



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Hebrew College Announces Sale of Newton Centre Campus**

**Will Rededicate Resources to Educational Programs and People**

**Newton Centre, MA – August 17, 2018.** As Hebrew College nears its 100<sup>th</sup> year, it continues to create opportunities for innovation, ensuring that the College's centennial anniversary will mark the beginning of another century of excellence in Jewish learning and leadership. In another transformative transaction in the College's distinguished history, the Hebrew College Board of Trustees yesterday finalized an agreement to sell the College's Newton Centre campus. The agreement allows Hebrew College to remain in its current location for several years under favorable terms.

"Hebrew College is uniquely positioned as a leader in pluralistic Jewish education, and we are committed to meeting our learning community's evolving needs with responsibility and creativity," said Hebrew College President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld. "This transaction lays a strong foundation for future growth, and we are tremendously excited for the opportunities that lie ahead."

Andy Offit, Chair of the Hebrew College Board of Trustees, commented, "In addition to reducing operating costs, this transaction will allow Hebrew College to be debt-free for the first time since the move to this campus more than 17 years ago. This will afford us the ability to rededicate precious resources to expanding our educational programs and investing in the people who truly make Hebrew College what it is."

The College's leaders determined that the sale of Hebrew College's property in Newton Centre is a smart strategic decision that will allow for greater investment in critical areas that advance the College's mission even further. Highlights of the transaction include:

- The College will be debt-free upon completion of the transaction
- The transaction provides an opportunity to invest in people and programs, and assures the College's sustainability
- The agreement allows Hebrew College to remain in its current location for several years, under favorable terms

Hebrew College has made great strides in realizing its mission of promoting excellence in Jewish learning and leadership, achieving record enrollment levels in recent years across multiple programs. At the same time, the College faces a variety of shifting dynamics, both locally and in the broader community. Prominent among these is the recent sale and relocation of Andover Newton Theological School, with whom Hebrew College shared its hilltop in Newton Centre. This next phase presents new opportunities for the College to build and strengthen partnerships with other institutions and increase engagement with Greater Boston's vibrant Jewish community.

Further adding to the positive outcomes, the purchaser of the property has committed that, when Hebrew College moves to a new home, the building will continue to serve an educational mission.

"This is an important step in assuring the fiscal stability of Hebrew College as a vibrant partner in supporting the Jewish future of our community," said Rabbi Marc Baker, President and CEO of CJP. "The resources gained through the sale will help support our collective pursuit of a highly engaged and educated Jewish community."

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#### **About Hebrew College**

Hebrew College, founded in 1921, promotes excellence in Jewish learning and leadership within a pluralistic environment of open inquiry, intellectual rigor, personal engagement and spiritual creativity. Its programs include a Rabbinical School, a School of Jewish Music, a School of Jewish Education, and graduate degrees and courses in Jewish studies; community education for adult learners; and a supplemental Hebrew high school and middle school. For more information, visit [www.hebrewcollege.edu](http://www.hebrewcollege.edu).