

Philadelphia Hebrew Public (PHPCS) Board of Trustees Meeting

December 8, 2025

5:30 pm

Location: Virtually via Zoom

Minutes

Trustees Present

Trustees Not Present

Hedra Packman	Keli McLoyd
Klissa Thomas	
Daniel Bell	
Katy Tipson	
Maya Mapp	

Also Present

Elyssa Yuen, PHPCS, Head of School

Emily Hurst, Chief Strategy & Talent Officer, Hebrew Public

Lauren Murphy, Director of External Relations, Hebrew Public

Sam Levine, PHPCS, Certification Navigator

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

- Klissa Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm. Katy Tipson made a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting minutes. Dan Bell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Hedra Packman made a motion to approve the October 2025 meeting minutes. Katy Tipson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

II. Leadership & Board Reports (in presentation)

- Spotlight into Certification Navigation Program, which is supported by the William Penn Foundation: Sam Levine presented on the work of the certifications for teachers in PHPCS. The model includes three tiers of support with differing levels of commitment; teachers are currently engaged across all tiers, with several preparing to apply through partner programs this spring.

PHPCS is partnering with five different programs: Eastern University, Drexel University, Chestnut Hill College, Point Park University, and College Unbound. Ongoing learning continues around what supports are most effective for teachers, with study sessions, check-ins, and personal connections emerging as key components; the initiative is expected to strengthen retention.

- Programmatic Updates: Elyssa Yuen shared that the school launched its second RiSE program (Kindergarten low-incidence room) with cross-training support, and welcomed a new Music Teacher and Restorative Practices Coordinator
- Comparative PSSA Data: Following last month's review of PSSAs, Elyssa Yuen presented on the comparative PSSA results from neighboring schools. The comparative data came from schools similar to ours, and therefore, the results were not surprising to us. PHPCS outperformed or met three of the nine comparative schools. There has been a lot of reflection around testing practices and preparing students with mock testing.
- Emily Hurst presented an enrollment update for SY26 and SY27, noting that numbers remain below internal goals; the team reviewed the shift to ranked-choice admissions, current application trends, and opportunities to improve rankings before the lottery. The enrollment strategy includes increased marketing and outreach, targeted family events, a new referral campaign, and analysis of when to issue offers to strengthen recruitment efforts.
- Federal Funding: Emily Hurst shared context with the board on the Pennsylvania state budget, which had a four-month delay, but finally passed in November. The federal budget ended after 43 days, and shifts from DOE to the Department of Labor is still unclear in its impact.
- Network Evaluation: Emily Hurst shared context for the evaluation, which will shift to a summer start to allow for stronger feedback from the school and board on network services. Each department at the network self-assessed, and then Elyssa and her team reviewed and provided their ratings. The board will be meeting in Executive Session to complete this work.

III. Board Reports & Actions

- Approval Finance Report (Schedule B)

- o Dan Bell made a motion to approve the Finance Report (Schedule B). Hedra Packman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of 24-25 Financial Audit (Schedule C)
 - o Katy Tipson made a motion to approve the 24-25 Financial Audit (Schedule C). Maya Mapp seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Approval of Eastern University MOU (Schedule D)
 - o Maya Mapp made a motion to approve the Eastern University MOU (Schedule D). Dan Bell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

None.

V. Executive Session

Board convened in executive session to complete the annual charter management evaluation of Hebrew Public per the terms of the management agreement.

VI. Closing and Adjournment

Klissa Thomas adjourned the meeting at 7:05 pm.