



# Hebrew Language Academy Charter School 2 (HLA2)

## HLA2 Board Meeting

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### Date and Time

Tuesday January 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM EST

### Location

2286 Cropsey Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11214

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All board meetings take place at Hebrew Language Academy Charter School 2 (2286 Cropsey Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11214). All meetings are open to the public.

If you would like to make a comment during the next board meeting, please email [boardhla2@hebrewpublic.org](mailto:boardhla2@hebrewpublic.org) include your full name to sign up, and indicate if you will be attending in person or via Zoom.

If you wish to make a public comment via Zoom, please ensure your name on Zoom matches the sign-up name provided.

When it is your time to speak during the meeting, your name will be called, and you will be unmuted.

We request you limit your comment(s) or question(s) to three minutes. You will receive a one-minute warning before your allotted time elapses.

Board and staff members do not typically respond to public comments at the time they are made. However, we will do our best to respond to unanswered questions within a few business days.

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### Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter
<b>I. Opening Items</b>		
A. Record Attendance		
B. Call the Meeting to Order		
Call to Order & Reminder for Public Comment(s) Sign Up		
<b>II. Board Actions</b>		
A. Adoption of January 2025 Agenda	Vote	
B. Approve Minutes	Approve Minutes	
Approve minutes for HLA2 Board Meeting on December 17, 2024		
<b>III. School Report</b>		
A. Head of School Update	FYI	Katie Passley
<b>IV. Network Report</b>		
A. Hebrew Public Update	FYI	Elyse Castellano
<b>V. Public Comments</b>		
A. Review of Public Comments	FYI	
<b>VI. Closing Items</b>		
A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	

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Hebrew Language Academy Charter School 2 (HLA2) provides students with the academic and personal foundation necessary to successfully pursue advanced studies and achieve continued personal growth as ethical and informed global citizens. In order to accomplish this, HLA2 offers an academically rigorous PreK-5 curriculum that includes immersive instruction in Modern Hebrew. A diverse student body will also develop a strong sense of social and civic responsibility through the integration of service learning across the curriculum.

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## Hebrew Language Academy Charter School 2 (HLA2)

### Minutes

#### HLA2 Board Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Tuesday December 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM

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#### Trustees Present

Alice Li (remote), Ella Zalkind (remote), Joanne Cavanaugh (remote), Stella Binkevich (remote), Susan Fox (remote)

### Trustees Absent

Adam Miller, Mike Tobman, Will Mack

### Guests Present

Elyse Castellano (remote), Katie Passley, Lauren Murphy (remote)

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## I. Opening Items

### A. Record Attendance

### B. Call the Meeting to Order

Susan Fox called a meeting of the board of trustees of Hebrew Language Academy Charter School 2 (HLA2) to order on Tuesday Dec 17, 2024 at 6:04 PM.

## II. Board Actions

### A. Adoption of December 2024 Agenda

Susan Fox made a motion to adopt the December 2024 agenda.  
Stella Binkevich seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### B. Approve Minutes

Stella Binkevich made a motion to approve the minutes from HLA2 Board Meeting on 11-19-24.  
Joanne Cavanaugh seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## III. School Report

### A. Head of School Update

The Head of School highlighted the progress and initiatives during the winter reset period.

Key performance indicators show trends:

- Internal assessments for ELA and Math are nearly meeting benchmarks, with support from consultants to strengthen small-group instructional planning.
- Chronic absenteeism has improved to 30%, surpassing the goal of 33%, while attendance is at 92%, with efforts ongoing to reach the 95% target.

- No new suspensions have been reported, keeping the rate at 0.8%, and there are no staff vacancies.
- Enrollment is thriving, with 335 students meeting the goal and consistent additions from the new neighborhood and word-of-mouth referrals.
  - Current enrollment is above 350, with applications for the next year up significantly—105 compared to 81 at this time last year.

Planning for middle school expansion continues, with external collaboration driving recruitment and contingency strategies.

#### **IV. Network Report**

##### **A. Hebrew Public Update**

Elyse Castellano, COO/CFO provided updates on ongoing operational and programmatic support.

- The Operations team continues to collaborate closely with the Head of School on compliance requirements, facility management, and preparation for state testing next year. Efforts also focus on the charter renewal application and communications with the school's authorizer.
- The Talent team is actively supporting staffing management and planning for the 2025-26 hiring season, with new job postings going live before the winter break and a \$1,000 referral bonus for successful hires.
- The Program team celebrated the completion of the first round of family conferences and is supporting quarter 2 efforts to strengthen family partnerships and targeted student support. In January, they will assist with key academic data collection, including winter NWEA MAP testing, to inform instruction and prepare for spring state exams with computer-based testing simulations.

The network team expressed appreciation for school-based staff and commended the Head of School and her team for a successful fall semester.

#### **V. Public Comments**

##### **A. Review of Public Comments**

No public comments were made during this time.

## VI. Closing Items

### A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Fox

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