



Hebrew Language Academy

HLA Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday May 6, 2025 at 6:00 PM EDT

All board meetings take place at Hebrew Language Academy Charter School (2186 Mill Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234). All meetings are open to the public.

If you would like to make a comment during the next board meeting, please email boardhla@hebrewpublic.org and 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	Time
I. Opening Items			6:00 PM
A. Record Attendance		Ellen Green	
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Ellen Green	
II. Board Actions			
A. Adoption of the Meeting Agenda	Vote	Ellen Green	
B. Approval of Previous Minutes	Approve Minutes	Ellen Green	
Approve minutes for HLA Board Meeting on April 8, 2025			
C. Approval of Updated School Calendar for FY25	Vote	Ellen Green	
III. School Report			
A. School Leader Report	FYI	Daniella Steinberg	
IV. Network Report			
A. Report from Hebrew Public Leadership	FYI	Valerie Khaytina	
V. Governance			
A. Board Member Recruitment	Discuss	Valerie Khaytina	
VI. Public Comments			
A. Review of Public Comments			
VII. Closing Items			
A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Ellen Green	

Hebrew Language Academy is an exceptional, diverse public charter school that teaches Modern Hebrew to children of all backgrounds and prepares them to be successful global citizens.

DRAFT



Hebrew Language Academy

Minutes

HLA Board Meeting

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Tuesday April 8, 2025 at 6:00 PM

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Trustees Present

Alice Li (remote), Ellen Green (remote), Stella Binkevich (remote), Valerie Khaytina (remote)

Trustees Absent

Brian Tobin, Mike Tobman

Guests Present

1 member of the public (remote), Gerard Del Rosario, Lauren Murphy (remote), LennieAisha Blake

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Ellen Green called a meeting of the board of trustees of Hebrew Language Academy to order on Tuesday Apr 8, 2025 at 6:05 PM.

II. Board Actions

A. Adoption of the Meeting Agenda for April 2025

Alice Li made a motion to adopt the April 2025 meeting agenda.

Valerie Khaytina seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Approval of Previous Minutes

Alice Li made a motion to approve the minutes from HLA Board Meeting on 03-04-25.

Valerie Khaytina seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. School Report

A. School Leader Report

Gerard Del Rosario provided a series of updates, beginning with a recap of the recent Hebrew Spelling Bee. The event was a great success and generated excitement among both students and staff. The competition involved students from grades 3 through 6, and even those not participating were highly engaged. Winners were awarded first, second, and third place honors, and several students expressed interest in participating next year after witnessing the event.

Gerard then reviewed the school's dashboard and noted that there have been no major changes. However, there is encouraging progress in new student applications. The school currently has 233 applications, just 9 shy of the previous year's benchmark of 242, with more applications coming in daily.

He also provided an update on enrollment and the recent lottery held on April 3. A total of 260 offers were sent out across all grades. Of those, over 50 registrations are currently in progress, and 14 have been completed. An open house is scheduled for tomorrow from 6 to 8 PM, which is expected to host approximately 100 families. In preparation, the Operations team and school leaders called each family to confirm attendance and assist with online sign-ups.

B. PTO Report

LennieAisha Blake provided an update on recent and upcoming PTO activities. The PTO has been working closely with Ms. Steinberg to improve programming and build a stronger sense of community.

One recent initiative was the themed "Dress Down Day" event, where students dressed in grade-specific colors to foster school spirit and unity. Teachers also participated. The event was well-received, highlighting the strong connection between students, teachers, and families.

Looking ahead, the PTO is preparing for a special Teacher Appreciation event, which is expected to be a highlight for both staff and parents. The team is hoping for favorable weather to ensure the event's success.

Lennie also praised the K–2 Publishing Party, coordinated by the Leadership team and Deans. The event encouraged students to present their favorite books, including main characters, themes, with many dressing as characters from their selected stories. Families were invited to attend and actively participated. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, both teachers and parents were deeply appreciative of the experience. Lennie extended thanks to all involved for making the event such a success.

IV. Public Comments

A. Review of Public Comments

One member of the public asked a question about school policy.

V. 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 6:33 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ellen Green

2025-2026 HLA Calendar

General Notes:

- August 28th: First Day of School (half day)
- June 26: Last Day of School (half day)
- 3:30pm dismissal Monday - Thursday, 1pm dismissal Friday

School Closings

September 1: Labor Day
September 23-24 : Rosh Hashanah
October 2: Yom Kippur
October 13: Indigenous Peoples' Day
October 20: Diwali
November 11: Veterans Day
November 27 - 28: Thanksgiving
December 24 - January 2: Winter break
January 19: MLK Day
February 16 - 20: Midwinter Break
March 20: Eid-al-Fitr
April 2 - 10: Spring Break
May 25: Memorial Day
May 26: No School
May 27: Eid-al-Adha
June 19: Juneteenth

Half Days

August 28-29: Half Day for Students (in-person)
September 2: Half Day for Students (in-person)
November 20: Family Conferences, Half Day for Students (in-person)
November 26: Day before Thanksgiving, Half Day for Students (in-person)
December 23: Day before Winter Break, Half Day for Students (in-person)
February 12: Family Conferences, Half Day for Students (in-person)
April 1: Day before Spring Break, Half Day for Students (in-person)
May 7: Family Conferences, Half Day for Students (in-person)
June 26: Last Day of School, Half Day for students (in-person)

Remote Days

None

Blackout Days

August: 19-29

September: 2,3, 22, 25

October: 1, 3, 10, 14, 17, 21

November: 10, 12, 20, 21, 26

December: 1, 23

January: 5, 16, 20

February: 12, 13, 23

March: 19, 23

April: 1, 13, 28-29

May: 5-8, 12, 22, 28

June: 18, 22, 25, 26

Family Conferences (half day for students)

November 20-21: Q1 Family Conferences

February 12-13: Q2 Family Conferences

May 7-8: Q3 Family Conferences

Marking Periods

Marking Period 1: Thursday August 28 - Friday 11/7

Marking Period 2: Monday 11/10 - Friday 1/23

Marking Period 3: Monday 1/26 - Wednesday 4/1

Marking Period 4: Monday 4/13 - Friday 6/26