Playstreet and limit sections of Pre-k. Jon Rosenberg (jon@hebrewpublic.org) welcomes input and discussion from staff, members of the school community, and trustees once there is more than one option on the table.

Hebrew Public's Senior Leadership Team along with Scott Barone, the Cropsy Avenue building developer, will be hosting a virtual HLA2 facility Town Hall on Monday, November 22 at 6:30 pm. Families are strongly encouraged to attend.

Hebrew Public and HLA2 are seeking a resolution from the board authorizing a search for a temporary spill-over space for a portion of the 22-23 school year, including the potential to relocate a portion of HLA2's student enrollment to HLA in Mill Basin which is located in District 22 and is 4.9 miles from HLA2's current building (*to facilitate access to HLA's building, private bus service would be provided to families*).

After a discussion, Adam Miller asked for a motion to approve the aforementioned proposal. Sue Fox made the motion to approve, Will Mack seconded, and the motion went to a vote where it was passed unanimously with no objections or abstentions.

As such, the board adopted the following resolutions:

The resolutions hereinafter set forth as the action of the Board of Trustees of HEBREW LANGUAGE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL 2 (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 by the New York State Board of Regents (the "Board of Regents") at a regularly scheduled meeting on November 14-15, 2016, to operate pursuant to its Charter Application (the "Application") which was incorporated by reference into the Charter Agreement (the "Charter Agreement") signed by and between the State Education Department of



New York (“Authorizer”) and the School which was incorporated by reference into the Charter Agreement (the “Agreement”) signed by and between the Authorizer and the School on or about November 15, 2016, for a term to run through and including June 30, 2022:

WHEREAS, the School’s Bylaws (“Bylaws”) state that the Board shall not have less than seven (7) members and no more than fifteen (15) members; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to have its board membership minimum and maximum number of trustees align with those of its sister Hebrew Public charter schools.

WHEREAS, the Charter Agreement and Bylaws state the board shall have four (4) standing committees; (1) Executive; (2) Finance (3) Education and (4) Governance and Nominating; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to decrease the number of its committees from four (4) standing committees to three (3), and to allocate the tasks of the Executive Committee to the Governance Committee, in order to align its committee structure with those of its sister Hebrew Public schools.

WHEREAS, in conjunction with Friends of Hebrew Language Academy 2, Inc., the School has finalized lease terms and documentation to secure for the School, a new (to-be-constructed) facility located at 2286 Cropsy Avenue, Brooklyn, NY (the “Premises”) to house its student body, originally anticipated to begin with the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS, due to construction delays as the result of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Premises will not be ready to house the School’s student body beginning with the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS the School’s current facility at 1870 Stillwell Avenue, Brooklyn, NY due to limited capacity, cannot accommodate the School’s projected enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year; and

WHEREAS, one of the School’s sister schools, Hebrew Language Academy Charter School (“HLA”) located at 2186 Mill Avenue, Brooklyn, NY, has enough space to house a portion of the School’s students in its facility (as well as its own students), and has volunteered to do so if need be, subject to Authorizer approval.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board directs that the Bylaws be amended to set the minimum number of Board Members at five (5) and the maximum at eleven (11) in order to align with its sister Hebrew Public schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs that the Charter Agreement and Bylaws be amended to change the number of standing board committees from four (4) to three (3), with the



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revised committees being: (1) Governance; (2) Finance and Audit, and; (3) Education and Accountability, with the Governance Committee assuming all the requirements, tasks and structure of both the Nominating and Governance committee and the Executive Committees, the Finance and Audit Committee assuming all the requirements, tasks and structure of the Finance Committee and the Education and Accountability Committee assuming all the requirements, tasks and structure of the Education Committee, subject to Authorizer approval.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the School and Hebrew Public (“Hebrew Public”), Charter Management Organization of the School, to conduct a search for potential spill-over spaces for a portion of the 22-23 school year, including the potential relocation of a portion of the HLA2’s enrollment to HLA in Mill Basin, Brooklyn.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School is authorized to make these requests (the “Revision Requests”) to the Authorizer to amend the Charter Agreement; and

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

7. Leadership Update

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

- NYSED Renewal Visit
 - HLA2’s liaison was on-site for observations and meetings on 11/9 & 11/10
 - Overall, felt the visit was positive
- Staff Vacancies
 - Interviews are taking place to fill roles
- Health and Safety
 - COVID testing weekly
 - Mask wearing and social distancing



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- In the last two weeks, students tested positive for COVID-19, this required Operations to make phone calls home and ensure all families knows what steps they need to take
 - Quarantine guidelines (10 days)
 - Switch to remote learning
- 4th & 5th graders were welcomed back into the building today
- Once everyone is back in the building, emergency drills will take place
- **Bussing Challenges**
 - Staffing issues across the sector
 - The Operations team is in constant communication with families
- **Academic Schedule**
 - Wednesday, 11/24 is a fully remote day
 - Engaging families virtually
- **School Culture Updates**
 - November is Native American Heritage Month
 - Scholastic Book Fair
 - Spirit Fridays
 - Staff outing last Friday
 - “Sunshine Squad” is spreading joy and bringing people together
 - Gen Ed & Hebrew teachers co-taught morning meetings this week
 - Virtual Family Conferences taking place 11/18
 - Picture Day, 11/23
- Enrollment is steady

8. Network Update & HLA2 November Dashboard Review

Due to time constraints, Jon Rosenberg opted to skip these two agenda items.

9. Public Comments

No members of the public were present.

10. Adjournment

Adam Miller asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Stella Binkevich made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 pm, Sue Fox seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously. The board will meet next on December 14th at 6 pm.