



The Renaissance

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Charter School 2

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April 15, 2026

The Renaissance Charter School 2

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting convened at: 10:04 a.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – 1 minute
 - a. Congratulations for the community fair!
2. Roll Call – 2 minutes
 - a. Board Members Present: Monte Joffe, Victor Motta, Liz Perez, Chester Hicks, Leopolda Silvera
 - b. Board Members Absent: Rachel Mandel
 - c. Others present: Rashid Johnson, Stacey Gauthier, Anahi Rafael
3. Finance Committee report
 - a. Reviewed overall budget: stable financial position
 - i. Enrollment impacts revenue, particularly gen ed vs. special education. Impacted by enrollment gap--still at 97% enrollment (authorizer does not want us to go below 85%)
 - ii. Addressing staffing issues
 - iii. Confidence in financial situation
 - iv. Getting a bump in special education of approximately 1200 per student in 20_60% category and increases in foundation aid for special education funding
 - v. Discussion of turning over benefits to staff
 - vi. Do not have to look at issue of Tier VI pension, but we still need to be competitive with DOE schools and their benefits
 - b. Financial report approved by acclamation
4. Approval of Last Month's Minutes – 5 minutes
 - a. Approved by acclamation
5. School Management Team Report – 10 minutes
 - a. Rashid--good news
 - i. F and P: 12% year-to-year growth from 12/14 to 12/25
 - ii. MAP data: 6% growth in ELA from fall to spring, and 10% growth in math,

- SWD 6 and 11%, respectively
- iii. Regents growth from June to January in Algebra, Chemistry, Geometry
- iv. ANet growth for ELLs: 10% in ELA from fall to spring and 42 from fall to spring in math. SWD 7% and 39% respectively.
- v. Review of NWEA and ANet assessments
- b. Roughly 50% of our students in ELA and Math are not proficient. Using data to drive decisions in educational programming and curriculum.
- c. Student enrollment: 921 students (same as last month). Students have primarily left for relocation. Discussion of one student whose parent perceived there was a safety concern; school worked with the family, but they left anyway. Thank you to Leopolda, who spent hours working with the family.
- d. Hiring update: immediate needs are ICT science for MS and music teacher to replace teacher who resigned. Two new hires: social worker and ELL teacher. Harder to find replacement teachers at this stage of the school year who are willing to leave their current roles. Most candidates want to be considered for next school year. Stacey: Meeting tomorrow to talk about streamlining the process. Hired an HR assistant for Taryn. Have been pretty successful in hiring ELL teachers.
- e. Rensizzle:
 - i. HS - magical! Took place March 23-27. Standout success. 11 unique experiences with hands-on activities and project-based presentations. Culminated in 3rd annual Rensizzle carnival. Brought together the entire community.
 - ii. MS - will be June 1-5. Theme is "Imagination in Action," and will prioritize authentic exploration, and students will select experiences based on personal preferences.
 - iii. Little Sizzle will be April 27-May 1. Different themes per grade, e.g., K--Animal Habitats, 1--Food Around the World, Sensational World of Art, and Little Historians of the Big Apple.
- f. Summer school.
 - i. HS--teachers have been confirmed, families have been contacted for promotion in doubt meetings.
 - ii. MS--registration complete, 8 teachers confirmed
 - iii. ES--have all necessary teachers, using Lavinia curriculum for grades K-7
 - iv. K-12 summer school at Ren2. Four days of academics with "fun Fridays." Working with 82nd Street Academics. Working on setting up a garden on the roof of Ren2 with Monica. Dan coordinating committee across both schools to talk about summer school. Liz and Shannon connecting to teachers about special populations. Already 92% full. Looking at overenrolling because we know that some students don't attend.
 - v. Thank you to Bloomberg Philanthropies for funding the program! This year it will be managed financially through Ren2.
 - vi. Rashid shared the observation/coaching data. Feedback is about student outcomes; job-embedded professional development. Have completed over 550 observations (average 4 per teacher) via all teaching and learning SMT members. Terrence from Innovation has been supporting this in HS. Lori Langer Ramirez supporting both ELL instruction and world language.
 - vii. Stacey: Geography support being discussed for next year.
 - viii. Supporting teacher planning--Rashid and APs have been sitting down with some people and planning. Taking a close look at all of our curricula.
- g. Facilities: Gym floor has been redone--wasn't properly done in the first place. Shades installed in every classroom--for lockdowns or for testing/less distracting spaces. In the process of getting new signage with just room numbers. This weekend the stairwells are supposed to be repainted with more durable paint. Atrium: DOB approvals going OK; there will be a new conference room with three bathrooms and several offices. Probably

going to take place simultaneously with summer school; should not be disruptive (will have to work with Barone on timing).

- h. Shout out to Community Care Day. Open to the whole community and various organizations attended, other schools were there, a big mural project, staff across both schools.
 - i. Visit from Brandi (authorizer) May 13. Information has been requested; we will be planning our response. This will give us a sense of what they will be looking forward to in the next renewal. Half-day visit; she wants to visit classrooms. We have been asking our authorizers for a list of the policies we are expected to have so we can be in compliance, but we have never been given that information until after the fact, when we are cited for missing policies that should go on our website. E.g., policy that staff are allowed to have 32 hours of unpaid leave after they use their sick time; should that be posted?
 - j. Everett's nomination--we will be checking the portal about that approval.
 - k. Question about more rigorous renewal process with DOE--will the SED be the same?
 - i. Our authorizers are fair, but we were also very extremely proactive.
 - ii. Every visit by an authorizer should be considered an inspection visit.
 - iii. We know what we need to do a better job on--we should be able to answer every question with a plan for improvement.
 - l. Students from another charter school visited our HS Rensizzle.
6. Board Members' New Business – N/A
7. Public Speaking – N/A
8. Adjournment of Public Meeting 10:56 a.m