



## **Harlem Hebrew Board Meeting Agenda**

April 6, 2022, 6:30 pm

Location: Zoom

1. Call to Order & Reminder for Public Comment(s) Sign Up
2. Adoption of April 2022 Agenda
3. Approval of March 2022 Minutes
4. School Leadership Update
5. PTO Update
6. Public Comments
7. Adjournment

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

March 9, 2022, 6:30 pm

Location: Zoom

**Trustees Present**

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman
Scott Wickham
Sara Bloom
Reverend Linda Tarry-Chard
Tanya Jones
William Allen

**Also Present**

Emily Carson, Head of School, Harlem Hebrew  
 Valerie Khaytina, Chief External Officer, Hebrew Public  
 Lauren Murphy, External Relations Manager, Hebrew Public

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

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman opened the meeting at 6:33 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 March 2022 Agenda**

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman asked for a motion to adopt the March 2022 agenda. Tanya Jones made the motion to adopt, Sara Bloom seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

### 3. Approval of the February 2022 Minutes

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman asked for a motion to approve, Reverend Linda Tarry-Chard made a motion to approve the February 2022 minutes. Tanya Jones seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

### 4. School Leadership Update

Emily Carson, Harlem Hebrew's Head of School updated the board on the following and shared photos:

- COVID-19 Updates at Harlem Hebrew
  - New mask policy launched on Monday, March 7th
    - Moved from mask required to mask optional
    - Timeline aligned with DOE schools
    - All classes engaged in Morning Meeting (K-4) or Advisory (5-8) to discuss the mask change
      - Discussion embraced OLAM values and reflective of how students can support and respect one another students are making different choices
        - If they have classmates who decide to wear/ not wear a mask
      - The lessons were written by Emily in order to share a unified message across the entire school
      - Facilitated by Homeroom Teachers first thing in the morning
      - Supported by Leadership Team Members
  - 1 positive COVID-19 result that came from weekly testing
    - Kids are required to still come to school if they have been exposed, but test negative for COVID-19
    - All kids who were exposed were sent home with two rapid tests
      - Families must self-report results on the first and fifth day
    - The class that was exposed must wear masks through next Friday (through 10 days of exposure)
  - Still maintaining temperature checks and remaining diligent
    - Teachers are looking out for any signs and symptoms in their classrooms
- General School Updates
  - Scholastic Book Fair
    - The HHLA Operations team and family volunteers have been helping run the school's book fair
  - Make-up picture day & 8th grade graduation photos

- Focus on differentiation and supporting students in grades 3-8
- Spirit Days
  - Pattern Day
  - Superhero Day
  - Tie Dye Day
  - International Women's Day
- Read-A-Thon!
  - The first since the pandemic began
  - Students wore PJs to school
- Special Visitor this Past Week: Israel's Consul General in New York!
  - Asaf Zamir visited HHLA classrooms and students showed off their Hebrew
- Crisis in Ukraine
  - Along with other Hebrew Public schools, Harlem Hebrew has been collecting donations
  - Each homeroom will have an age-appropriate facilitated discussion
    - The lesson was centrally created by the Staten Island Hebrew Public Head of School
- Staffing Updates
  - 1 Hebrew teacher resigned from Harlem Hebrew
    - Notice was communicated to all staff, students, and families
    - 5th-grade classes were extra supported given the numerous turnaround they have experienced this year
    - As a reminder all of the Hebrew classes are co-taught
  - New Hires!
    - Mr. Jason, Sixth Grade ELA Teacher
    - Ms. Tima, Sixth Grade Humanities ICT Teacher
    - Hebrew Public's Remote Hebrew Teacher in Third and Fourth Grades
      - Currently lives in Israel
  - Joining or Returning Soon
    - Ms. Sandra, 8th Grade ELA Teacher begins on Monday!
    - Ms. Rebekah, 8th Grade Math, family leave ending in April
    - Ms. Stephanie, Assistant Head of School: family leave ending
- Upcoming Events
  - Field Trips to the Bronx Zoo
    - Permission forms and information will go out to families soon
    - Many elementary students have not yet been on a school trip this year
  - State Exams and Test Prep
    - Family Workshop: State Exams on Thursday, March 10th at 7:30 pm

- For those who cannot attend, the meeting will be recorded and shared out
  - ELA State Exam on Wednesday, March 30th and Friday, March 31st
- Women’s HERstory Month Celebrations
  - Learning in Class
  - Daily SHEro Spotlights
  - Door Decorating Competition
- NYC Schools Survey
  - Due on Friday, March 25th!
  - HHLA’s goal is 100% participation
  - Ops team will be outside on Friday getting more people to participate
- Ring in the Spring on Sunday, March 20th at Harlem Hebrew from 12-2 pm
  - Vaccines will be offered on-site
- Emily’s regular office hours continue
  - Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings
  - Sign up links are always included in the weekly emails
- Planning in-person events, policies for letting folks inside the building

## 5. PTO Update

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman updated the board on the following

- PTO is having a meeting tomorrow night
  - Questions around when will HHLA’s doors open for in-person experiences so the PTO can plan in-person in-school events
  - The level of interaction has been broken down due to COVID-19 policies, so the PTO is really hoping to begin planning to rebuild and restrengthen
- The PTO is very grateful to MarrLa and the entire Operations team for getting the book fair up and running smoothly

## 6. Public Comments

No public comments were made during this time.

## 7. Adjournment

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sara Bloom motioned to adjourn the meeting, Reverend Linda Tarry-Chard seconded, the motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm. The board will meet next on April 6, 2022, at 6:30 pm.