

February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017

MEMO to MPS Board

As the nominating committee, we have held a meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup> to consider some preliminary candidates for board appointment. At the meeting, nominating committee has recommended two candidates for appointing to the board. After that, we lost Dr Korkmaz as he had to move out of state. This caused an immediate opening in the board to be filled.

Nominating committee recommends that MPS considers a well-known community/education activist Rabbi Haim Dov Beliak for the immediate open seat. His resume is attached.

We still plan to add 2 more board members to enrich the participation from the community, with the focuses of Carson (MSA 3) and San Fernando Valley Area (MSA 1-2).

For these two seats, we would take some time to meet and interview the candidates in person, have them visit at least one school (ideally the one they would be representing) and possibly invite them to join a few committee meetings first for the board to make a better assessment of their fit and dedication, after which the board could consider full appointment to the board.

Thank you!

Nominating Committee:  
Umit Yapanel  
Salih Dikbas

# Rabbi Haim Dov Beliak (/)

## Who I Am

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I have devoted myself to the revival and flourishing of congregations around the world, most recently Beit Polska, the umbrella organization of ten Progressive communities that grew out of Beit Warszawa in post-Communist Poland. In America, we are supported by Friends of Jewish Renewal in Poland ([www.FriendsofJewishRenewal.org](http://www.FriendsofJewishRenewal.org) (<http://www.JewishRenewalInPoland.org>)) and the World/European for Progressive Judaism.



This year I am leading my third “Insiders” trip to Poland June 22 to July 8. (For more information about the trip and preparatory sessions, click here (</Events/JuneTrip>)).

My intensified engagement with out-of-way congregations began when I travelled to a community founded in the 1640s in Parimaribo, Suriname. Plans are afoot for a trip to Suriname, Curacao and Cuba in January 2017.

For the last four years, I have served as spiritual counselor for a Jewish-inspired palliative and hospice center, Skirball Hospice (<http://http://www.skirballhospice.org/>). My work focuses on offering comfort and insight to people. I also

frequently help patients develop life summary videos and ethical wills. The Skirball work is spiritually rewarding engagement.

Currently, I am assisting Rabbi Michael Roth in an experiment to revive Congregation Beth Ohr in Studio City. I am joined by Rabbi Robin Podolsky and Dr. Muriel Dance. We are having a ball.

Earlier, I served for 19 years as Chaplain and Hillel Rabbi for The Claremont Colleges. I received my smicha (ordination) from Hebrew Union College specializing in Cairo Genizah documents in Judeo-Arabic. I have studied the history of the Holocaust at Hebrew University in Jerusalem and also Higher Education at The Claremont Graduate University. From 1988 to 1990 I worked as a Mandel Jerusalem Fellow. I did my undergraduate work at Occidental College. I am the founder and spiritual leader of the Mifgash (HaMifgash), a gathering of adult learners who pursue Jewish learning and seek to apply it to the pressing issues of the day.

You'll find a special section here (</Lectures>) with lecture and multimedia topics. I would enjoy an invitation from your community to teach and engage with your members. I hope you will take a moment to learn about potential topics for your synagogue, university class, or vacation learning community.

Please call me at 310-592-8960 (tel:310-592-8960) or email me (</Home/Contact>).

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Umit Yapanel &lt;uyapanel@gmail.com&gt;

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## Educational background

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**Haim Beliak** <haimbeliak@gmail.com>  
To: Umit Yapanel <uyapanel@gmail.com>

Mon, Feb 6, 2017 at 1:41 PM

Dear Umit,

From 1988 to 1994, I was engaged in working on various educational activities. From 1988 to 1990, I served as a Jerusalem Fellow and studied in the education department of Hebrew University In Jerusalem.

The Fellows program focused educational efforts to develop Jewish educational ventures in North America, South America, and Europe. A key part of my work in Poland relates to these efforts.

My interest focused on curriculum development that addressed multi-culturalism; the development of human capital, and school cultures.

From 1990 to 1994, I was enrolled the Claremont Graduate University's Ph.d. program in Higher Education Administration. I worked closely with Drs. Daryl Smith, Antonia Darder, and Jack Schuster I completed all my course work and qualifying exams (feminist theory, high educational administration, educational sociology, and philosophy of education.) In the end, I elected not to write a thesis but these years of educational education are a key part of my background in all my subsequent work.

I hope this helps to give people an understanding of my background. I am honored to be nominated to the board of Magnolia Schools.

Warm regards,

Haim

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Rabbi Haim Dov Beliak  
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[Upcoming "Insiders Tour of Poland" for 2017 details to follow. View successfully concluded 2016 trip: http://www.ayelet.com/Beliak2016.aspx](#)

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Congregation Beth Ohr in Studio City

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Board Agenda Item #	Agenda # IV A
Date:	February 9, 2017
To:	Magnolia Board of Directors
From:	Alfredo Rubalcava, Chief External Officer
Staff Lead:	Alfredo Rubalcava, Chief External Officer
RE:	Potential Board Members

Proposed Board Recommendation

No action required at this time.

Background

On January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 during the Regular MPS Board Meeting, the board directed staff to conduct a search of potential Board members that reside in the San Fernando Valley and Carson areas. The attached list has been compiled of potential candidates, these candidates have not been asked to join the board but if directed, MPS staff and/or board members can meet with them to discuss. Also, MPS staff has created a link on the organizations website, where interested individuals can complete the recruitment application and staff is notified immediately of their interest.

Budget Implications

None

How Does This Action Relate/Affect/Benefit All MSAs?

The MPS board is always striving on diversifying and strengthening our governance structure. Thus, recruiting board members that are able to speak on behalf of the students, families and the communities we serve is important to the organization and to all of our schools. By obtaining input from diverse board members, MPS is able to more successfully address the needs of all groups.

Name of Staff Originator:

Alfredo Rubalcava, Chief External Officer

Attachments

Potential Board Members Candidate List

**Potential Board Members**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Profession/Affiliation</b>	<b>County/City</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Why Interesting</b>
Seth Ronquillo	Alumni and Community Member	San Fernando Valley	M	MSA-1 Reseda Alumni, UCLA graduate and community advocate.
Lourdes Gonzalez	Parent and Community Member	San Fernando Valley	F	Parent of two Magnolia students and community advocate.
Lindy Lara	Parent and Community Member	San Fernando Valley	F	Parent of MSA-1 student and community advocate.
Sandy Covarrubias	Parent and Community Member	San Fernando Valley	F	Parent of MSA-2 student and community advocate.
Nora Pineda	Parent and Community Member	San Fernando Valley	F	Parent of MSA-2 student and community advocate.
Jawane Hilton	Community Member	Carson	M	Pastor and community advocate.
Shelley Yebisu	Parent and Community Member	Carson	F	Parent of MSA-3 student and community advocate.