



Olam Public Charter School Names Lisa Strom as Founding Head of School

Veteran Stamford educator to lead community outreach ahead of planned Fall 2027 opening.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Valerie Khaytina
valerie@hebrewpublic.org | hebrewpublic.org/olam-pcs

STAMFORD, Conn. — June 10, 2026 — Olam Public Charter School today announced the appointment of Lisa M. Strom as its Founding Head of School. A Stamford resident and veteran Connecticut educator with more than 25 years of teaching and school leadership experience, Strom will guide the school's planning toward an anticipated opening in the fall of 2027, collaborating with families, the City of Stamford, Stamford Public Schools, and community-based organizations.

Olam Public Charter School received an initial certificate of approval from the Connecticut State Board of Education in January 2025. The school is part of Hebrew Public, a national network of diverse-by-design public charter schools committed to academic excellence, world language learning, and global citizenship. At full enrollment, Olam will serve approximately 510 students in grades PreK through 8, beginning with its youngest grades and adding one grade level each year.

In naming a founding leader well in advance of the planned opening day, Olam is following a deliberate, phased timeline. The months ahead are dedicated to listening and preparation — meeting with Stamford families, developing a facility, building relationships with community partners, and recruiting outstanding teachers — so that the school is fully ready to welcome its first students with care.

About Lisa Strom

Lisa M. Strom brings more than 25 years of experience as a teacher and school leader in Connecticut public and independent schools. She currently serves as Academic Dean and Education Director at The Spire School in Stamford, where she leads curriculum, instruction, and faculty development for a college-preparatory program. Her earlier leadership roles include Housemaster and Department Chair at Norwalk High School, Assistant Principal at Saxe Middle School in New Canaan, and Department Chair at Westhill High School in Stamford.

Strom holds a Master of Education in Organization and Leadership from Teachers College, Columbia University; a Master of Science in English Education from Southern Connecticut State University; and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Appalachian State University. She holds Connecticut certifications in administration, secondary English, and special education.

Strom's ties to Stamford run deep. Her long familiarity with the city's families, schools, and neighborhoods positions her to build Olam as a school that reflects and serves the whole Stamford community.

"Lisa is exactly the leader we hoped to find — an experienced educator with real roots in Stamford and a genuine commitment to its families," said Jon Rosenberg, Chief Executive Officer of Hebrew Public. "Our job over the coming year is to listen to the Stamford community, partner closely with the district and the city, and build a strong foundation before we ever open our doors. Lisa is the right person to lead that work and open an academically excellent, nurturing school for Stamford families."

Olam's model centers on a rigorous, inquiry-based academic program; daily Modern Hebrew language instruction as a bridge to global learning; and an intentionally diverse and inclusive school community. The approach is modeled on Hebrew Public's established schools in New York City and Philadelphia, which serve thousands of students from a wide range of backgrounds.

About Olam Public Charter School

Olam Public Charter School will be a tuition-free public charter school approved to open in Stamford, Connecticut, which will serve students in grades PreK through 8. Olam will offer a rigorous academic program, daily world language instruction in Modern Hebrew, and a focus on global citizenship in a diverse learning community.

About Hebrew Public

Hebrew Public is leading a national movement of exceptional public charter schools that teach Modern Hebrew to children of all backgrounds and prepare them to be successful global citizens. Its managed schools in New York City and Philadelphia serve more than 2,000 students from culturally, racially, and economically diverse backgrounds.

