

Board Meeting via Zoom  
Wednesday, July 14, 2021  
6:30 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order & Reminder for Public Comment(s) Sign Up
2. Adoption of July 2021 Agenda
3. Approval of June 2021 Minutes
4. School Leadership Update
5. PTO Update
6. Charter Revisions
  - a. School Calendar/Early Dismissal on Fridays
  - b. Decreasing the Maximum Enrollment
  - c. Updating Key Design Elements
  - d. Updating the Organizational Chart
7. NY State Data Privacy Requirements
  - a. Adoption of Data Security and Privacy Policy
  - b. Adoption of Parent's Bill of Rights Data Privacy and Security
8. Initial Survey Results re: Family Needs
9. Network Update
10. Staff Vaccinations
11. Public Comments
12. Executive Session
13. Adjournment

Annual Board of Trustees Meeting via Zoom  
Wednesday, June 23, 2021  
6:30 pm

**Minutes**

**Trustees Present**

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman
Sara Bloom
Linda Aristondo
William Allen
Rev. Linda Tarry-Chard
Scott Wickham
Tanya Jones

**Also Present**

Emily Carson, Head of School, Harlem Hebrew  
Jon Rosenberg, Chief Executive Officer, Hebrew Public  
Elly Rosenthal, Chief Financial Officer, Hebrew Public  
Valerie Khaytina, Chief External Officer, Hebrew Public  
Lauren Murphy, External Relations Manager, Hebrew Public  
1 Member of the public

**1. Call to Order & Reminder for Public Comments**

Linda Aristondo opened the meeting at 6:32 pm and reminded everyone in attendance in order to sign up to make a public comment prior to our board meeting, email [boardharlem@hebrewpublic.org](mailto:boardharlem@hebrewpublic.org). Members of the public who missed the public notices can sign up now by 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 June 2021 Agenda**

Linda Aristondo asked for a motion to adopt, Sara Bloom made a motion to adopt the June 2021 agenda. Tanya Jones seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

### **3. Approval of the May 2021 Minutes**

Linda Aristondo asked for a motion to approve, Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman made a motion to approve the May 2021 minutes. Sara Bloom seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

### **4. Action Items**

- a. Approval of the 2021-22 Board Calendar**
- b. Approval of the 2021-22 Academic Calendar**

Jon Rosenberg noted to the board and members of the public that the academic school year will begin earlier than most NYC schools and includes early dismissal on Fridays for staff development. Hebrew Public expects to return to fully in-person learning with limited remote options, based on their individual circumstances. All families received multiple communications regarding these expected changes for the next school year. Hebrew Public also conducted a town hall last week and shared the recording with all student families and staff. The academic calendar as well as all board meeting dates can be found on Harlem Hebrew's school website.

Linda Aristondo asked for a motion to approve both the 2021-22 board calendar and the 2021-22 academic calendar. Sara Bloom made the motion, and Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

- c. Approval of the 2021-22 Budget**

After a brief review and discussion of the 2021-22 Harlem Hebrew budget Linda Aristondo asked for a motion to approve the budget. Sara Bloom made the motion, and Tanya Jones seconded, and the motion was approved.

- d. Approval of the 2021-22 Vendor Contracts**

Linda Aristondo asked for a motion to approve the 2021-22 vendor contracts for Harlem Hebrew. Sara Bloom made the motion, and Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman seconded, and the motion was approved.

- e. Approval of Board Officer Slate**

- i. Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman, Chair
- ii. Sara Bloom, Vice-Chair
- iii. Tanya Jones, Treasurer
- iv. William Allen, Secretary

Linda Aristondo noted that officer positions are reviewed and voted on each year. Sara Bloom led the discussion on officer positions. Linda Aristondo is stepping down from board Chair and

Vanessa has agreed to fill the role. On behalf of the entire board and Hebrew Public, Sara thanked Linda for her years of service as Chair and her commitment to Harlem Hebrew.

Sara Bloom asked for a motion to approve the officer slate mentioned above, to Reverend Linda Tarry-Chard made a motion, Linda Aristondo seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

**f. Approval of Scott Wickham’s Board Member Renewal through June 2024**

Linda Aristondo asked for a motion to approve Scott Wickham’s board member term renewal through June 30, 2024. Sara Bloom made the motion, and Reverend Linda Tarry-Chard seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**5. School Leadership Update**

Emily Carson, Head of School informed the board of the following:

- General School Updates from the Month of June
  - Israel Week (Photos were shared)
    - Virtual Field trip to Israel with 8th graders
    - Students participated with fellow 8th graders across the Network and affiliate schools
  - Student Appreciation Week
    - Website for families to share appreciation
    - Field day
    - Poetry slams
  - End-of-Year Celebrations with Kids and with Families
    - Pre-K
    - Kindergarten graduation
  - Eighth Grade Celebrations
    - Cap decorating on the roof of Harlem Hebrew
    - 27/30 students have been remote all year but were invited to come in to celebrate
  - Pre-K, K, and 8th Grade School Pictures
    - Photos were taken in-house
    - 8th grade graduation will take place on Zoom
      - Two 8th graders are going to learn in Israel for a month
  - Closing Out with Staff
    - Virtual toasts
    - Classroom clean up
  - EOY Assessments

- MAP
- Monthly Quizzes
- Science State Exams in Grades 4 and 8
  - Opt-in only
- Family Conferences
  - 306 families signed up for conferences
- Looking Ahead
  - Leadership team planning during summer
  - Operations team preparing for September
  - Weekly updates will begin again in August

## 6. PTO Update

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman informed the board that the PTO elected a new board! Vanessa and other PTO members were able to collect 40 letters of support for the Board of Regents. On behalf of the PTO, Vanessa shared gratitude for Emily Carson and Michelle Galeotti (Hebrew Public's Senior Director of Operations) for all of their leadership and support throughout the school year.

## 7. Network Update & Policy Regarding Staff Vaccinations

Jon Rosenberg, Hebrew Public's CEO, expressed gratitude to all Harlem Hebrew board members, staff and Emily Carson.

Jon Rosenberg then informed the board of the following:

- Student Enrollment Efforts Continue
- In preparation for next year, Hebrew Public hosted a town hall meeting for families in all three of the NY schools, providing an overview of what to expect for next school year and addressing a few COVID-specific questions. The recording of the meeting was shared along with a FAQ.
- Summer Programming Launching!
  - Education Gaps
    - I:I tutoring via Zoom
  - Socialization Gaps
    - Subsidized summer day camp experiences in partnership with Kids in the Game
    - 1 hour-long Hebrew immersion component
  - Trauma Support
    - Emotional support
    - Mental health support
    - I:I counseling

- Potential Community Partnership Task Force for Harlem Hebrew's Board Members
- Looking Ahead to Next School Year
  - Hebrew Public is currently planning to fully welcome back students and staff to in-person learning, with a very limited number of remote options (reserved for medical basis only)
  - Social distancing and mask wearing will continue
  - There has been no indication of school-based spread if safety precautions are strictly followed
- Policy Regarding Staff Vaccinations
  - Hebrew Public has an ongoing public health campaign sharing words of encouragement, statistics, articles, personal stories...etc.
  - Moved from voluntary sharing vaccination status to mandating staff share their vaccination status
  - Without revealing school-specific data, the following percentages were shared based on all 3 NY schools from a survey a few weeks ago
    - About 55% reported that they were fully vaccinated, 10% have received at least one dose, 6% plan to get vaccinated, 15% are not sure if they will get vaccination, and about 5% have no plans to get vaccinated, some have not shared their status or some have not shared intent to get vaccinated
    - I:I conversations with staff members have not occurred yet
  - Mandating the Vaccine
    - If a positive case occurs in the building, staff members who are vaccinated are not required to quarantine whereas, unvaccinated staff members must quarantine.
    - Hebrew Public is monitoring vaccine mandates from fellow NYC charter schools
    - The decision should be made on a board level since it is very complex

The Trustees and Jon Rosenberg had a conversation about a potential staff vaccine mandate. Trustees shared their perspectives regarding the mandate for Harlem Hebrew staff members. Harlem Hebrew's board members offered to help with outreach and sharing supportive and encouraging messages regarding vaccinations. No decisions were made during the discussion.

## 8. Public Comments

No public comments were made during this time.

**9. Adjournment**

Linda Aristondo motioned to adjourn the meeting, Sara Bloom seconded, the motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.