



Harlem Hebrew Board Meeting Agenda

May 11, 2022, 6:30 pm

Location: Zoom

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

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

April 6, 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
 Yelena Raffoul, PTO President
 Jonathan Werle, Chief Operating 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 6:32 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. 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 April 2022 Agenda

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman asked for a motion to adopt the April 2022 agenda. Tanya Jones made the motion to adopt, Scott Wickham seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the March 2022 Minutes

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman asked for a motion to approve, and Reverend Linda Tarry-Chard made a motion to approve the March 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 Specific to Harlem Hebrew
 - 4 positive COVID-19 results since the March board meeting
 - Includes from our own testing AND Family Reports
 - In-School Testing on Tuesday, March 22nd: 1 Positive Test
 - 1 Class Impacted in 5th Grade - Temporarily Required to Wear Masks in School through Friday, April 1st
 - In-School Testing on Tuesday, April 5th: 3 Positive Tests
 - 1 Class Impacted in 6th Grade - Currently and Temporarily Required to Wear Masks in School
 - As a reminder
 - Kids are required to still come to school if they have been exposed
 - 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, group, and individuals who were exposed must wear masks for 10 days
 - The school is still maintaining temperature checks
 - Teachers are looking out for any signs and symptoms in their classrooms
 - 4 positive COVID-19 results since the March board meeting
- School Lottery for Fall 2022
 - The Operations team has been very hard at work!
 - 633 offers were made to new students to join us for next year
 - Every family will get a phone call from the team
 - A former HHLA 6th grader is now coming back for 8th grade

- General School Updates
 - State Exams and Test Prep
 - ELA State Exam: Wednesday, March 30th, and Thursday, March 31st
 - Women's HERstory Month Celebrations
 - Women's achievements are celebrated throughout the school
 - School Celebrations
 - Women's HERstory Door Decorating Competition
 - First Place: Rehovot, Fourth Grade
 - Second Place: Sderot, Fifth Grade
 - Third Place: Akko, Fourth Grade
 - Pi Day Fun!
 - March 14th
 - Grades K-4: Self-Esteem Pizza Pis!
 - A mix of math, art, and celebrating what they love about themselves
 - Grades 5-8: Pi Competition
 - Competition in Math Class to recite as many numbers of Pi as possible
 - Winners won pizza
 - The overall winner won Pizza for their entire class
 - Our individual class winners won pizza for lunch and a certificate
 - Roza Legum of Sderot was able to recite 86 numbers of Pi and was the Pi Day Champion!
 - Purim
 - Cultural celebration of Israel
 - In Hebrew class, kids learned about different uses of masks around the world and created their own
 - Special Visitor in Grades K-1
 - Adina Lichtman, Founder of Knock Knock, Give a Sock
 - Throughout the Pandemic she wrote 2 books and read them to students during the visit
- Staffing Updates
 - Ms. Sandra was hired as an 8th Grade ELA teacher
 - Mr. Quintin, Operations Associate, started yesterday
 - Ms. Gina, moving from Student Support Associate to a Culture Associate
 - Expanded the team this year
 - Background and trained as a social worker

- Key Dates
 - End of the Third Marking Period: Thursday, April 14th
 - Math State Exams
 - Wednesday, April 27th
 - Thursday, April 28th
 - Family Conferences: Thursday, May 5th
 - Deadline to Sign-Up: Tuesday, May 3rd
 - Currently 84 Families have signed-up
 - Staff Appreciation Week: Week of May 2nd (aligned with National Teacher Appreciation Week)
 - School Closures
 - Spring Break: School Closed - Friday, April 15th - Friday, April 22nd
 - First Day of No School: Friday, April 15th
 - Eid: School Closed - Tuesday, May 2nd
 - Remote Learning:
 - Monday, May 1st (Adjustment in Winter, DOE School Day)
 - Thursday, May 5th (Family Conferences)
- Additional Opportunity for Family Engagement
 - Coffee Chats
 - These chats will be led by different people and will revolve around future planning and visions for HHLA.
 - Leaning into our OLAM values as a community
 - This round will be led by Ms. Emily and Emily Fernandez, Hebrew Public's Chief Schools Officer, and will be dedicated to gathering input on future planning and vision for Harlem Hebrew
 - Middle School Coffee Chats
 - Thursday, April 13th,
 - 11:30-12:30 pm
 - 4-5 pm
 - Elementary School Coffee Chat:
 - Friday, April 29th,
 - 11:45-12:45 pm
 - In order to create an intimate space for families to communicate and following COVID-19 restrictions, there will be a sign-up for families who are interested in attending
 - Meetings will be capped at 30 families
 - Advanced sign up is required to attend
 - Ms. Emily's regular office hours continue

- Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings
- Sign up links are always included in weekly emails
- Looking Ahead
 - Field Trips to the Bronx Zoo
 - Tuesday, April 12th: Grades K-2
 - Wednesday, April 13th: Grades 3-4
 - Math State Exams
 - Wednesday, April 27th and Thursday, April 28th
 - Family Conferences on Thursday, May 5th
 - Last Day to Sign Up: Tuesday, May 3rd

A member of the board asked a question regarding the school lottery and the number of offers that HHLA has sent out. Emily Carson told the board she would follow up with them next week with a report on lottery enrollment, progress, and the goals for next year.

5. PTO Update

Yelena Raffoul, PTO President shared the following with the board:

- Book Fair success
 - A big thank you to Ms. Emily and the Operations team for all their help
- Moving Forward
 - Many fun events for kids and families soon once approved in the next PTO meeting

6. Public Comments

No public comments were made during this time.

7. Adjournment

Vanessa Goldberg-Drossman asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Reverend Linda Tarry-Chard motioned to adjourn the meeting, Sara Bloom seconded, the motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm. The board will meet next on May 11, 2022, at 6:30 pm.