

Philadelphia Hebrew Public (PHPCS) Board of Trustees Meeting

October 27, 2025

5:30 pm

Location: 3300 Henry Avenue and Zoom

Minutes

Trustees Present

Trustees Not Present

Hedra Packman	
Klissa Thomas	
Daniel Bell	
Keli McLoyd	
Katy Tipson*	

Also Present

Maya Mapp, Prospective Board Member (Parent Rep)

Elyssa Yuen, PHPCS, Head of School

Jennifer Johnson, PHPCS, Assistant Head of School

Emily Hurst, Chief Strategy & Talent Officer, Hebrew Public

Lauren Murphy, Director of External Relations, Hebrew Public*

1 member of the public

** Denotes joined by Zoom*

I. Welcome and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (Schedule A)

- Klissa Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:49 pm. Daniel Bell made a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting minutes. Hedra Packman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Keli McLoyd made a motion to approve the August 2025 meeting minutes. Daniel Bell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- The board members went around the room and introduced themselves.

II. Leadership & Board Reports (in presentation)

- **First Two Months of School:** Elyssa Yuen and Jennifer Johnson provided an update on the first two months of school, highlighting a smooth start and strong student engagement. The new middle school building is functioning well, with students navigating transitions responsibly and developing independence through timely class changes, locker use, agenda tracking, and self-directed recess choices. Academically, students select two enrichment and elective classes while also receiving small-group instruction in math and ELA. These enrichment offerings are designed to connect learning to future career interests and provide broader exposure. Student programming and events continue to support engagement across grades. The team also reviewed transportation changes affecting 7th graders who lost school bus access; 40 students were impacted, and individual transit routes were mapped to ensure reasonable travel times, with only three students affected by route cuts.
- **SY26 Dashboard:** Emily Hurst presented the SY26 dashboard with updates on enrollment, staffing, and academics. Enrollment is below internal goals, as the team is prioritizing smaller class sizes. Efforts are underway to strengthen recruitment through outreach, family events, and a new referral campaign, especially given the new process for “single best offer.” There are currently two staff vacancies. The team is also reviewing Fall MAP testing data to guide instruction, with the goal of maintaining or improving student performance compared to last year.
- **PSSA Data:** Elyssa Yuen presented on the PSSA results in ELA and Math, reviewing trends by grade level and comparing them to last year. The school’s early shift to computer-based testing has positioned it ahead of state requirements. The school team is focusing on coaching, adding academic supports, and early preparation to help improve results in the spring.
- **Federal Funding**
 - Emily Hurst shared context with the board on the ongoing Pennsylvania state budget impasse (119 days late on passing a budget) and the federal shutdown, which has major implications for CSP and 21st Century grant funding, as well as impacting families we serve.

- Board Members discussed how they can support the community during this time, especially in relation to SNAP benefits ending for Pennsylvanians in November.
- Review of Finance Report
 - The finance committee met in September and October. The audit is on track for completion in December with no major concerns. Enrollment continues to impact the budget, which is currently trending toward break-even.

III. Board Reports & Actions

- Approval Finance Report (Schedule B)
 - Hedra Packman made a motion to approve the Finance Report (Schedule B). Keli McLoyd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of New Board Member (Parent Rep) (Schedule C)
 - Daniel Bell made a motion to approve the new Board Member, Maya Mapp (Schedule C) to serve as the Parent Representative to the Board. Keli McLoyd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of SY26 Updated Enrollment Policy (Schedule D)
 - Keli McLoyd made a motion to approve the SY26 Updated Enrollment Policy (Schedule D). Hedra Packman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of Revised SY26 Board Meeting Calendar (Schedule E)
 - Keli McLoyd made a motion to approve the Revised SY26 Board Meeting Calendar (Schedule E). Hedra Packman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of SY26 Related Services Contract – MedX Temp Agency (Schedule F)
 - Hedra Packman made a motion to approve the SY26 Related Services Contract – MedX Temp Agency (Schedule F). Daniel Bell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of SY26 Security Contract – Cardinal Point (Schedule G)
 - Klissa Thomas made a motion to approve the SY26 Security Contract – Cardinal Point (Schedule G). Keli McLoyd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of SY26 Substitutes Contract – Kokua Education (Schedule H)

- Daniel Bell made a motion to approve the SY26 Substitutes Contract – Kokua Education (Schedule H). Hedra Packman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of SY26 Related Services Contract – School for the Deaf (Schedule I)
 - Keli McLoyd made a motion to approve the SY26 Related Services Contract – School for the Deaf (Schedule I). Daniel Bell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of SY26 Related Services Contract – Creative Minds Therapy, LLC (Schedule J)
 - Hedra Packman made a motion to approve the Approval of SY26 Related Services Contract – Creative Minds Therapy, LLC (Schedule J). Daniel Bell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of SY26 Related Services Contract – Boys and Girls Club (Schedule K)
 - Klissa Thomas made a motion to approve the SY26 Related Services Contract – Boys and Girls Club (Schedule K). Keli McLoyd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of SY26 Related Services Contract – Philadelphia Youth Basketball (Schedule L)
 - Klissa Thomas made a motion to approve the SY26 Related Services Contract – Philadelphia Youth Basketball (Schedule L). Keli McLoyd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

None.

V. Closing and Adjournment

Klissa Thomas adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.