



# The Renaissance

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## Charter School 2

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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**APPROVED**

[September 27, 2023]

The Renaissance Charter School 2

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting convened at: 11:04 a.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – 3 minutes
2. Roll Call – 2 minutes
  - a. Members present: Monte Joffe, Liz Perez, Chester Hicks, Victor Motta, Leopolda Silvera
  - b. Members absent: Rachel Mandel
  - c. Non-members present: Stacey Gauthier, Everett Boyd, Daniel Fanelli, Lisa Mu, Taryn Hyson, Luisa Reyes, Omar Martinez, Kathleen Pineda, Maria Gutierrez, Kate Chan, Ben Troy, Iovanna Gutierrez, Gloria Vintimilla, Jen Cianchino
3. Approval of Last Month's Minutes – 5 minutes
  - a. July and August minutes approved by acclamation
4. Review of Safety Plans – 10 minutes
  - a. Everett - sent plan to board members.
  - b. New positions designated, otherwise things remain the same as last year.
  - c. Because this is a public-facing plan, some sensitive information has not been included in terms of emergency procedures and protocols. We report this to the State Education Department.
  - d. Need to follow up throughout the year for continual review and updates.
  - e. Grants allow for expert trainings--e.g. reunification after a crisis event, crisis communication management, drills, etc. Lockdown drills, COVID protocols. If there is an interest, stakeholders should reach out to Maria if they would like to attend or want to propose a workshop.
  - f. Plan has multiple levels with routes, protocols, maps, alternate sites.
  - g. Plan approved by acclamation.
5. School Management Team Report – 10 minutes
  - a. Eventful opening day September 5--welcomed new 9th grade and expanded enrollment. Thank you to the entire school community.

- b. Authorized enrollment 595, at 99% capacity.
  - c. Additional professional development and support--management team supporting new teachers
  - d. Open positions: Mandarin (lower school), ELL (lower school). Actively looking to fill positions.
  - e. Busing concerns--routes, pick-up and drop-off. Staff worked hard on addressing all issues with the Office of Pupil Transportation. Thank you to parents for your understanding and patience regarding these issues, many of which we don't have control over.
  - f. Several meetings with parents--Everett reviewed minutes from recent PA meeting, and he was able to discuss those points with parent consultations. Issues with condition of street and neighborhood, and concerns about plant growth over LIRR fence. He has sent a communication about some of the outreach he's been doing with Dwayne Andrews from Patrick Jenkins Associates. Everett, Dwayne and Stacey met last week to discuss including communication to elected officials and community partners. Meeting with Assemblymember Steven Raga scheduled for Wednesday, October 25.
  - g. Stacey: excited that Renaissance and Renaissance 2 are part of a large literacy consortium. Only a few of these grants disbursed in the U.S. Will soon be able to roll out benefits of being part of this grant.
  - h. Thank you to parent coordinators at Ren and Ren2 and Meredith Hinshaw, a series of parent workshops around student safety, student support, and mental health. Be on the lookout for flyers about these.
6. Board Members' New Business – 10 minutes
- a. Stacey--Discussion of Collaborative School Governance Committee, who will be presenting at the Renaissance board meeting at 12 p.m.
  - b. Monte--School Management Team review. Monte received the first documents from the team, hasn't read them yet but will this week. At Renaissance, principal review centering around renewal process and test scores. We will be talking more about this in the months ahead.
  - c. Stacey--(Individually 3-8 Math and ELA were distributed to families, still officially embargoed). Aggregate scores may not be discussed yet; no comparison data available yet (with district and city). Ren2 has no prior testing to compare to since last year was the first year of 3rd grade. Officially this year's data should not be compared to last year, since the test constructs were different. At Ren1, we have to disaggregate the data, but we don't have that information yet, and even if we do it internally, we are not allowed to share. If parents have questions about individual student test scores, they should reach out to the teachers.
7. Public Speaking
- a. Parent question about bylaws for Parent Association - Everett answered by saying the bylaws should have been shared, that they reflect what the parents want, and to let him know if they haven't seen them yet.
  - b. Parent question: Renaissance (1) website has more information for parents about Board of Trustees, with agenda links and bylaws posted. On Ren2 BOT page, that information has not been linked.\* Would be nice to have bios for the board members posted on the website. On invites to BOT meetings--agenda should be put in.
  - c. Stacey will reach out to Meredith Hinshaw (Communications Director)--we should have that up per our authorizer's requirements, and we will investigate where the links might be. The agenda and the minutes should go out as part of the invitation to the public.

- d. Clarification about where meetings are being held--both sites (Ren1 and Ren2) are public sites. Board members who are participating remotely must publish the address.

8. Adjournment of Public Meeting 11:51 a.m.

**\*ADDENDUM--after the meeting was formally adjourned but before 12 p.m., the Secretary of the Board looked at the website, and meeting/agenda information can be found at**

**<https://rencharters.org/trcs-elmhurst/board-calendar-agendas-minutes/> This link was inserted in the chat, but many attendees had already left the Zoom, so it is being included here as a follow-up to the discussion.**