The Renaissance Charter School 2
45-20 83rd Street, Elmhurst, NY 11373
www.renaissancecharter.org • 917-242-3505 • info@rencharter2.org

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DRAFT

[September 16, 2026]

The Renaissance Charter School 2

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting convened at:

1. Chairperson's Message – 3 minutes

2. Roll Call – 2 minutes
   a. Board members present - Monte Joffee, Victor Motta, Liz Perez, Everett Boyd, Leopolda Silvera
   b. Board members absent - Chester Hicks, Rachel Mandel
   c. Others present

3. Approval of Last Month's Minutes – 5 minutes
   a. Approved by acclamation

4. Standing Committee Reports (if applicable) – N/A

5. School Management Team Report – 10 minutes
   a. Stacey - 95% enrollment, topped 1,000 students. Pretty crowded in our now fully K-12 building. Anticipated date for construction of new offices/conference room end of the month. Three staff bathrooms are a game-changer. Almost fully hired. Dean position is open, two art positions open, ELL position, and HS ELA position. Good news is we are trending toward finally coming under number of uncertified teachers. Teach for America hires--if they are certified, along with two other people, who are very close, we will be under that number. Stephanie promoted to Director of Special Populations to help Shannon, who will be turning compliance over to Stephanie, so she can have more time in the classroom. Jeremias has been promoted to Assistant Dean. He is a Renaissance alum.
   b. Working with great consultants this year, some returning: Terrence (supporting HS) doing new teacher focus group, looking at their needs. Also working with teachers who need extra support. Continuing to support HS AP. HS fully expanded, seniors applying to college, a lot going on in HS this year. Will be siloing the different needs of teachers

(e.g., lesson planning, classroom management, etc.)

c. Cristine, who retired from Ren1, is doing K-8 social studies support with project-based learning.
d. Ren2 students accepted into Democracy Institute. Will see interesting and creative capstone projects across all grades.
e. Tonight is curriculum night for K-12, parents should have gotten grade-level links; all teachers presenting together.
f. Had good PD week; not only informative with various trainings--Shannon did special ed and ELL training, had Collaborative in for ICT training. Matthew and Stacey discussed legal issues. Vinny did safety/student support presentation. Taryn did HR presentation. There was an ice cream truck and a coffee truck! Had a visit from Catherine (sp?) Zapata, came to give shout-out to staff. Staff around 163 people strong, not including contracted employees.
g. After-school program started on day 1. Now K-8. Shout out to new team at 82nd Street Academics. Program manager is a Renaissance graduate!
h. Leadership program in HS starting soon; new programs coming, College and Career Office to talk to us about the different placements. Vaughn College program for drone flying. LaGuardia with Gateway Math program to earn college math credits now.
i. Vaping issue--sensors go off frequently. Deans and advisory dealing with it; message home to parents. Sensors and cameras will help us find students, and there will be disciplinary consequences, but more importantly, it is terrible for their health.
j. Attendance: 300 students absent over 18 days last year. We do not want sick students in the building, but families are keeping students home for various reasons, including vacations. We can't help children learn if they are not in the building. We are having mental health counselors and social workers take on attendance cases. Also able to work with 82nd Street/Jesse, who has a program called reach. Used to work at Innovation HS with students who were chronic absentees. Very concerned about attendance and lateness situation; this will be a topic at Curriculum Night. 8:01 is the start of the day. If a student is late 10 minutes every day, they lose six instructional days over the year.
k. AI in schools, screen time. New rules and regulations from Chancellor. Students will no longer do Edgenuity during TRIP reading block, but we still want them to do it at home.
l. Homework: packets are going home with longer amount of time to complete the work. Students are in building from 7:30 to 6:30 sometimes; we want to make homework more manageable. Reading logs are important: have students do reading logs legitimately.
m. During PD week, wanted to bring focus to planning and co-planning. Discussed goal of being prepared for students to answer higher-order thinking questions, and being able to discuss them, and progress monitoring for that skill.
n. Summer School - wrapped up K-8 program at Ren2, joint program across both schools. Pre-assessment and post-assessment; saw increases in both ELA and Math. Gained proficiency in ELA by 25% and math by 20 %. Thank you to all of our teachers who participated, also office staff, admin and data support. HS students at Ren1 took Regents exams, and Ren2 students earned HS credit and also took Regents exams. Pass rate on Regents was lower than we would like. A number of factors contributed to that. One of the big issues was attendance; had strict policy--could not miss more than two classes in order to gain credit. Some remained in the class to try to take the Regents, but they were not well-prepared because they were absent. Kudos to scheduling team who scheduled courses. There will be after-school programs to earn credit and prepare for January Regents as well.
o. Students will be traveling to Japan via CCO office in April.
p. Discussion of credit recovery and timely graduation.
q. This is the last cohort that requires Regents exams in general public schools--we do not currently know whether that will apply to charters because we have Regents-related

goals. We have asked the question, and they have told us to send it to charter support.

r. Have started financial literacy piece per Portrait of a Graduate, also climate change, which is supposed to be introduced next year.
s. Students don't have college persistence, stay a semester or two. Need a workforce track along with a college track.

6. Board Members' New Business – 10 minutes

7. Public Speaking – TBD

8. Adjournment of Public Meeting 9:44 a.m.

9. Executive Session (if applicable)