



Hebrew Language Academy Charter School 2 (HLA2)

HLA2 March Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday March 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM EDT

Location

2286 Cropsey Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11214

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 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.

Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter
I. Opening Items		
A. Record Attendance		Adam Miller
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Adam Miller
Call to Order & Reminder for Public Comment(s) Sign Up		
II. Board Actions		
A. Adoption of the Meeting Agenda	Vote	Adam Miller
B. Approve Minutes	Approve Minutes	Adam Miller
Approve minutes for HLA2 Board Meeting on February 11, 2025		
III. School Report		
A. Head of School Update	FYI	Katie Passley
IV. Network Report		
A. Hebrew Public Update	FYI	Elyse Castellano
V. Public Comments		
A. Review of Public Comments	FYI	Adam Miller
VI. Closing Items		
A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Adam Miller

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.

DRAFT



Hebrew Language Academy Charter School 2 (HLA2)

Minutes

HLA2 Board Meeting

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Trustees Present

Adam Miller (remote), Ella Zalkind (remote), Joanne Cavanaugh (remote), Mike Tobman (remote), Stella Binkevich (remote), Susan Fox (remote), Will Mack (remote)

Trustees Absent

Alice Li

Guests Present

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

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Mike Tobman called a meeting of the board of trustees of Hebrew Language Academy Charter School 2 (HLA2) to order on Tuesday Feb 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

II. Board Actions

A. Adoption of the Meeting Agenda

Will Mack made a motion to adopt the February 2025 meeting agenda.
Mike Tobman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Approve Minutes

Susan Fox made a motion to approve the minutes from HLA2 Board Meeting on 01-14-25.
Mike Tobman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Approval of the 2025-26 Academic Calendar

Will Mack made a motion to approve the 25-26 academic calendar.
Susan Fox seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. School Report

A. Head of School Update

Katie Passley presented the Head of School report.

School Spotlight: Hebrew presentations have begun, allowing students to showcase their Hebrew learning to families.

- Grades 3-5 present in Hebrew, covering topics based on grade level.
- Pre-K to Grade 2 perform plays.
- Families are impressed by students' Hebrew progress.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

- **Attendance:** Chronic absenteeism goal met; overall attendance at 91% (goal: 95%).
 - Initiatives like attendance team outreach are helping.
- **Suspensions:** Out-of-school suspensions at 1.3% (goal: 2%).
- **Vacancies:** One current vacancy, with an offer expected this week.
- **Recruitment & Retention:**
 - Two new kindergarten enrollments last week, one more expected after the break.
 - Overall enrollment stands at 350 students, including Pre-K.
 - Certified teachers: 14 in compliance, with a goal of 15.

Enrollment Updates:

- First and fourth grades are full; other grades have limited seats available.
- Applications for next school year are significantly higher than last year, especially for Pre-K and kindergarten.

IV. Network Report

A. Hebrew Public Update

Elyse Castellano, CFO at Hebrew Public briefed the board on the following:

Financial Benchmarks related to Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): The school is currently meeting key financial metrics related to cash on hand, budget development, and expense management. Two areas categorized as "nearly meets" include the net profit margin, which declined from 4.92% last year due to a reduction in COVID-related funding but remains in a surplus position due to strong budgeting. Additionally, enrollment management is slightly below the projected 340 students, though enrollment trends are promising for the future. Overall, the school's financial position remains strong, demonstrating fiscal responsibility and stability.

Network Report: The network continues to support HLA2 in key areas, including recruitment, instructional coaching, financial management, professional development, and charter renewal efforts for middle school expansion. The Talent team is collaborating with Katie to develop next year's staffing structure, with job postings for the 2026 school year now live. The Finance and Operations teams meet regularly with HLA2 leadership to

review financials and budget planning. Efforts to engage community members and partners for middle school expansion approval are ongoing. Additionally, the External team remains actively involved in student recruitment, working with school teams to boost enrollment through outreach, advertising, and tours. HLA2 has received significantly more applications compared to this time last year.

V. Public Comments

A. Review of Public Comments

No public comments were received.

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 6:16 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Adam Miller

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