



Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda

July 11, 2024, 10 am

1. Call to Order & Public Comment Reminder
2. Adoption of July 2024 Agenda
3. Approval of June 2024 Minutes
4. School Report
5. Public Comments
6. Adjournment

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2024, 6:30 pm

Trustees Present

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| David H. Sorkin |
| Sigalit Grego |
| Rachel Amar |
| Noemi Zibuts |
| Ernest Paige |
| Bonita Sussman |
| Angela Mirizzi-Olsen |

Others Present:

Emily Fernandez, Hebrew Public’s Chief Schools Officer & Interim Head of School for Staten Island Hebrew Public

Michael Coppotelli, Executive Director, Staten Island Hebrew Public

Valerie Khaytina, Chief External Officer, Hebrew Public

Elyse Castellano, CFO/COO, Hebrew Public

Lauren Murphy, Associate Chief of Staff, Hebrew Public

Robert Keogh, 4th Sector Solutions, Financial Consultant

Prospective Board Member, Anna Maftser

1. Call to Order

David Sorkin made a motion to open the meeting at 6:34 p.m and reminded everyone in attendance in order to sign up to make a public comment prior to our board meeting, email boardsihp@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 the June 2024 Meeting Agenda

David Sorkin asked for a motion to adopt the June 2024 agenda. Noemi Zibuts made a motion to adopt the agenda, Bonita Sussman seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the May 2024 Meeting Minutes

David Sorkin asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Sigalit Grego made a motion to approve the May 2024 meeting minutes, Ernest Paige seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Resolution for Executive Director

The Staten Island Hebrew Public Charter School Board of Trustees, having conducted a thorough search process to identify candidates for the position of Executive Director, including interviews, reference checks, and consideration of qualifications and experience; believes that Michael Coppotelli is highly qualified and best suited to serve as the next Executive Director.

With that said, David Sorkin made a motion to elect Michael Coppotelli as Executive Director of Staten Island Hebrew Public Charter School. Bonita Sussman seconded the motion, and the motion went to a vote where it unanimously passed with no objections or abstentions.

5. Review and Approve updated Financial Policies and Procedures

Robert Keogh presented updates to the financial policies and procedures, which had not been revised in seven years. Key changes include updating job titles, removing references to a Chief Operating Officer, and reflecting the current staff structure. They incorporated cloud-based accounting systems and updated federal grant procurement language. More autonomy is granted to schools by allowing heads of schools and directors of operations to approve bills and disbursements.

David Sorkin asked for a motion to approve the financial policies & procedures. Angela Mirizzi-Olsen made the motion, Bonita Sussman seconded and the motion went to a vote where it unanimously passed with no objections or abstentions.

6. Review and Approve 2024/25 Budget

Elyse Castellano reported that the Finance Committee thoroughly reviewed financial projections, prior to this meeting. Elyse provided context for the FY25 budget, which was created in partnership with Michael. The budget projects a modest surplus. SIHP will continue to receive grant support, and multiple efforts are being made to promote the school to recruit more students and families.

Angela Mirizzi-Olsen made the motion to approve the 24/25 budget, Bonita Sussman seconded, and the motion went to a vote where it unanimously passed with no objections or abstentions.

7. Review and Approve 2024/25 Vendor List

David Sorkin discussed the review and approval of the 2024-2025 vendor list. The list was approved as a work in progress, with the understanding that updates and amendments would be made at future board meetings.

David Sorkin asked for a motion to approve, Rachel Amar made the motion to approve the 24/25 vendor list, Ernest Paige seconded, and the motion went to a vote where it unanimously passed with no objections. Noemi Zibuts abstained from the vote.

8. Review and Approve 2024/25 Board Meeting Calendar

David Sorkin introduced the upcoming board meeting calendar, noting two in-person meetings at the school with no Zoom option for board members. The goal is to allow board members to see school operations during the day. With that said, David Sorkin asked for a motion to approve the 24/25 calendar. Noemi Zibuts made a motion to approve, Ernest Paige seconded, and the motion went to a vote where it unanimously passed with no objections or abstentions.

9. Approve Board officer roles for 2024/25

- a. David Sorkin, Chair
- b. Ernest Paige, Vice-Chair
- c. Noemi Zibuts, Secretary
- d. Angela Mirizzi-Olsen, Treasurer

Ernest Paige made a motion to approve the board officer roles for 2024/25, Rachel Amar seconded, and the motion went to a vote where it unanimously passed with no objections or abstentions.

10. Approve Board Term Renewals through June 30, 2027

- a. Ernest Paige
- b. David Sorkin
- c. Noemi Zibuts
- d. Angela Mirizzi-Olsen

David Sorkin asked for a motion to approve the aforementioned trustees term renewals through June 30, 2027. Noemi Zibuts made the motion, Rachel Amar seconded, and the motion went to a vote where it unanimously passed with no objections or abstentions.

11. Preview 2024/25 School Safety Plan

The safety plan was previewed by the board + members of the public. The plan will be voted on during the August meeting– as per Section 155.17 of the Commissioner of Education’s Regulations, charter schools do have to draft, publicly notice, and adopt a safety plan with a 30-day public comment period. That period will begin on July 1, the safety plan will be posted on the school’s website.

12. School Leadership Report

Emily Fernandez, Hebrew Public's Chief Schools Officer and Interim Head of School for Staten Island Hebrew Public shared an introduction to Amanda Ainley, the new Head of School, with extensive experience, including 14 years at New World Prep. The board discussed staff retention, noting that all but one staff member are returning. Recruitment efforts are yielding highly qualified candidates with diverse expertise, including a potential hire for special education with extensive credentials. The school is also hiring additional support staff to enhance academic programming, including an academic dean and an interventionist. The board emphasized the importance of communication and collaboration in the hiring process.

End-of-year testing results were also shared, showing significant gains in math and a steady performance in ELA. Plans are in place to improve ELA outcomes, including hiring an academic dean and providing explicit curriculum training.

13. Student Recruitment Report

Valerie Khaytina, Chief External Officer, provided another in-depth recruitment report to the board, which highlighted the latest application report with numbers for FY25. The projections showed near full capacity for each grade level by the start of the next school year. Efforts to track and understand student attrition, emphasizing that ongoing recruitment efforts should maintain or increase enrollment numbers.

A board member discussion took place following the report.

14. Public Comments

There were no public comments made during the meeting.

15. Adjournment

David Sorkin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm. The board will meet next on July 11, 2024.