



AGAMIM BOARD MEETING AGENDA: FEBRUARY 26, 2024

Agamim Classical Academy, 5300 France Ave. S., Edina, MN, 55410, Room 308 **5:00-7:00 PM**

Agamim Mission Statement:

Cultivate wise, grateful, and virtuous students dedicated to the pursuit of truth, beauty, and goodness for themselves and for our country.

Agamim Vision Statement

Strengthening the heart of our nation, one wise and virtuous scholar at a time.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- I. ROLL CALL:** *All board members were present with the exception of Mr. Peterson.*
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III. CONFLICT CHECK:** *No conflicts were presented*
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** *All board members approved*
 - a) Approval of Current Meeting Agenda
- V. CONSENT AGENDA** *All board members approved*
 - a) Approval of January Meeting Minutes
 - b) Approval of Committee Reports (Executive, Finance, Governance, Policy, Safety & Wellness Taskforce)
- VI. AGAMIM AMBASSADOR MOMENTS**
 - a) *Highly Qualified Charter School Update We need this grant in order to get a 9-12 approval. MDE changed the requirements to obtain this. Wendy from NEO attended the mtg that shared the new criteria. Ms. Morton sent relevant/required test data and hope that MDE has what it needs for this grant, but we haven't heard back from MDE since Ms. Morton sent the data.*
 - b) *Hebrew Public Conference in D.C. Ms. Morton and Mr. Rehwaldt attended this conference. Next year we will be hosting this conference. We're the only one of 18 schools in the Hebrew Public Schools that is classical, which is one aspect we'll present on. We'll hope to potentially get additional funding for more trips for our 8th grade group to Israel.*
 - Donor meeting in NYC in April
- VII. FINANCE REPORT (Treasurer, BKDV)**
 - a) *Monthly Finance and Cash Flow Review: Notably, we won't need to spend any more in lease payments this year and we should have Lease Aid coming in so we'll be in a much better financial position in the coming months. Utilities are a bit higher than average given that we paid two months at a time in this particular month. In the food service area, there continues to be need for review in this area, primarily how many meals we're purchasing vs. how many for which we're reimbursed. The employee benefits line is at 102% halfway through the year, something the outside accounting firm will need to put a focus on before the next mtg. In the Contracted Services, there's a significant jump in the "Other" category in that we budgeted \$5K and we're at \$20K; that's a result of the Bellwether cost that we didn't know the cost of at the time of making the budget.*
 - b) *Bremer Update; Excess cash above and beyond operations is sitting in the money market account earning interest.*
 - c) *Lease Aid Update: We should have Lease Aid coming in the coming months.*
 - d) *Approve Report (*Action Item) Sharon motioned to approve the Finance Report; Menzies seconded. Motion carried.*
- VIII. GOVERNANCE REPORT (Chair)**

BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Alyssa Bryan, Chair

Parent Member, Term Expires 6/2024

alyssa@agamim.org

Ms. Keri Grafing, Vice Chair

Parent Member, Term Expires 6/2024

Mr. Andrew Weig, Treasurer

Parent Member, Term Expires 6/2026

Ms. Libby Barrios

Community Member, Term Expires 6/2025

Ms. Rhiannon Beckendorf

Parent Member, Term Expires 6/2026

Mr. David McCarthy

Teacher Member, MN File Folder #505403,

Term Expires 6/2025

Mr. Lucas Menzies

Teacher Member, MN File Folder #499905,

Term Expires 6/2025

Mr. Craig Petersen

Parent Member, Term Expires 6/2024

Mr. Ilan Sharon

Community Member, Term Expires 6/2026

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Miranda Morton

mmorton@agamim.org

CHARTER AUTHORIZER

**Novation Education Opportunities
(NEO)**

Executive.director.neo@gmail.com

SCHOOL CONTACT

info@agamim.org

952-856-2531



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- a) Board Elections—Current Nominations: *We have elections in April. Teachers, parents/guardians, and staff are able to vote for candidates.*
 - New Member Training: *We'll do training in mid-June for new board members; we'll provide training on legal/compliance, charter basics, personnel, culture, strategic plan, calendar, tech (email and Sharepoint). Training will be 1-2 hours long. We also have an info session for all candidates who are running for the board, which will also be available in a packet summary.*
- b) Policies—First Reading
 - 900: Parent Engagement: *Ms. Morton removed the date from the policy after MDE noted that it was dated 2019. That was the only change made. This policy is used in the Title I meeting. Parents are required to attend this meeting if children are receiving Title I funding.*Second Reading
 - 526: Violence Prevention: *Mr. McCarthy motioned for approval; Ms. Grafing seconded. Motion carried.*
 - 408: Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School Employees: *Ms. Grafing motioned for approval; Ms. Beckendorf seconded. Motion carried.*
- c) Facility and Lease Update: *Add glass doors to each side of church areas for badging in. We are reviewing health and safety requirements with the lessor. We are waiting on cameras to be installed for the playground and the gym. We will be installing two swings for our playground and have made sure they're not too close to any power lines.*
- d) Student/Family Handbook Draft Review #2: *Various revisions were proposed to clarify parts of the handbook, including the activities section, the fees section, information about Infinite Campus, and some minor typos.*
- e) Executive Director Performance Standards Mid-Year Check-In
- f) **TRAINING LINK:** [Mncharterboard.com](https://m charterboard.com) is the board of directors training site from NEO

IX. ADMINISTRATION REPORT (Executive Director)

- a) Enrollment Update (Strategic Priority #6)
 - Current Year
 - Middle School Update: *Middle School is our youngest program and needs more investment. The group that seems to be most frustrated are families who have lots of school options or who have been with us a long time. It's the hardest group to hire; we've put more investment into recruiting for this level. Teach for America, for example, is one of the recruiting areas we'll be looking at. What could it look like to have a group of colleges who have an affinity for what we're doing at which we could actively recruit. We've also discussed using alma mater a lot more to try to recruit. We're working on person-to-person relationships that we can hopefully cultivate. As far as development and retention is concerned, steps being taken include Stay Interviews with each teacher and staff member, the results of which will be shared with the Board in the future, looking into a coach for middle school and other possible support aspects. Board members who are/were teachers confirmed that a good coach would be very helpful – as helpful (and sometimes more helpful) as support resources.*
 - Next Year
 - Lottery Update
 - Events & Activity – *See Board packet for information*
 - Kinder Event
 - Applicant Management
 - Intent to Return in early March
- b) Talent Update (Strategic Goal/Need Area) – *See Board packet for information*
 - Stay conversations and intent to return *Ms. Morton is hoping to do Stay conversations each year, hopefully in December next year (as opposed to February this year). Ms. Grafing asked Ms. Morton to share out the results of the Stay conversations.*
 - Current and upcoming events
 - Postings/Needs
 - Specialists
- c) Great Minnesota Schools (GMS) – *See Board packet for information*
 - National Learning Walk in March
 - Will attend our May Board Meeting
- d) Assessment—Winter MAPS Testing Results
- e) Safety Practices Update
 - I Love U Guys Conference in April in Duluth
 - Safe and Healthy Schools Updates
 - Technology Update



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- Alert Systems Update
- f) Charter Expansion Update
- g) Highly Qualified Status – *See Board packet for detailed information*
 - Next Steps – Support needed
- h) Bellwether
 - Strategic Plan Update
 - Timeline completed
 - “Zero year” work
 - Presentation Schedule: March/April with GMS, May with Agamim Board

X. PARENT CHAMPIONS REPORT (APC President) *No report was provided*

XI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: *Ms. Hauge presented the legislative update for us. MDE presented on two things recently: MN might prohibit charter schools from contracting with Charter Managed Organizations, which is what Hebrew Public is. We are not contracted with Hebrew Public; we are affiliated with them so this is a non-issue. She will continue to watch the Procurement Policy where the charter must provide a policy for how they use state funds for how they make purchases. We already have one of those policies, but it will depend on what they call state funds. We receive a Gen Ed pot of money but if they put limitations on how we get payment per head of kids, it might be too administratively burdensome for us to deal with. We will keep an eye on this one.*

- a) Charter School Day at the Capitol, March 13 *Ms. Bryan and Mr. McCarthy will represent Agamim at the Capitol*

XII. ACTION ITEMS

- a) Approve policies
- b) Approve finances

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

***Public Comment at Meetings.** A minimum of fifteen (15) minutes shall be reserved at each regular meeting for comments and requests for business to be brought before the Board by parents/legal guardians of students enrolled in the School, employees of the School, students enrolled in the School, and interested community members. The Board Chair may reasonably limit individual speaking times. The Board does not respond to Public Comment.*

- a) NEO
- b) Members of the Public – *No comments were made by the public*

XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Next Board Meeting: March 25, 2024

XV. MOTION TO ADJOURN *Grafing motioned to adjourn; Mr. Menzies seconded. Motion carried.*

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES	
<u>Top Three Priorities for Long-Term Goals</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic Growth (75% proficiency) ▪ 5-Year Re-Chartering (NEO) ▪ 20% Fund Balance Minimum 	<u>To Enable</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ K-12 Charter (NEO) ▪ Second Site Allowance (MDE) ▪ Permanent Home, Expansion ▪ Invest in high talent staff