

The Renaissance

35-59 81st Street, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

www.renaissancecharter.org • 718-803-0060 • 718-803-3785 (fax)

Charter School

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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JULY MEETING

June 25, 2019

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 1:00 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffee thanked all who attended the late Sandra Geyer's Memorial Service. Among the attendees were board members, founders of The Renaissance School, current and former faculty members, as well several of Sandy's former students. It was a fitting tribute to Ms. Geyer. Dr. Joffee attended the graduation exercises of TRCS Class of 2019, which was held in the morning of June 25, 2019, and commented that it was one of the best ever in his experience.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Attendance taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary
Present: Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Monte Joffee, Francine Smith, and Raymond Johnson
Absent: Margaret Martinez-DeLuca, Conor McCoy, and Rachel Mandel
4. Approval of the June 5, 2019 Minutes – The minutes were reviewed and approved by acclamation.
5. Final Development and school Partnership Report – Stacey Gauthier delivered the report, which was included in the board meeting packet. Additional to the report are Updates on Current Programs:
 - a. NYSED 2016-2-19 Dissemination Grant – Our partnership with Scholars Academy has been a successful one. Scholars Academy had a history of admitting mostly high achieving students, before our partnership. During the partnership, and in collaboration with our College and Career Office, Scholars Academy began to adopt many of the successful *“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”*

practices that TRCS has employed to promote the success and college-readiness of special education students and students who have been academically challenged. Their student population has seen a shift due to their acceptance of students with special needs and academic challenges, and their success with these students has become more evident.

- b. Political advocacy on behalf of TRCS has been bolstered by our membership in C3S, The Coalition of Community Charter Schools. Our advocacy will continue, to ensure that we receive our fair share of funding from The State and The City.
6. School Management Team Report – Stacey Gauthier delivered the report, which was included in the board meeting packet.
 - a. 2019-2020 Faculty Assignments – included in board meeting packet
 - b. General Business Announcements – included in board meeting packet
 - I. Letters from Ira Schwartz, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Accountability, NYSED and David Frank, Executive Director, Charter School Office, NYSED – TRCS has been designated as a Recognition School for SY 2017-2018 in recognition for being one of 562 high achieving schools in New York State, and one of 41 charter schools with this designation.
7. Vote to name TRS/TRCS founder Sandra Geyer an Honorary Board Member – The motion was approved by acclamation.
8. Board Members' New Business –
9.
 - a. Dr. Joffe asked for an update on the progress of TRCS 2.
 - i. Ms. Gauthier reported that the lease has been sent to SED for their review and we are awaiting BSA approval, after a hearing next week.
10. Public Speaking – None
11. Adjournment of Public Session - 1:48 p.m.
12. Executive Session –No session; reading of the confidential minutes waived until next meeting.

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Development Report to the Board of Trustees June 25, 2019

2018-2019 Grant Update

(See attached sheet for more information.)

• **Direct Appeals**

These include checks and online donations received in response to Summer, Angel Fund, Garden Appeals – all direct donations to the school.

- Angel Fund – The angel fund as of January 30, 2019 has a balance of \$3,871. This school year we have helped one HS student enroll in a weekend workshop series at FIT, 5 students to attend Nature’s Classroom, 1 student who needed help for her college acceptance deposit. Donations in any amount are always welcome.
- Giving Tuesday’s Technology Campaign was started to raise funds to purchase additional chromebooks desperately needed by all the grades. Staff laptops and desktop computers, media center desktop computers and printers, and classroom smart boards are all at the end of their useful lifetimes, and will need to be replaced as funds are available. To date we have raised \$6,413, (including \$4,000 from Phil and Carol Gersmehl.) In addition we received an unrestricted grant from the Bydale Foundation that we would like to apply to the Technology fund, in the amount of \$5,000. Along with the unrestricted donations to Friends of Renaissance and monthly deposits from online shopping sites that give a percentage to a charity of choice, it brings the total FOR has committed to technology to \$10,000.

• **Pending and successful grant applications:**

- Strebor Family Foundation – We received support for the Spring Drama production (“*The Explorer’s Club*”) of \$1,700.
- NYC Discretionary Funding – We have not heard anything from the city regarding our Capital application—again submitting the audio/visual upgrade for the auditorium, and more computer funding. We may hear something in October-November; the message traditionally comes to DOE principal emails; but we will start harassing our councilpersons (Moya and Dromm) if we don’t hear anything by late fall.
 - We are in the contract-registration phase for FY19 Discretionary member-item funding for TREA in the amount of \$7,500 (\$5,000 from Dromm and \$2,500 from Moya)—we still have not gotten the registered contract.
- We submitted the following applications:
 - Dreyfuss Foundation, for college and career leadership programs; and
 - Dollar Tree, for literacy support.
 - FEAST, TeenBattle Chef, Grow NYC, Budding Botanist, and American Farmland Trust have all given us small grants to support culinary

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

programming, and we have applied to the NYS Child Nutrition Program for fresh fruit and vegetable supports for our food program, roof-top garden improvements, healthy family cooking demonstrations, and student nutrition committee activities, thanks to Peggy's on-going work to expand the reach of our garden and food program.

TRCS 2 Support:

- NYSED CSP grant was successfully amended to add another planning year. To date we have received an allotment of \$122,945, allowing us to pay back Renaissance \$40,925 for expenses incurred.
- Walton Family Foundation Start Up Application – we submitted for \$350,000 in start-up funding, to cover smart boards, a green house for the roof-top and science lab materials.

• Update on Current Granted Programs:

- Farm to School – The grant covers the writing of a plan for the consortium of charter schools to implement a purchasing plan to provide locally-sourced produce and meats, and health and nutrition support for students and their families. The plan will be finished by early fall, and we will then apply for implementation funds.
- Advocacy for Conversion Charter School Contract Relief – After several years of untiring advocacy by Stacey, Ron Tabano, John York and our lobbyists, we have finally received 2 NYC DOE payments and the promised NYS funding toward contract relief for conversion charters schools. The advocacy continues, as there are no guarantees for future payments through the life of the contract.
- Federal E-Rate for FY 2019 – We received a funding confirmation for Internet reimbursement for our current provider GTT, and received a small amount of “Category 2” funds toward our ongoing maintenance contract with IKON. We are still waiting for funds from FY2017 (an appeal was filed to recoup reimbursement for invoices paid to our previous internet supplier, Century Link) and FY2018, so we live in hope.
- NYSED 2016-2019 Dissemination Grant to disseminate best practices around our College and Career Readiness program. We are in the final stages of wrapping up this grant, but the final meeting at the ELI offices at CSA made clear that this was the most successful of the dissemination grants in which we have participated. The college office report given at the previous board meeting detailed the work.
- DYCD Compass Explore – We have been offered a contract extension for our Summer Permaculture program –\$42,106. We have completed three very successful summer programs for 3rd-5th graders, and we are about to start up again on July 1.

In-Kind Grants and Donations

- DYCD SONYC grant received by 82SA for our middle-schooler after-school program, continues this year. The program has been aided considerably by the addition of Dan Fanelli as the Education Liaison, providing curricular ties to the after-school STEM activities, training 82SA teachers to lead the activities and following-up with teachers for additional curriculum ties and up-to-date homework assignments.
- CASA (NYC Council) after-school enrichment grant will go toward a media arts class for our 5th graders with Children's Museum of the Arts.

- Urban Advantage (STEM Education) and Bubble Foundation (Nutrition Education) have all continued in some form. Bubble does not provide direct service to students at this stage, but will provide PD, some parent demonstrations, in the case of Bubble, and supplies/trips for the school and families.

Partnerships

Due to our budget problems, the outside partnerships that we have to pay have been scaled back, but Renaissance continues to nurture outside community partnerships as a way to expand our influence beyond the school walls. We are renewing a partnership with the Carnegie Foundation, called “Link UP: The Orchestra Sings” with music teacher Katie Schmelzer and the 5th grade. We are hoping to hire back Nicole Pouliot to fill in more K-2 arts programming, and to replace CMA to work with our HS Global humanities program.

We will be meeting with the college office this week to talk about The Leadership Program’s partnerships for community involvement and skill-building for our students, and their proposals for next year’s in-house program.

Leadership Program Partners

- Engineering for Kids – 2 programming classes
- Global Kids – 1 leadership class
- Sadie Nash Young Women’s Leadership Project
- LAB Project: Learning About Business
- Tech Crew
- Stage Jazz Band
- Black Lives Matter, led by alumni Chelsea Reid

Friends of Renaissance

As noted above, we have committed to providing the bulk of our bank-account toward technology purchases. This year the focus of the board has been to support TRCS 2, by revising the incorporation papers to include the 2nd and all future Renaissance Charter Schools in our support. We have engaged with our insurers to make sure we are covered by D & O insurance and will be supporting TRCS 2 in the lease structure, known to you from other reports. We may have to create an additional board to fulfill that responsibility, but will keep you updated on those negotiations.

Other

Renaissance’s political advocacy efforts continue to be the most successful way of bringing money to the school. We will continue to work with the NYC Charter Center and Coalition for Independent Charter Schools (C3S) in the continuing fight to get our funding formula restored. C3S schools agreed to hire Patrick Jenkins & Associates to more directly advocate for the special needs of independent charters, as well as our continuing work for conversion charter school relief.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebekah Oakes, Director of Development and Partnerships

THE RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL

Grants Awarded 2018-2019

Direct Appeals:

Direct Funding Appeals – Unrestricted & Technology	\$11,088	
FOR Grant from other Direct Appeals	10,000	To Be Delivered later in the summer
Friends of Renaissance, Apple Bank Account	11,205	*as of 5/31/2019
Angel Fund (SAF) from 2017-2018	3,816	
Angel Fund collected 2018-2019	1,545	
PK-2 Art Fund collected for 2018-19	2,464	
DIRECT TOTAL	\$39,172	

Government/Corporate/Foundation Grants:

Conversion CS Advocacy – Contract Expenses	204,125	FY19 NYS Conversion CS Contract Relief
Conversion CS Advocacy – Contract Expenses	349,613	FY19 NYC Conversion CS Contract Relief
Conversion CS Advocacy – Contract Expenses	722,385	FY18 NYC Conversion CS Contract Relief
NYS Charter School Dissemination, 3 yrs: \$500K	176,782	College Bound
DYCD COMPASS Grant	42,106	Permaculture Program Summer-Summer18
DYCD NYC City Council Discretionary, Dromm/Moya	7,500	TREA
NYC Kids Rise	500	administrative costs
US E-Rate Internet Reimbursement:	17,733	FY17 Cable Internet reimbursement
Strebor Foundation	1,700	spring drama production
USDA 2018 Farm to School Planning Grant	50,000	Create plan for fresh food access
Grow to Learn - Grow NYC	2,000	Garden improvements
Budding Botanist	2,500	Garden Improvements
Bydale Foundation	5,000	Technology
American Farmland Trust	500	Local Juice Tasting
GRANT TOTAL	\$1,582,441	
TOTAL	\$1,611,613	

In-Kind Services Received 2017-2018

TASC/Discretionary - 82SA CBO After School	60,000	funding for 5th, 9th and 10th
SONYC DYCD - 82SA 6th-8th grade program	273,000	middle school after-school program
CASA After-School Programming (Dromm)	20,000	CMA for after-school
Urban Advantage		STEM services, trips, supplies (\$450)
FEAST (Nutrition & Cooking Classes for Families)	1,500	PD and Materials Support
Teen Battle Chef	1,800	Teen Battle Chef

The Renaissance Charter School
Teaching, Guidance, Paraprofessionals and Social Work Positions
Assignments for 2019-2020 School Year

- Pre-Kindergarten - **Flo**
- Kindergarten - **Rachel**
- First Grade – **Nicole D.**
- Second Grade - **Leah**
- Third Grade – **Elizabeth E.**
- Fourth Grade ELA, Fourth Grade Math ICT, Fourth Grade Science ICT, Fourth Grade Social Studies ICT - **Khin**
- 4th and 5th Grade Math Specialist, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Christina**
- 2nd - 5th Grade Interdisciplinary Science Specialist, Targeted Reading Intervention Program – **Maura C.**
- 4th, 5th, 6th Grade Social Studies' Specialist, Targeted Reading Intervention Program – **Pat O.**
- 5th Grade ELA, 6th Grade ELA ICT, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Bridget**
- 6th Grade ELA, 5th Grade ELA ICT, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Renay**
- 6th Grade Science, 5th Grade Science ICT, 8th Grade Math Support, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Andrea**
- 6th Grade Mathematics, 7th and 8th Grade Algebra - **Yianna**
- PK – 5th Spanish, 9th Grade Global Lab, MS/HS Spanish Support - **Dennis**
- K – 6th Literacy and Math Intervention Specialist, 5th Grade Math and 5th Grade Social Studies ICT, SETSS – **Lisa M.**
- K – 6th Literacy and Math Intervention Specialist, 4th Grade ELA ICT, SETSS, MLL/ELL Services - **John**
- K – 6th Literacy and Math Intervention Specialist, SETSS, MLL/ELL Services – **Daniela L.**
- 6th - 8th Grade Spanish, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Helen**

- 6th Grade Science ICT, 8th Grade Math ICT, HS Agriculture ICT, MS/HS Physical Education, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Raymond**
- 5th to 8th Grade Literacy Support, HS AP ELA, Targeted Reading Intervention Program, (*11th Grade ELA coverage*) - **Sandra**
- 7th Grade Science, HS Chemistry, HS AP Biology - **Yaacov**
- 7th - 8th Grade Math, 6th Grade Math ICT, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Ram**
- 7th Grade ELA / 8th Grade ELA ICT, Targeted Reading Intervention Program – **Vincent C.**
- 8th Grade ELA / 7th Grade ELA ICT, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Ariel**
- 9th & 10th Grade ELA, 12th Grade ELA ICT – **Nicole J.**
- 11th - 12th Grade ELA, 10th Grade ELA ICT - **Shahreen**
- 8th Grade Earth Science, HS AP Environmental Science, HS Chemistry ICT, Earth Science/Chemistry Extension - **Joanne**
- HS Physics, HS Living Environment ICT, 8th Grade Earth Science ICT, HS Science Elective – **Martine**
- HS Algebra 1 ICT, HS Geometry ICT, HS Algebra 2 ICT, HS Calculus - **Adrian**
- 7th Grade Social Studies, 8th Grade Social Studies ICT, 6th Grade Social Studies ICT, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Emily**
- 8th Grade Social Studies (US History Regents), 7th Grade Social Studies ICT, 9th & 10th Grade Social Studies ICT - **Pierre**
- HS Geometry, HS Pre-Calculus - **Erin**
- HS Algebra 1, HS Algebra 2, HS Pre-Calculus ICT, 7th Grade Math ICT - **Natalie**
- 9th and 10th Grade Global Studies, 9th Grade Global Lab, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Jose**
- 9th - 12th Grade Literacy / Math Skills / College Bound Program, College Bound Guidance, (*10th Grade ELA ICT coverage*) – **Maura M.**
- HS AP US History, HS AP World History, HS AP European History, 11th Grade US History ICT, 12th Grade Government/Economics ICT - **Jason**
- 11th Grade US History, 12th Grade Government/Economics, Targeted Reading Intervention Program - **Thandi**

- HS Living Environment, Agriculture, 7th Grade Science ICT, 7th Grade Science Support - **Riaad**
- HS Spanish (*two positions*) – **Marta and Lisjane**
- MS/HS PE / HS Health, Targeted Reading Intervention Program – **Vinny G.**
- PK -12th Grade Multi-Language Learners / English Language Learners - **James**
- 5th -12th Grade Art, 9th Grade Global Lab, HS Leadership – Art - **Robert**
- K-12th Grade Drama, Creative Movement, (*12th Grade ELA coverage*) - **Rebekah**
- PK-10th Grade Music (part-time) - **Katie**
- PK-12th Grade Certified School Social Worker – **Ali R.**
- HS College Bound Coordinator – **Ana**

Paraprofessionals:

Pre-Kindergarten – Daniela V.

Kindergarten – Priscila

1st Grade – Monique

TLC/Global Lab – Curtis and Lisa B.



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234
Office of P-12

Ira Schwartz, Assistant Commissioner
Office of Accountability
55 Hanson Place, Room 400
Brooklyn, New York 11217
Tel: (718) 722-2796 / Fax: (718) 722-4559

June 14, 2019

Dear Charter School Principal:

On behalf of Commissioner Elia and the Board of Regents, I write to congratulate you on having a school that has been designated as a Recognition School. Your school is among those in New York State that have high academic achievement, growth and graduation rate and have made progress during the 2017-18 school year.

Enclosed is a certificate that celebrates the success of your school in supporting educational excellence.

We applaud your efforts and look forward to your continued success in having all students achieve college and career-ready standards.

Should you have any questions and/or need additional information, please contact the Office of Accountability, at (718) 722-4553 or accountinfo@nysed.gov.

Sincerely,

Ira Schwartz

Enclosure

cc: MaryEllen Elia
Stephen Earley
David Frank
Lisa Long
Paulette Coppin

Stacey,

I hope all is well. We wanted to congratulate you, your students, and your team on being identified as one of the 562 high achieving and high progress schools across the State of New York, and one of the 41 charter schools, to be designated as a Recognition School (the full list of schools can be found [here](#)). We are so proud and can't wait to start on our new journey together with Renaissance 2.

Recognition Schools are identified as such because they are among the top performing under ESSA for performance, student growth and/or graduation rate; met or exceeded either the school or state measures of interim progress for English language arts and mathematics, rate of Chronic Absenteeism, and College, Career, and Civic Readiness; and met the federally required 95 percent participation rate in the English language arts and mathematics assessments.

We can't wait to see the great things happening at the Renaissance Charter School next academic year and beyond. Keep up the great work!

Sincerely,

David Frank and the NYSED Charter School Office

David M. Frank

Executive Director, Charter School Office

New York State Education Department

EB 5N Mezzanine

89 Washington Avenue

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Facing political headwinds, charter schools weigh a new identity

From: POLITICO States <states-alert@politico.com>
To: sgauthier@renaissancecharter.org
Subject: Facing political headwinds, charter schools weigh a new identity
Date: Jun 18, 2019 5:03 AM

Facing political headwinds, charter schools weigh a new identity

By Madina Touré

06/18/2019 05:00 AM EDT

Facing an existential crisis, shifting political winds and a series of public scandals, charter schools in New York are trying to hit the reset button.

An unfriendly mayor occupies City Hall and was recently given mayoral control of schools for the remainder of his term. Republicans who once controlled the state Senate and managed to win concessions for the alternative public schools have been relegated to minority party status. Democrats are moving a package of bills to curtail the expansion of charters in New York City.

For the charter "movement," the lack of powerful friends could not come at a worse time: a statewide cap on new charters is coming closer and closer to capacity. In New York City, the cap has already been met. And so far there is no indication it will be raised. Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who has pushed through cap increases in the past, recently indicated his support for doing it again, but the state Legislature seems unlikely to lift it before the end of the session.

"It is true that there has been a change in the power structure," said Success CEO Eva Moskowitz in an interview at Success Academy High School of the Liberal Arts in Midtown. "But I also think charter schools are just in a very different place and for those of us who've been doing this a very, very long time; it used to be a number of charter parents and supporters could fit into a telephone booth and in New York City, there are more than 110,000 children in charter schools."

Now, charters that have not been in the spotlight are looking to showcase the diversity of the sector as big names like Success and KIPP dominate the public's impression of charter schools. Their leaders and organizations are looking to demonstrate how they can improve results without the trench warfare.

James Merriman, CEO of the New York City Charter School Center, is pushing the argument that not all charters should be painted with the same brush.

"I think people don't see the full diversity of kinds of schools and leaders that the sector has always had and that diversity gets obscured," Merriman said.

A bad rap

Critics often accuse charters of not having to abide by the same rules as traditional public schools, dumping low-performing students while siphoning district resources. They also express concerns about an over-emphasis on punishment and charters being for-profit institutions, making money off of children and treating them like commodities.

David Bloomfield, professor of education at Brooklyn College and the CUNY Graduate Center said bad press around charter practices, along with some extra-curricular scandals have tarnished the sector's reputation.

"It's not clear that parents want the harsh discipline that charters are known for," he said, adding that when the sector was newly formed, it had a "clean slate for promises," but now, as it has matured, it "has some warts."

Success is perhaps the most prominent charter system in New York City, known for bare-knuckle political fights and big rallies.

But it's been plagued by a number of scandals, including New York Times reports on one of its schools keeping a "[got to go](#)" list of disruptive students; a [video](#) of a teacher at Success Academy Cobble Hill scolding one of her students after she was unable to answer a math problem correctly; and billionaire hedge fund manager Daniel Loeb [stepping](#)

down as chair of Success' board after controversial remarks about now-Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Richard Buery, one of de Blasio's most senior black officials at the time.

More recently, Success' first and only high school was plagued by a year of chaos and the state determined that Success and the city's Department of Education abused the civil rights of students with disabilities. The U.S. Department of Education recently found that Moskowitz and Success repeatedly flouted a student's privacy rights under federal law.

KIPP co-founder Mike Feinberg was also fired in February 2018 after a probe into allegations that he abused a student in the late 1990s. And last year, Families for Excellent Schools, a charter school advocacy group, closed after CEO Jeremiah Kittredge was fired following a probe into sexual harassment against a non-employee at a conference.

Both KIPP and Success have a track record for student achievement and the scandals are often the exception, not the rule. But the issues have fed into an ongoing narrative about charters and given critics the opportunity to pounce.

A new face?

With an overall lack of momentum for supporting charters in Albany and a hyperfocus on Moskowitz and Success, a critical question has come to the fore: How can the lesser-known charters get attention without being lumped in with better known brands like Success and KIPP?

"[Moskowitz] enormously helped the sector. She put the sector on the map but it puts everyone else in a lesser category," Bloomfield said. "But in that way, it makes it very difficult for others to change the message."

Eve Colavito, CEO of DREAM Charter School, an 11-year-old community-based charter school in Harlem said smaller independent charters have been around since the early days, alongside bigger networks like Achievement First and KIPP. These smaller schools, like the Renaissance Charter School and at the Bronx Charter School for the Arts not only helped build the sector, but some argue are more reflective of the communities they serve.

"I think it's important that politicians understand the complex reality of charter schools," Colavito said. "We are not one entity and we are not single-minded in the diversity of this sector. There are many of us who've been doing this work for many, many years."

Stacey Gauthier, principal of Renaissance, a pre-K through 12 charter in Jackson Heights, noted that she's a board member of the Coalition of Community Charter Schools, which she described as a grassroots coalition that has been around a while but doesn't have "lots in dollars."

"We definitely are like the little engine that could and we do a lot of grassroots work... [getting] on the ground, getting to know people, relationship-building and that's a big part of our focus," Gauthier said, noting that the movement has "a lot of new people in elected office that we need to tell our stories to."

She said that Success has offered some "really fantastic" professional development but noted there are certain approaches employed by various charters — not just Success — that she would not endorse, giving the examples of the "no excuses" approach and big political rallies.

Michael Catlyn, another board member who serves as the vice chair of the Brooklyn Charter School — the first charter approved by the city education department — said the school opened in 2000 and that there are no plans to open others. He said he would like to see different leaders and networks come together in the form of a coalition.

"We should all come together, pool our resources, get our things together and work together for the common good in strengthening, growing the charter sector," he said.

Buery, KIPP's chief of policy and public affairs, said it is important to show the range of voices in the movement as far as leaders, teachers and educators, giving examples such as Greek language schools, schools that emphasize black culture like The Ember Charter School in Brooklyn, Broome Street Academy Charter High School and the Children's Aid College Prep Charter School that he founded in the South Bronx.

David Kirkland, executive director of the New York University Metro Center, argues it's only natural leaders of color should represent charters seeking to serve communities of color.

"If we did have a charter school that had a face that came from those communities, that listened to and incorporated deeply the wisdoms, the desires, the needs of those communities and if the funding was detached from some larger economic enterprise that was divorced from or tethered to instruments that were oppressive to those communities, I think you could have a successful narrative for charter schools," he said.

Charter leaders of color say they've been around for a long time, though perhaps have not been given their due recognition. Miriam Raccah, Bronx Arts' executive director, said that she went to Albany with a group of black, Latino and Asian charter school leaders in March to meet with politicians who expressed surprise that there were so many leaders of color in the movement. Bronx Arts has applied to open an elementary school but can't proceed as a result of the current cap.

"I think the leaders of color are here," Raccah told POLITICO. "We all need to engage in this work of having conversations with politicians and ... we can't rely on letting Eva [Moskowitz] do all the heavy-lifting there. I think that's not fair for anyone. It's not fair to her. It's not fair to us. It's not fair to our families."

Raccah said only 10 percent of charter schools are led by people of color, while 90 percent of charter students are students of color.

Kalam Id-Din II, Ember's co-founder and managing partner, said there have always been "strong charter leaders of color" and argued that the concept of a new face is "not a useful paradigm."

"I think that we should be focused on making sure that we are lifting up models that are going to work for communities that want those models," Id-Din said.

Moskowitz said the media has focused disproportionately on Success to the detriment of other charter schools.

"The media has had this — not just fascination — almost obsession with Success and I agree, there is diversity in the movement of pedagogical design practices," she said.

She also disputed claims from critics that charters are a money-making enterprise, saying that most charters are not-for-profit, "so there's no profiting."

Headwinds remain, for now

Despite Cuomo saying the state should raise the cap, state Sen. John Liu, who heads the Senate's New York City education committee, told POLITICO it's not an "immediate priority."

But he said any debate should distinguish between "chain store charter schools" that set up shop everywhere and "homegrown charter" schools that emerge through a community-based organization or through a house of worship.

"There can and there should be a greater understanding and appreciation of these differences," Liu continued. "And a better, a greater understanding and appreciation of these differences, which could possibly lead to a different regulatory treatment and resource allocation."

Still, he said if Cuomo wants to raise the cap, he has to advocate for more transparency and accountability for the schools.

Kim Watkins, president of the community education council for District 3 in Manhattan — who recently fought against a KIPP middle school that was ultimately approved — said there needs to be a unifying set of principles and guidelines around which charters and those who regulate them must coalesce.

"SUNY is doing one thing, the Regents are doing another thing, the Legislature is trying to be involved to a certain degree and then the charter office within the New York City DOE is sort of managing to the best of its ability," Watkins said.

She said the original purpose of charters — to be so-called laboratories for innovation — is necessarily lost when they become large organizations like Success or KIPP. At that point, they're past innovation and have entered "a realm of imperialistic takeover."

"That is not, 'Let's buck the system and demonstrate how public education should work for everybody. That's, 'let's destroy public education because our way is better,'" she said. "So I don't know that the face of any of those organizations could come out and represent public education for everyone."

Council Member Mark Treyger, who heads the City Council's education committee, said that while he respects parent choice and understands that some charters are in high demand, he bemoaned the "slandorous and hurtful propaganda" coming out of some charter networks, including Success, bashing district public schools.

"There are still scars from those battles that have not gone away, where there's still distrust of charters in terms of collocation that went through brutal public hearings, very divisive, very contentious," said Treyger, himself a former public school teacher. "Just because that happened under [former Mayor Michael] Bloomberg, doesn't mean that the pain

and the scars have gone away."

To view online:

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The Renaissance

35-59 81st Street, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

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Charter School

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monte Joffee, Ed.D.

Chairperson

Everett Boyd

Secretary

Stacey Gauthier

Chester Hicks

Raymond Johnson

Dr. Rachel Mandel

Margaret Martinez-DeLuca

Conor McCoy

Francine Smith

The Renaissance Charter School

Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees for the
2019 - 2020 School Year
September 11, 2019 (August Meeting)

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

Agenda

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1) Chairperson's Message | 5 min. |
| 2) Pledge of Allegiance | 1 min. |
| 3) Roll Call | 1 min. |
| 4) Review and Approval of the June 25, 2019 minutes | 10 min. |
| 5) School Management Team Report - New Program Highlights,
New Staff, Organizational changes | 10 min |
| 6) Adjournment of Public Session | |

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September 11, 2019

August Meeting

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 5:25 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffee asked The Board to observe a moment of silence to commemorate the events and the loss of life of September 11, 2001. He also revisited the events of that day as they unfolded at The Renaissance School.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Attendance taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary
Present: Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Monte Joffee, Francine Smith, Raymond Johnson, Rachel Mandel, Margaret Martinez-DeLuca
Late: Conor McCoy
4. Approval of the June 25, 2019 Minutes – The minutes were reviewed and approved by acclamation.
5. School Management Team Report – Stacey Gauthier, Principal
 - a. New Program Highlights –
 - 1) TRCS welcomes back two members of the faculty, who are returning from their sabbatical years: John Vanek, who is coordinating response to intervention (RTI) and leveled literacy intervention (LLI) in the elementary school and Yumeris Morel, who is coordinating ELA and a new initiative, TRIP, targeted reading intervention program for elementary through middle school students.
 - 2) Advisory this year will focus on social-emotional well-being, academic accountability, and a community service component. Advisory periods are at the beginning of each day for 15 minutes. Yumeris also worked on creating a new framework for advisories during her sabbatical.

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

- 3) TRCS has implemented an early dismissal for all students on Mondays at 1:45, except for Pre-K (3:10), for the purpose of holding teacher meetings and professional development activities.
- b. New Staff –
- 1) Martin Medina has started in his role as our new high school physics and AP computer science teacher.
 - 2) We have a new teacher from District 75, Christine Mordente, as well as a new paraprofessional from District 75.
 - 3) We will also be getting a new nurse. We are currently working with a nurse provided to us through an agency.
- c. Organizational changes –
- 1) Over the summer, we accepted the resignation of Chef Mo, who acquired a new position close to his home in Connecticut. We are reorganizing our kitchen staff, accordingly, until a permanent replacement is hired.
 - 2) We have expanded our teacher-leadership positions to include teacher leaders for RTI in the elementary and high school.
 - 3) This is the first year of our increased enrollment, with seats yet to be filled in the 12th grade.
 - 4) We have increased our ELL population to 55 from 40 students.
 - 5) The PTA has been reconstituted as a PA, Parents Association. We are also working to recruit parents for the CSG and to increase parent involvement by sponsoring various workshops of interest to parents and families.
- d. New Business –
- 1) There were some concerns from just a few parents about Monday early dismissal that have been alleviated.
 - 2) Margaret Martinez-DeLuca offered to conduct a math workshop for parents as one of the parent engagement activities for the PA.
 - 3) Dr. Joffe reminded us that we have a significant population of students from families who speak quite a few languages other than English, and that we can expand our outreach to include them.
6. Public Speaking - None
Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.
7. Adjournment of Public Session – 6:20pm
8. Executive Session –No session; reading of the confidential minutes waived until the October meeting.

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Charter School

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The Renaissance Charter School

Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees for the
2019 - 2020 School Year
September 11, 2019 (August Meeting)

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

Agenda

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1) Roll Call | 1 min. |
| 2) Presentation on Title Funding Program (ESSA) | 5 min. |
| 3) Board Committee Assignment Review | 5 min. |
| 4) Admission Float Email / ELL Preference | 15 min. |
| 5) Retroactive Funding Update | 10 min. |
| 6) Public Speaking | |

Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 7) Adjournment of Public Session | |
| 8) Executive Session | |

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

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Margaret Martinez-DeLuca

Conor McCoy

Francine Smith

September 11, 2019

September Meeting

The Renaissance Charter School

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

The meeting convened at 6:25 p.m.

1. Attendance taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary
Present: Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Monte Joffee, Francine Smith, Raymond Johnson, Rachel Mandel, Margaret Martinez-DeLuca
Late: Conor McCoy
2. Presentation on Title Funding Program (ESSA) – Stacey Gauthier, Principal
 - a. Title I Funds this year are less than in the previous year, at \$120,498, although our percentage of eligible students for free and reduced lunch is over 70%. This funding is used to offset the salaries of two intervention teachers, as well as a smaller portion to offset the salary of our pupil accounting administrative assistant, who also supports our homeless student population.
 - b. Title IIA Funding is \$4,955, for professional development, and is applied to supplement the salary of our literacy coach.
 - c. Title IVA Funding is \$10,490, which we are allowed to transfer to Title IIA, to further offset the salary of our literacy coach.
3. Board Committee Assignment Review – See Attachment
4. Admission Float Email / ELL Preference – Stacey Gauthier, Principal
TRCS received a letter (attached) from Melissa Harris, Office of School Design and Charter Partnerships. The letter outlines an enrollment float of 10%, which was in our charter renewal agreement. TRCS will need to revisit the implications and possibilities of an enrollment float as soon as November, especially with regard to looking at increasing our population of ELL and students with disabilities, by submitting a request for a material revision to our charter.

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

5. Retroactive Funding Update – Stacey Gauthier, Principal

We have 25 business days to find out if we are receiving our funding for retroactive salary payments that are due to be paid to UFT faculty members. We anticipate that the funding will be deposited in our account. However, we need to be prepared for a delay in our funding based on our past history with receiving the allocation of \$300,000 from the city. We are also awaiting an additional \$200,000 from the state, to make the obligation \$500,000 to pay the retroactive salaries.

6. Public Speaking - None

Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.

7. Adjournment of Public Session – 7:00pm

8. Executive Session – None

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Chester Hicks

Raymond Johnson

Dr. Rachel Mandel

Margaret Martinez-DeLuca

Conor McCoy

Francine Smith

-DRAFT-

June 25, 2019

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

HONORARY MEMBERS

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 1:00 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffe thanked all who attended the late Sandra Geyer's Memorial Service. Among the attendees were board members, founders of The Renaissance School, current and former faculty members, as well several of Sandy's former students. It was a fitting tribute to Ms. Geyer. Dr. Joffe attended the graduation exercises of TRCS Class of 2019, which was held in the morning of June 25, 2019, and commented that it was one of the best ever in his experience.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Attendance taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary
Present: Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Monte Joffe, Francine Smith, and Raymond Johnson
Absent: Margaret Martinez-DeLuca, Conor McCoy, and Rachel Mandel
4. Approval of the June 5, 2019 Minutes – The minutes were reviewed and approved by acclamation.
5. Final Development and school Partnership Report – Stacey Gauthier delivered the report, which was included in the board meeting packet. Additional to the report are Updates on Current Programs:
 - a. NYSED 2016-2-19 Dissemination Grant – Our partnership with Scholars Academy has been a successful one. Scholars Academy had a history of admitting mostly high achieving students, before our partnership. During the partnership, and in collaboration with our College and Career Office, Scholars Academy began to adopt many of the successful *“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”*

practices that TRCS has employed to promote the success and college-readiness of special education students and students who have been academically challenged. Their student population has seen a shift due to their acceptance of students with special needs and academic challenges, and their success with these students has become more evident.

- b. Political advocacy on behalf of TRCS has been bolstered by our membership in C3S, The Coalition of Community Charter Schools. Our advocacy will continue, to ensure that we receive our fair share of funding from The State and The City.
6. School Management Team Report – Stacey Gauthier delivered the report, which was included in the board meeting packet.
 - a. 2019-2020 Faculty Assignments – included in board meeting packet
 - b. General Business Announcements – included in board meeting packet
 - I. Letters from Ira Schwartz, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Accountability, NYSED and David Frank, Executive Director, Charter School Office, NYSED – TRCS has been designated as a Recognition School for SY 2017-2018 in recognition for being one of 562 high achieving schools in New York State, and one of 41 charter schools with this designation.
7. Vote to name TRS/TRCS founder Sandra Geyer an Honorary Board Member – The motion was approved by acclamation.
8. Board Members' New Business –
9.
 - a. Dr. Joffe asked for an update on the progress of TRCS 2.
 - i. Ms. Gauthier reported that the lease has been sent to SED for their review and we are awaiting BSA approval, after a hearing next week.
10. Public Speaking – None
11. Adjournment of Public Session - 1:48 p.m.
12. Executive Session –No session; reading of the confidential minutes waived until next meeting.



**Department of
Education**

Chancellor Richard A. Carranza

Melissa Harris
Senior Executive Director
OSDCP

Laurie Hazeley
Senior Director
Charter Authorizing

52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007
+1 212 374-5419 tel
+1 212 374-5761 fax

September 4, 2019

To: Chancellor-Authorized Charter Schools Renewed in the 2018-2019 School Year

From: Melissa Harris, Executive Director, Office of School Design & Charter Partnerships

Subject: Opportunity to Increase Enrollment of Special Populations

**CC: Laurie Hazeley, Senior Director, Charter Authorizing
Stephanie Mendez, Director of Charter Authorizing, New York City
Department of Education**

We hope that your school is off to a strong start to the 2019-2020 school year!

As you know, the Chancellor is deeply committed to advancing equity now and remains deeply concerned about ensuring that our most vulnerable populations, including English language learners (ELLs), students with disabilities (SWDs) and economically disadvantaged students, are being served at the same rates in charter schools as in your respective community school districts. We know that you share this concern with the Chancellor as evidenced by your commitment to implement lottery preferences for these groups.

Your charter agreement for the renewal term starting July 1, 2019 includes what is known as a "float" on student enrollment, which allows you to enroll up to 10% above your authorized enrollment without having to request a revision or notify your authorizer (Section 2.2 of the Charter Agreement). Use of this float is contingent upon the Building Utilization Plan (for those in co-located space) or the Certificate of Occupancy (for those in private space).

We view this float as a tremendous opportunity and tool to increase the number of ELLs and SWDs in your school. It is our strong desire that you use this float to enroll more ELLs and SWDs through the use of preferences.

The NYCDOE will request enrollment and lottery data from your school at various points throughout the 2019-2020 school year. The NYCDOE will use this data to review the float, assess its effectiveness in increasing enrollment rates of ELLs and SWDs, and to partner with you to understand if additional efforts and supports are needed. If the float is not found to be effective in increasing enrollment rates of ELLs and SWDs, the NYCDOE may seek to revise the charter agreement.

Please look for additional detailed information on data submission from your school's Point of Contact in the next few weeks. We look forward to working together to continue to find ways to ensure parity and advancing equity now.

The Renaissance Charter School

Board of Trustees' Standing Committee Memberships for 2019-2020

Executive Committee:

Monte Joffee, Chairperson
Everett Boyd, Secretary

Francine Smith, Chair- Finance and Audit

Chester Hicks, Member

Finance and Audit Committee:

Francine Smith, Chair

Chester Hicks, Member

Raymond Johnson, Member

Conor McCoy, Member

Stacey Gauthier, Member

Denise Hur, Director of Operations

Educational Support Committee:

Maggie Martinez DeLuca, Chair

Monte Joffee, Vice Chair

Chester Hicks, Member

Everett Boyd, Member

Appeals and Grievance:

These committees will be populated based on the particular matter to avoid conflict of interest.

TRCS BOT Meeting Calendar SY 2019-2020:

- September 11, 2019 - 5:00 PM - August Meeting
- September 11, 2019 - 6:00 PM - September Meeting
- October 2, 2019 - 6:45 PM
- November 6, 2019 - 2:30 PM
- December 4, 2019 - 6:45 PM
- January 8, 2020 - 2:30 PM
- February 5, 2020 - 6:45 PM
- March 4, 2020 - 2:30 PM
- April 1, 2020 - 12:30 PM
- May 6, 2020 - 2:30 PM
- June 3, 2020 - 12:30 PM

The Renaissance Charter School

Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees for the 2019 - 2020 School Year

October 2, 2019

Agenda –

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1) Chairperson’s Message | 5 mins. |
| 2) Pledge of Allegiance | 1 min. |
| 3) Roll Call | 1 min. |
| 4) Advocacy Update by Dwayne Andrews, VP, Patrick B. Jenkins and Associates | 30 mins. |
| 5) Development Report | 15 mins. |
| 6) Review and Discussion of Board Annual Calendar | 10 mins. |
| 7) Review and Discussion of School Safety Plan | 15 mins. |
| 8) Board Member New Business | 10 mins. |
| 9) Public Speaking | |
| <i>Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.</i> | |
| 10) Adjournment of Public Session | |
| 11) Executive Session | |

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Charter School

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Secretary

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Chester Hicks

Raymond Johnson

Dr. Rachel Mandel

Margaret Martinez-DeLuca

Conor McCoy

Francine Smith

October 2, 2019

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 6:25 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffee called into the meeting and conducted it from his home, as he was not feeling well. Dr. Joffee wished those who were observing the Jewish New Year, a Happy New Year. He also cited a report he recently read of a political analysis of voting parents. A significant representation of parents of school-age children reported that they feel their displeasure with the condition of their local schools and school districts is underrepresented in the political discourse, especially on the national level and in the Democratic Presidential candidate debates. The study revealed that people are looking for vibrant new programs that can reform the educational landscape. This is the type of program that The Renaissance Charter School models and has been recognized for. Congratulations, and let's keep up the good fight.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – waived (flag was not present)
3. Attendance taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary
Present: Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Francine Smith, Raymond Johnson, Rachel Mandel, Margaret Martinez-DeLuca, Conor McCoy
Absent: Monte Joffee (called in and conducted the meeting by phone)
Also Present:
4. Advocacy Update by Dwayne Andrews, VP, Patrick B. Jenkins and Associates –
Mr. Andrews reported on his continuing efforts on behalf of TRCS to secure funding from the state and the city, which the school is entitled to and has been earmarked to pay the retroactive salaries of the school's employees who are UFT and CSA members. Mr. Andrews said that he and Patrick are working to move the bureaucracy at the state and city level to release our funds (\$200,000 from the state and \$300,000 from the city) in order to meet our obligation to our staff, as we have a fiduciary responsibility to do so. They are continuing to speak with the state assembly, which has just concluded a difficult legislative cycle, to ensure that our funding is released. They have been speaking with The DOE, which traditionally has not done

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

anything without the approval of The Mayor's Office with regard to releasing allocated funds within the city budget. Now that The Mayor has ended his presidential campaign, we hope that there will be action to approve the release of our funds from the city soon, although we cannot say when that will be. These things always seem to come down to the last minute, which can cause much anxiety on every level of the school, inclusive of management and pedagogical staff.

Stacey added that we have two large retroactive salary payments to make, including this year and next year. We do not have the money in the bank to meet our upcoming retroactive payroll deadline of October 30, for which we have a hard deadline of October 23 to receive the \$500,000 in funds that are needed. We have drained our reserve funds and are still not able to replenish them, as we continue to run a deficit. Even with our increased enrollment, we barely have enough per-pupil money coming in to sustain our current payroll of experienced staff and increased pension costs. We are already feeling squeezed within the building, after adding a significant amount of students to our rolls. Staff has not been informed of the situation, although there have been ongoing discussions with Vinny, our UFT Chapter Chair. If we have not received verification by Friday, October 18, that our funds will be in our account by the October 23 deadline, we will need to inform the staff ahead of the October 30 payroll disbursement.

Raymond advocated that the manner in which we do this needs to deliver a thorough explanation as to why we are in this situation, to answer any questions, and to dispel any misconceptions that may arise as a result of staff members not receiving their anticipated retroactive pay.

Stacey said that the school has never missed a payroll and that our current situation creates a particularly difficult challenge for TRCS on several levels. We need to deliver the news to staff and be mindful of maintaining high morale and a high level of professionalism, while continuing to fight for our funding for this year and the future.

5. Development Report – Rebekah Oakes, Director of Development and Partnerships (See Board Packet)
Some highlights:
 - a. The Parent Teacher Association has been reformed and named The Parent Association (See more details in The Development Report)
 - b. The Friends of Renaissance organization will give TRCS the \$10,000 referred to in the report so that the school can purchase much needed Chromebooks for student and classroom use (approximately 51-56, depending upon unit pricing).
 - c. The report includes updates on grants that we have as of last spring.
 - d. We have also applied for another grant for school mental health, with Wildcat Academy as our proposed partner.
6. Review and Discussion of Board Annual Calendar –
The board decided to discuss the meeting calendar further, offline and determine the best times to hold meetings to ensure attendance and the presence of a quorum.
7. Review and Discussion of School Safety Plan –
There was no plan included for review. Stacey provided an update on fire and safety drills, ongoing CPR and Epi-Pen training.

8. Approval of the September 11, 2019 Minutes (August and September meetings) – The minutes were reviewed and approved by acclamation.

9. Public Speaking - None
Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.

10. Adjournment of Public Session – 7:05pm

11. Executive Session –None

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Development Report to the Board of Trustees October 2, 2019

2019-2020 Grant Update

(See attached sheet for more information.)

• **Direct Appeals**

These include checks and online donations received in response to Summer, Angel Fund, Garden Appeals – all direct donations to the school.

- Angel Fund – The angel fund as of 09/30/2019 has a balance of \$3,911. As always, this fund is used to help students' families afford curricular trips and various activities to further their education. Donations in any amount are always welcome.
- The newly formed Parent Association fundraising will now be under the control of the Friends of Renaissance. We have not started an Angel Fund Campaign in order to keep attention on raising friends and funds for the Parent Association. Peggy Heeney has been coordinating that effort, and to date we have \$6,733 in the PA account.
- Giving Tuesday will again be devoted to raising funds to purchase additional technology, including staff laptops. The funds raised last year for this campaign are in the Friends of Renaissance Account, and amount to approximately \$10,000. This amount was approved by the FOR Board on September 30, 2019, and the funds will be turned over to the school shortly.

• **Pending and successful grant applications:**

- Strebor Family Foundation – We will be applying for funds for the foundation's December board meeting. We expect the amount will be similar to last year's: \$1,700.
- NYC Discretionary Funding – Daniel Dromm has allocated \$5,000 to support TREA, and Francisco Moya has designated \$2,500 for TREA, but that amount is listed as "pending." I was informed by DYCD that I should wait to submit our contract documents until Moya's allocation has cleared.
- NYC Reso A Funding - During the summer we were surprised to receive an email from a technology vendor, congratulating us on receiving a FY20 Reso A grant. Upon request, she steered me to the city council spreadsheet, and buried on line 650 there is indeed an allocation to Renaissance for \$120,000 in Reso A funding, proposed by Francisco Moya's office. We have to date not received any guidance on whether our application will

• **Update on Current Granted Programs:**

- Farm to School – The grant covers the writing of a plan for the consortium of charter schools to implement a purchasing plan to provide locally-sourced produce and meats, and health and nutrition support for students and their families. The plan will be

"Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York"

finished this fall which will be shared with the rest of the consortium. At the end of the grant period we will then apply for implementation funds.

- Advocacy for Conversion Charter School Contract Relief – After several years of untiring advocacy by Stacey, Ron Tabano, John York and our lobbyists, we are again campaigning for the remaining NYC DOE payments and the promised NYS funding toward contract relief for conversion charters schools.
- Federal E-Rate for FY 2019 – We received a funding confirmation for Internet reimbursement for our current provider GTT, and received a small amount of “Category 2” funds toward our ongoing maintenance contract with IKON. We are still waiting for funds from FY2017 (an appeal was filed to recoup reimbursement for invoices paid to our previous internet supplier, Century Link) and FY2018, so we live in hope.
- NYSED 2016-2019 Dissemination Grant is finished. Funds in the amount of \$102,940 were received to reimburse the school for grant expenses; a revised final report was submitted on 9/12/2019, and we expect the additional \$34,313 to be released shortly.
- DYCD Compass Explore – We received a 3-year contract extension for our Summer Permaculture program –\$42,106 per year. We have completed our 4th summer program for 3rd-5th graders, and have added a short fall after-school program to allow children to harvest their summer crops; and will have a short spring after-school program to plan the spring planting to prepare for the summer program in 2020.

In-Kind Grants and Donations

- DYCD SONYC grant received by 82SA for our middle-schooler after-school program, continues this year. The program has been aided considerably by the addition of Dan Fanelli as the Education Liaison, providing curricular ties to the after-school STEM activities, training 82SA teachers to lead the activities and following-up with teachers for additional curriculum ties and up-to-date homework assignments.
- CASA (NYC Council) after-school enrichment grant will go toward a media arts class for our 5th graders with Children’s Museum of the Arts.
- Urban Advantage (STEM Education) and Edible Schoolyard (Nutrition Education) have all continued in some form. Edible Schoolyard does not provide direct service to students at this stage, but will provide PD, school food tastings, and supplies family demonstrations. Urban Advantage supplies professional development to teachers and our parent coordinators, and free passes to museums for family and school-based trips.

Partnerships

Due to our budget problems, the outside partnerships that we have to pay have been scaled back, but Renaissance continues to nurture outside community partnerships as a way to expand our influence beyond the school walls. We are renewing a partnership with the Carnegie Foundation, called “Link UP: The Orchestra Sings” with music teacher Katie Schmelzer and the 5th grade. We have been able to hire back Nicole Pouliot to fill in more K-2 arts programming, and to replace CMA to work with our HS Global humanities program.

We will be meeting with the college office this week to talk about The Leadership Program’s partnerships for community involvement and skill-building for our students, and their proposals

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

for next year's in-house program.

Leadership Program Partners and Classes

- Engineering STEM Enrichment Class
- Sadie Nash Young Women's Leadership Project
- Urban Word
- Urban Seeds Stewards
- Renaissance Tech Team
- Careers in Art
- Careers in Music, Theater, and Arts Business
- Jazz Band

Friends of Renaissance

As noted above, we have committed to providing the bulk of our bank-account toward technology purchases – these should be in the works by the time of your meeting. This year the focus of the board has been to support TRCS 2, by revising the incorporation papers to include the 2nd and all future Renaissance Charter Schools in our support. We have engaged with our insurers to make sure we are covered by D & O insurance and will be supporting TRCS 2 in the lease structure, known to you from other reports. We may have to create an additional board to fulfill that responsibility, but will keep you updated on those negotiations.

Other

Renaissance's political advocacy efforts continue to be the most successful way of bringing money to the school. We will continue to work with the NYC Charter Center and Coalition for Independent Charter Schools (C3S) in the continuing fight to get our funding formula restored. C3S schools agreed to hire Patrick Jenkins & Associates to more directly advocate for the special needs of independent charters, as well as our continuing work for conversion charter school relief.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebekah Oakes, Director of Development and Partnerships

THE RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL		
Grants Awarded 2019-2020		
Direct Appeals:		
Direct Funding Appeals - Unrestricted		
FOR Grant from other Direct Appeals	10,000	approved 09/30/2019
Friends of Renaissance, Apple Bank Account	10,805	
Friends of Renaissance, Apple Bank PA	6,733	Parent Association dues/fundraising
Angel Fund (SAF) from 2018-2019	3,911	
Angel Fund (SAF) new donations		
DIRECT TOTAL	\$31,449	
Government/Corporate/Foundation Grants:		
Conversion CS Advocacy – Contract Expenses		FY19 NYS Conversion CS Contract Reimb.
US E-Rate Internet Reimbursement: PENDING	29,430	FY19 GTT Internet reimbursement
US E-Rate Maintenance Reimbursement: FINAL	3,277	FY19 IKON Maintenance reimbursement
USDA 2018 Farm to School Planning Grant		Create plan for fresh food access
DYCD COMPASS Grant	42,106	Permaculture Program Summer-Summer, Fall 2019; Spring 2020
DYCD NYC City Council Discretionary, Dromm/Moya	7,500	TREA; 2500 pending
GRANT TOTAL	\$82,313	
TOTAL	\$113,762	
In-Kind Services Received 2019-2020		
	Valued At	
TASC/Discretionary - 82SA CBO After School	60,000	funding for 5th, 9th and 10th
OST DYCD - 82SA 6th-8th grade program	273,000	middle school after-school program
CASA After-School Programming (Dromm)	20,000	CMA for after-school
Urban Advantage		STEM services, trips, supplies (\$450)
FEAST (Nutrition & Cooking Classes for Families)	1,500	PD and Materials Support

The Renaissance Charter School

Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees for the 2019 - 2020 School Year

November 6, 2019

Agenda –

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1) Chairperson’s Message | 5 mins. |
| 2) Pledge of Allegiance | 1 min. |
| 3) Roll Call | 1 min. |
| 4) Approval of October 2, 2019 Meeting Minutes | 10 mins |
| 5) Vote to ratify Finance and Audit Committee’s Approval of FY 19 Certified Financial Report | 10 mins. |
| 6) Annual Report on Executive Compensation | 10 mins. |
| 7) Advocacy Update – Retroactive Funding | 10 mins. |
| 8) Update on Federal Grants | 10 mins. |
| 9) Board Member New Business | 10 mins. |
| 10) Public Speaking | |
| <i>Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.</i> | |
| 11) Adjournment of Public Session | |
| 12) Executive Session | |

The Renaissance

35-59 81st Street, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

www.renaissancecharter.org • 718-803-0060 • 718-803-3785 (fax)

Charter School

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monte Joffee, Ed.D.

Chairperson

Everett Boyd

Secretary

Stacey Gauthier

Chester Hicks

Raymond Johnson

Dr. Rachel Mandel

Margaret Martinez-DeLuca

Conor McCoy

Francine Smith

-Final-

Approved December 4, 2019

November 6, 2019

The Renaissance Charter School

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

The meeting convened at 4:10 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffee called into the meeting. He commented on the statements that the Presidential candidates are putting out regarding K-12 education. He said they are missing the mark and not really thinking about how we move our educational system forward, and that they should look at the great work that TRCS and schools like TRCS are doing to promote success in the present climate.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – waived (flag was not present)
3. Attendance was taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary
Present: Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, Francine Smith
Absent: Monte Joffee, Rachel Mandel, Margaret Martinez-DeLuca, and Conor McCoy
Quorum not met.
4. Approval of October 2, 2019 Meeting Minute – moved to December 4, 2019 meeting.
The minutes were read by board members present, with no edits or changes recommended.
5. Vote to ratify Finance and Audit Committee's Approval of FY 19 Certified Financial Report –
Moved to December 4, 2019 meeting.'
6. Annual Report on Executive Compensation - Stacey read the attached report, which outlines the compensation agreement for administrators as negotiated with CSA.
7. Advocacy Update – Retroactive Funding
Stacey reported that the school has engaged with The UFT and CSA to support our efforts to secure our promised retroactive funding. The school held a staff meeting with UFT charter school liaison, Myles Traeger, who promised that the UFT would fight for the funding. A meeting has been scheduled with the DOE and City Hall. The State has yet to release the funds that were promised to us in the budget. Essentially, there are no updates.

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

8. Update on Federal Grants -

- a. We have applied for a two large federal grants with Wildcat to bring PBIS to both schools as well as mental health counselors and social workers, through Hunter College, who will be able to provide services to our students, under the supervision of a professional from Hunter College. Details are forthcoming.
- b. Farm to School Grant is being written by Rebekah Oakes, and could bring supplemental kitchen equipment and food.
- c. We are applying to become a bi-literacy school, and if we are so designated, will allow students who show proficiency in at least two languages to have a special seal attached to their high school diplomas.

9. Board Member New Business –

- a. Graduation is June 23, at IS 145.
- b. Ram, MS Math Teacher, will be bringing a group of educators from The Philippines to visit TRCS.

10. Public Speaking - NONE

Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.

11. Adjournment of Public Session

12. Executive Session

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-Final -

Approved – January 13, 2020

December 4, 2019

The Renaissance Charter School

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Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

The meeting convened at 6:15 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffee called the meeting to order. Dr. Joffee commented on the status of education and made the observation that the statements that the Presidential candidates have been making with regard to education and the topics covered in the debates reflect a lack of understanding of how education in our society is at a crucial point in history. Education has the potential to shape developing minds who can contribute to a needed change in society. He applauded the work being done at TRCS and encouraged the continuation of the work that the school is doing to shape young minds. Dr. Joffee wished everyone a wonderful holiday season.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – waived (flag was not present)
3. Attendance was taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary
Present: Monte Joffee, Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, Francine Smith, and Margaret Martinez-DeLuca. Also Present: Daniel Fanelli, Middle School and STEM Administrator, Denise Hur, Director of Operations, Matthew Delforte, attorney, and David Ashenfarb, from Schall & Ashenfarb, CPA
Absent: Rachel Mandel and Conor McCoy
4. Vote to approve the Certified Financial Report – Delivered by David Ashenfarb
See board packet for details
 - a. Our assets are not sufficient to cover our liabilities, especially given that we have a significant deficit in revenue to cover our obligations to pay retroactive salaries, as per our collective bargaining agreements.
 - b. Motion to approve CFR, seconded, and approved by acclamation.

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

5. Report on Retroactive Funding Advocacy – Stacey Gauthier
 - a. Stacey and Dwayne Andrews met in November with representatives from several city agencies, including The DOE and OMB. The conversation was more of a tutorial for representatives who were present, to provide information that they needed to take action on our behalf to release the funding to pay our retroactive salaries. We have still not received funding from the state, and continue to press for the state to deliver the funds that were allocated to us in the last budget.

6. Approval of October 2, 2019 and November 6, 2019 Meeting Minutes –
 - a. Motion to approve with corrections, seconded, and approved by acclamation

7. School Management Team Report – Stacey Gauthier
See board packet for details
 - a. Annual Report: Progress Towards Goals, Accountability Metrics
 - i. We continue to struggle with meeting our ELA goals, however we are seeing success with our targeted reading intervention program (TRIP)
 - ii. We are also working on getting our students to pass The Math Regents within the 65-75% range.
 - iii. We continue to struggle to meet the balanced budget goal
 - iv. We have met all other goals, which include 52 in total
 - v. Monte asked a question about how we can improve student performance in Algebra. Based on the data we have collected, the school is supporting these students with targeted interventions including tutoring, teacher support, NWEA and ANET assessments, and individualized supports designed to help students with specific needs.
 - b. New Grants Report: SEL and Target –See board packet for details
 - i. SEL is a \$5,000 grant that will help to meet the social and emotional needs of our students in the 82nd Street Academics After School Program.
 - ii. The Target Grant is a small grant that will allow us to continue the work to renovate our book room, buy new books (\$3,00), and provide a team of volunteers to assist in the book room renovation.
 - iii. We received an unrestricted grant of \$5,000 from The Bidet Foundation, which we will use to purchase much needed computers for faculty and related technology.

8. Current Class Demographics and ELL Population – Stacey Gauthier
 - a. The highlight for this year is that we have increased our enrollment number.
 - b. The number of ELL students has grown from 45 to 63.
 - c. We have not asked for an ELL preference in our lottery because we believe we have met our goals.
 - d. The number of students who qualify for free and reduced lunch has risen to at least 75%, and indicator of the number of low income families who have children at TRCS.

9. Board Member New Business –

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- a. Margaret asked a question about 8th Grade American History. How are we preparing our 8th Grade students to take the US History Regents? Teachers and 8th Grade students are preparing more students to take the US History Regents while they are in 8th Grade. We are also preparing 8th Grade students to take The Earth Science Regents.
- b. Teacher Powered Schools has asked TRCS to contribute a piece describing our work to create a collaborative environment for our staff.
- c. Denise Hur received an award from TRS (Teachers Retirement System).

10. Public Speaking - NONE

Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.

11. Adjournment of Public Session – 7:20 p.m.

12. Executive Session Convened – 7:25 p.m.

The Renaissance

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Charter School

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Francine Smith

January 13, 2020

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 4:12 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffee called the meeting to order and wished everyone Happy New Year. Dr. Joffee cited a comparison of test scores, comparing the test scores of the US to other countries. The comparison implies that despite the many federal education initiatives over the past few decades, test scores across the country have not improved significantly, in comparison to other countries. The work we do at TRCS, although a bit under the radar, is significant in light of these comparisons.
2. Moment of Silence in Memory of Dylan Maida
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Attendance was taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary
Present: Monte Joffee, Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, Francine Smith, and Margaret Martinez-DeLuca. Also Present: Daniel Fanelli, Middle School and STEM Administrator, Liz Perez, Administrator for Special Education, Yumeris Morel, Director of Teaching and Learning, and Pat Poljanic
Absent: Rachel Mandel and Conor McCoy
5. Approval of December 4, 2019 Meeting Minutes –
 - a. Motion to approve, seconded, and approved by acclamation
6. Report on Conversion Funding and Advocacy – Stacey Gauthier
 - a. Stacey reported that we are continuing to push the City (DOE) and the State for our retroactive funding. Following the guidance of our lobbyist, Dwayne Andrews, The UFT Chapter at TRCS wrote a letter to Assembly Member Catalina Cruz, State Senator Ramos, and City Councilman
“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

Danny Dromm, with a plea for assistance in resolving this matter. Ms. Gauthier also wrote a letter to CSA President Mark Cannizzaro, requesting his assistance and the CSA's in seeking a resolution. Copies of the letters were provided at the meeting.

- b. At his point the lack of funding may have a significant impact on enrollment and programming for next year. We have also learned that our Kindergarten Teacher, Rachel Hollander, will be leaving her position at the end of this year to move to Washington, DC. At this point there is no plan to replace her with a new hire and to find her replacement within the organization.

7. Discussion of Quality Review Reports – Stacey Gauthier
See board packet for details

- a. Looking at the reports calls in to question how some of the data is being compared to other schools and how the data has been reported. The SMT and Co-Coordinators have reviewed the reports and have analyzed the data with the following takeaways:
 - High School chronic absenteeism needs to be addressed by further working with students and families that struggle with attendance.
 - We need to work on ELA growth.
 - We need to look at how we are providing direct feedback to students to support their learning.
 - We need to look at the significant minority of teachers (21%) who feel they need more support in working productively with colleagues.
 - We need to promote teachers' understanding that everyone is responsible for student learning. 83% feel responsible for student learning.
 - We need to promote more of an understanding among high school students, beginning in grade 9, that they are supported in the college application process through our College and Career Office. 89% of high school students responded that they are aware of the college application process and are supported in their application process.
 - We need to look at how to improve the coordination of curriculum materials across all grades.

8. Advisory and Targeted Reading Intervention Program Presentations – Stacey Gauthier and Yumeris Morel

- a. Two videos were shown, highlighting student reviews of the Targeted Reading Intervention Program (TRIP) and Advisories.
- b. Stacey reported on the progress of TRIP, Independent Reading Groups, and the Advisory HPS initiatives that teachers and students have been engaged in this year.
- c. Yumeris Morel reported on her work during her sabbatical which led to the incorporation of heart-fullness and mind-fullness activities into the advisories.

9. Vote to Extend Terms of Board Members New Business –

- a. The Board voted to renew the terms of Raymond Johnson, Francine Smith, and Margaret Martinez-DeLuca.

10. Board Members New Business –

- a. Stacey announced that The C3S Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 22, 5-8pm. All board members are invited to attend.

11. Public Speaking - NONE

Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.

12. Adjournment of Public Session– 5:03 p.m.

13. Executive Session Convened – 5:04 p.m.

The Renaissance Charter School Public Meeting of The Board of Trustees

AGENDA

February 5, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1) Chairperson's Welcome and Message | 3 minutes |
| 2) Pledge of Allegiance | 1 minute |
| 3) Roll Call | 1 minute |
| 4) Conversion Funding Advocacy Update – Dwayne Andrews | 20 minutes |
| 5) Mid-Year Financial Report – Denise Hur | 15 minutes |
| 6) Mid-Year Development Report – Rebekah Oakes | 15 minutes |
| 7) Approval of January Board Minutes | 10 minutes |
| 8) Board Members New Business | 5 minutes |
| 9) Public Speaking | TBD |
- Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign-up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.*
- 12) Adjournment of Public Session
 - 13) Executive Session

The Renaissance

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Charter School

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February 5, 2020

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 6:00 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffee called and meeting to order. He commented on The President's State of The Union Address and the government's position on public education, wondering what the President's reference to "government schools" in his speech actually means with regard to public schools. Dr. Joffee also referred to a recent article which cited the importance of a strong nuclear family and community-based support in promoting educational excellence and academic success, regardless of socio-economic status. He said that this is the type of atmosphere that we have endeavored to create at TRCS.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Attendance was taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary
Present: Monte Joffee, Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, Francine Smith
Also Present: Rebekah Oakes, TRCS Director of Development and Partnerships; Denise Hur, Director of Operations and Finance; Matthew Delforte, Counsel; and Dwayne Andrews, Consultant
Absent: Rachel Mandel and Conor McCoy
4. Conversion Funding Advocacy Update – Dwayne Andrews

Mr. Andrews reported that the DOE and The State have still not released the funding earmarked to enable TRCS and other conversion charter schools to pay retroactive salaries under the obligation of the previous UFT contract and the current CSA contract. He has continued to work on behalf of TRCS to secure these funds plus additional funds for next year, using conventional and unconventional methods to lobby behind the scenes. The UFT Chapter at TRCS has become engaged, having written a letter to the union leadership, who are now engaged in advocating for the sought after relief. The reality is that the wheels of government continue to turn very slowly when it comes to our dilemma. Our efforts are continuing on several levels, including engaging several elected officials, who have not been previously engaged. Another course of action may be necessary, where the news media would be contacted in an effort to publish our story, which

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would get wider attention. We are approaching the April 1st deadline when the state proposes the budget for the next fiscal year. If we have not resolved this issue by then, we will need to employ more assertive strategies, inclusive of engaging the media, pushing our unions to step-up their advocacy, and engaging additional elected officials.

5. Mid-Year Financial Report – Denise Hur

The Board Packet included a report entitled “Expenses YTD as Compared to Working Budget”. The board reviewed the report with explanations of the comparisons. Our current financial status is critically affected by the deficit in our funding for retroactive salary payments. Going forward, we may need to make some difficult decisions which will impact programming and staffing.

The Board also reviewed a history of pension and health costs, which added perspective on how costs have escalated over a 5 year period, with the

6. Mid-Year Development Report – Rebekah Oakes

The Board Packet reviewed a report entitled “Development Report to the Board of Trustees, February 5, 2020”. The Board learned that there are several substantial funding streams that have been granted to TRCS that the school has still not been able to access, mostly due to the inability of the bureaucracy to provide answers to our questions about how to access the funding.

7. Special Education Billing Documents – The school is in dispute with The DOE for full funding for our District 75 program, to which we are entitled.

8. CIPA Policy – A motion was made to approve the policy, pending final ratification at the next board meeting. The motion passed by acclamation.

9. Approval of January 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes –

- a. Motion to approve, seconded, and approved by acclamation

10. Board Members New Business – NONE

11. Public Speaking - NONE

Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.

12. Adjournment of Public Session – 7:50 p.m.

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Development Report to the Board of Trustees February 5, 2020

2019-2020 Grant Update

(See attached sheet for more information.)

• **Direct Appeals**

These include checks and online donations received in response to Summer, Angel Fund, Garden Appeals – all direct donations to the school.

- Angel Fund – The angel fund as of 01/30/20 has a balance of \$4,911, with an additional designated amount of \$463 in the FOR account. As always, this fund is used to help students' families afford curricular trips and various activities to further their education. Angel Fund Donations were received over the holidays both online and at the Parents' Association Winter Carnival.
- The newly formed Parent Association fundraising is under the control of the Friends of Renaissance. (See next bullet for fundraising amounts.)
- Friends of Renaissance bank account and Paypal donation status – Bank account as of 01/30/2020 was \$24,605.78, including \$13,542 of Parent Association funds. In addition to the Angel Fund donations shown above, Paypal donations included \$326 in unrestricted TRCS, and \$585 to FOR fundraising.

• **Pending and successful grant applications:**

- Strebor Family Foundation – We will be applying for funds for the foundation's December board meeting. We expect the amount will be similar to last year's: \$1,700.
- NYC Discretionary Funding – Daniel Dromm has allocated \$5,000 to support TREA, and Francisco Moya has designated \$2,500 for TREA, but that amount is listed as "pending" and we were told to submit for \$5000 only. No response from Moya's office as yet.
- NYC Reso A Funding - Renaissance does have an allocation for \$120,000 in Reso A funding, shown as proposed by Francisco Moya's office. Danny Dromm confirmed that he proposed capital funding as well; we are in touch with Danny's new finance director to get access to our allocation, but no word yet.
- USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant – We received an additional grant to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, up to \$27,000.
- NYS 2019 Farm To School – We submitted the application in November, for a \$45,000 grant to create a pipeline from NY farms to our school food program.
- Bydale Foundation – We received another unrestricted \$5000 from a family foundation, on the recommendation of a friend of the school (a former teaching artist of Move This World.)

"Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York"

- Target Community Engagement Fund – Renaissance was invited to apply for this grant, designed to promote Target employee volunteerism, and benefit local schools. Volunteers came last month to paint and help reorganize the book room and teacher’s lounge. \$5000 has been received to pay for supplies, materials and new books.
- ExpandedED Schools/SEL – 82nd Street Academics and Renaissance applied together for grant funding to participate in the ExpandedED SEL program initiative to assure a cohesive approach to SEL that starts during the school day and continues through the after-school day. This will entail PD, posters and materials for 82SA staff in the Heartfulness Tools used in Advisory and Morning Meeting at Renaissance, and teacher and student surveys that includes all 6th-8th students, whether they participate in after-school or not.
- PENDING – JAMS Foundation/ACR Initiative for Students and Youth is a grant program that provides funding for conflict prevention and dispute resolution programs for K-12 students. We applied using our partnership with Heartfulness For Schools; the SEL tool being used in 6-10 Advisory and PK-5 Morning Meetings.

• **Update on Current Granted Programs:**

- Farm to School – The grant covers the writing of a plan for the consortium of charter schools to implement a purchasing plan to provide locally-sourced produce and meats, and health and nutrition support for students and their families. The plan will be finished this fall which will be shared with the rest of the consortium. At the end of the grant period we will then apply for implementation funds.
- Federal E-Rate for FY 2019 and FY 2020 – We have contracted with ERate Central, an organization that manages E-Rate accounts for schools, in order to recoup what we are owed from FY 17, 18 and 19. They have refiled our appeals and refined our forms for FY20. In addition, they are starting the accounts for TRCS 2.
- DYCD Compass Explore – We will have a short spring after-school program, in cooperation with 82SA, to plan the spring planting in preparation for the summer program in 2020. Peggy will start the recruitment process for 40 students in April.

In-Kind Grants and Donations

- NYC Charter School Consortium Mental Health Grants – Two federal grants – Mental Health Demonstration Grant, which provides counseling interns from Hunter College, and the School Climate Transformation Grant, which will provide a substance use counselor and a PBIS coach to each of the consortium schools. Wildcat has taken the lead on these two grants.
- DYCD SONYC contract received by 82SA for our middle-schooler after-school program, continues this year. The program has been aided considerably by the addition of Dan Fanelli as the Education Liaison, providing curricular ties to the after-school STEM activities, training 82SA teachers to lead the activities and following-up with teachers for additional curriculum ties and up-to-date homework assignments.
- CASA (NYC Council) after-school enrichment grant will go toward a media arts class for our 5th graders with Children’s Museum of the Arts.
- Urban Advantage (STEM Education) and Edible Schoolyard (Nutrition Education) have all continued in some form. Edible Schoolyard does not provide direct service to students at this stage, but will provide PD, school food tastings, and supplies family

demonstrations. Urban Advantage supplies professional development to teachers and our parent coordinators, and free passes to museums for family and school-based trips.

- FEAST (Nutrition & Cooking Classes for Families) – procured and coordinated by Peggy.

Partnerships - In-School Residencies and Partnerships

- Carnegie Foundation “Link UP: The Orchestra Sings” - 5th grade, Katie Schmelzer
- NYC Historical Society “Art of History” - 5th grade, Lisa Marchello
- Resident Artist Nicole Pouliot - K-2 Art and Yoga

HS Leadership Program Partners and Classes

- Engineering STEM Enrichment Class
- Sadie Nash Young Women’s Leadership Project
- Urban Word
- Urban Seeds Stewards
- Renaissance Tech Team
- Careers in Art
- Careers in Music, Theater, and Arts Business
- Jazz Band

Friends of Renaissance

The Board committed to providing the bulk of our bank-account toward technology purchases – \$10,000 worth of student chromebooks and a few new teacher laptops have been purchased. This year the focus of the board has been to support TRCS 2, by revising the incorporation papers to include the 2nd and all future Renaissance Charter Schools in our support. We have engaged with our insurers to make sure we are covered by D & O insurance and will be supporting TRCS 2 in the lease structure, known to you from other reports. In order to be prepared to perform this increased fiscal responsibility we have:

- Approached Charter School Business Management (CSBM) for a proposal to take over our bookkeeping responsibilities.
- Approached Schall and Ashenfarb, CPA's, L.L.C to provide certified financial reports going forward.
- The FOR Board agreed that we should separate the PA account from the FOR account. We have asked Apple Bank to perform a name change to show “Friends of The Renaissance Charter Schools, Inc.” and we will at that time create a separate bank account for FOR Parent Association, much like Renaissance maintains the “Student Activity Fund”.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebekah Oakes, Director of Development and Partnerships

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

THE RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL		
Grants Awarded 2019-2020		
Direct Funding Appeals - Unrestricted		
FOR Grant from other Direct Appeals	10,000	approved 09/30/2019
Friends of Renaissance, Apple Bank Account	11,285	as of 1/30/2019
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TRCS General Fundraising, Paypal	326.13	
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DYCD NYC City Council Discretionary, Dromm	5,000	TREA; 2500 pending from Moya
Target Community Engagement Fund	5,000	MLK volunteer events/book room
Edible Schoolyard	500	classroom nutrition & healthy learning,
Bydale Foundation	\$5,000	TBD
GRANT TOTAL	\$117,313	
TOTAL	\$158,204	
In-Kind Services Received 2017-2018		
	Valued At	
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Urban Advantage	348	STEM services, trips, supplies (\$450)
FEAST (Nutrition & Cooking Classes for Families)	1,500	PD and Materials Support
Expanded/NYLife SEL Planning Grant - 82SA	5,000	SEL expansion across school-day/AS

The Renaissance Charter School Public Meeting of The Board of Trustees

AGENDA

March 4, 2020 – 4:00 p.m.

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1) Chairperson's Welcome and Message | 3 minutes |
| 2) Pledge of Allegiance | 1 minute |
| 3) Roll Call | 1 minute |
| 4) Approval of the February Board Minutes | 10 minutes |
| 5) Conversion Funding Advocacy Update | 20 minutes |
| 6) Mid-Year Academic Report – Members of the School Management Team | 20 minutes |
| 7) Approval of 6-30-19 School Tax Return | 15 minutes |
| 8) Vote to finalize approval and ratify the CIPA Policy reviewed at the February Board Meeting | 10 minutes |
| 9) Board Members' New Business | 5 minutes |
| 10) Public Speaking | TBD |
- Public speaking time of three minutes per person will be permitted. All speakers should sign-up with the Secretary prior to the meeting and state the topic they will be speaking on. Speakers may be grouped according to topic.*
- 9) Adjournment of Public Session
10) Executive Session

The Renaissance

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Charter School

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Raymond Johnson

Dr. Rachel Mandel

Margaret Martinez-DeLuca

Conor McCoy

Francine Smith

March 4, 2020

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 4:00 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Mr. Boyd called and meeting to order and thanked everyone for all they are doing.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call – Attendance was taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary

Present: Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, Francine Smith, Monte Joffee (late)

Also Present: Liz Perez, Administrator for Special Education, Yumeris Morel, Director of Teaching and Learning

Absent: Rachel Mandel, Conor McCoy, and Margaret Martinez -DeLuca

4. Approval of the February Board Minutes –
The minutes were approved by acclamation.
5. Conversion Funding Advocacy Update - Stacey

We are still awaiting news on any movement to release our funding from the city and the state. There may be some hope that we will receive something before the April 1st budget deadline. The UFT and CSA have been advocating for us. We are still trying to arrange a meeting with union representatives, the city, and our lobbyists.

The SMT has discussed contingency plans that would affect programming and enrollment for next year, if

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the funding is not received. There are also questions around whether or not the per-pupil funding will be equitable next year and whether or not the governor's proposed supplemental funding will be applied.

6. Mid-Year Academic Report – Members of the School Management Team, Yumeris Morel and Liz Perez (Materials were distributed in the board packet)

Yumeris Morel, demonstrated some of the exercises and techniques that students and teachers are applying in advisories to start each day. She also reported on ELA and the initiatives that are being employed in ELA classes, including SPEAR, the use of common language and practices that are used in writing, and test-prep in Saturday School.

Liz Perez, presented the report on the delivery of special education services and initiatives that are improving performance among students with special needs.

7. Approval of 6-30-19 School Tax Return –
The board voted to approve the 6-30-19 School Tax Return.

8. Vote to finalize approval and ratify the CIPA Policy –

The board voted to ratify the CIPA policy that was reviewed at the February Board Meeting.

9. Board Members' New Business –
None

10. Public Speaking –
None

11. Adjournment of Public Session– 5:25 p.m.

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Francine Smith

SPECIAL MEETING

March 16, 2020

The Renaissance Charter School

Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees
COVID-19 School Closing

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m.

Attendance was taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary

Present: Monte Joffee, Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, Francine Smith, and Rachel Mandel.

Absent: Margaret Martinez-DeLuca and Conor McCoy

Also Present: Matthew Delforte, Counsel; Vincent Garelick, UFT Chapter Chair; Mary Sugrue, DC37 Chapter Chair.

1. On March 16, 2020, at a duly constituted meeting of the Board of Trustees of TRCS (“Board”), the following resolution was put forth and adopted by a unanimous vote of the board:
2. **WHEREAS**, the federal government, State of New York, and City of New York have declared states of emergency caused by the COVID-19 virus, which the World Health Organization has declared a pandemic;
3. **WHEREAS**, school districts, charter schools, and private schools throughout New York City and New York State are closing, including, but not limited to, effective March 16, 2020, the New York City Department of Education and all school districts in Westchester, Suffolk, and Nassau counties;
4. **WHEREAS**, TRCS is co-located in a DOE building, and therefore shall be closed in accordance with the Mayor’s order to close DOE schools;
5. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that TRCS shall close effective today, March 16, 2020, until further notice, and be it further
6. **RESOLVED**, that the School Management Team is hereby authorized to implement and manage a distance learning program, continuing health and safety protocols, and community support protocols, as appropriate, during the period of closure and distance learning, and until such time that the Board

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Francine Smith

April 1, 2020

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

(Held virtually under emergency provision for NYS Open Meetings Law for COVID -19)

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 4:00 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffe called and meeting to order and gave an update on the health of fellow board member, Margaret Martinez-DeLuca. Dr. Joffe thanked everyone for the remarkable transition the school has made to remote learning due to COVID -19 emergency restrictions.

Pledge of Allegiance – Waived

1. Roll Call – Attendance was taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary

Present: Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, Francine Smith, Monte Joffe

Also Present: Rebekah Oakes (Zoom Meeting Host), Director of Development and Partnerships, and Daniel Fanelli, Administrator for MS and STEM

Absent: Rachel Mandel, Conor McCoy, and Margaret Martinez -DeLuca

2. Approval of the March Board Minutes –
The minutes were approved by acclamation.
3. TRCS Budget Update - Stacey

We anticipate our PPA to be cut by 5%. We are awaiting news from The Governor on the budget and modifications that may ensue. COVID - 19 will likely impact everything from PPA to healthcare costs. We need to wait and see.

Our retroactive is in the balance and has been but on the back burner. We need to plan for a lean year and

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anticipate the possibilities ahead. We know that there will be personnel changes, with some staff leaving and not being replaced. We also know that programming will need to be examined more closely for any possibilities of savings, with the intention of not compromising our programming but looking toward efficiencies

We will need to increase our enrollment next year to prepare for the anticipated shortfall and are asking the board to approve a resolution to increase our enrollment by 60 students, which would be approximately 2 students per class. This would be the maximum increase allowed under our charter.

4. Resolution – The Board of Trustees of The Renaissance Charter School is resolved to apply its discretion under its charter to seek a full enrollment increase of 10% of its current enrollment, which represents an increase of 60 students, for the SY 2020-21. The Board is committed to preserving the integrity of staff positions and programs as much as is feasible under the current conditions of the Covid-19 crisis and declining fiscal conditions. The Board wishes to express its sincere gratitude to The SMT and Staff for their dedication and hard work under these extreme circumstances.

The resolution was adopted unanimously

5. TRCS transition to remote learning – Stacey

Our school valiantly and professionally made a difficult transition to remote learning with very little notice. The SMT, each cluster, and all staff transitioned to remote learning and remote meetings immediately, after drafting plans to do so, and creating systems that would support this type of learning and decision making going forward. We are happy say that we anticipated this from the outset and made early preparations to implement what we are now fully engaged in. The school is working with a consultant, Wayne Jones, to draft a formal Remote Learning Plan to submit to our authorizer.

We have already faced many challenges, both anticipated and unanticipated, including the difficulties of ensuring that our students and families are supported with the technology they need to successfully connect with our remote learning curriculum. Rebekah Oakes has responded to an RFP for a grant of \$30,000 that would assist the school in purchasing additional technology in the form of Chromebooks and laptops to supply students in need. We are grateful to 82nd Street Academics for their generous loan of Chromebooks to students in need, as well as Peggy Heeney and Pierina Arias for their tremendous support in reaching out to our families to find out what their needs are. We are also very thankful to our councilman Danny Dromm and his staff, for the health and safety guidance they are providing to the community at large.

We are planning to have ongoing Parent Association meetings to keep our parents informed. We have two such meetings planned, one in English and another in Spanish. We are dedicated to delivering a high quality remote learning program that follows our curriculum as if we were still in the building. Accountability and documentation is crucial.

We are also looking at how the school can meet the changing directives of The SED and DOE with regard to scheduling, the school year calendar, policies around holidays, and mandated days for the academic school year. As a charter school, we believe we have discretionary flexibility to follow these policies.

6. Public Speaking – Dan Fanelli offered a very favorable perspective of the early successes of the remote learning program.
7. Adjournment of Public Session– 4:50 p.m.

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May 6, 2020

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

(Held virtually under emergency provision for NYS Open Meetings Law for COVID -19)

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 5:05 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffe called and meeting to order and reminded everyone of a big part of the mission of The Renaissance Charter School is to foster capable people, who can provide courageous leadership and hope to society, which is especially true during this time of crisis.
2. Roll Call – Attendance was taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary

Present: Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, Francine Smith, Monte Joffe, and Rachel Mandel (by phone, non-voting for this meeting)

Also Present: Rebekah Oakes (Zoom Meeting Host), Director of Development and Partnerships, and Daniel Fanelli, Administrator for MS and STEM, Denise Hur, Director of Finance and Operations, Matthew DeForte, Counsel, and Jessica Kim, Director of Operations for TRCS2

Absent: Conor McCoy, and Margaret Martinez –DeLuca

3. Update on school building closure – Stacey

Our building is officially closed until further notice. We will not be returning to the building until it is deemed safe to do by the state and the city. The school year will end on June 26th, as originally calendared. We do not have any information regarding summer school or if we will be conducting classes in our building in September. We are continuing to conduct remote learning as a school and are making contingency plans to do so, if we need to sustain this in SY 2020-21.

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The School is also preparing for the possibility that we will conduct summer school classes remotely, and is undertaking a survey of faculty who can support these efforts. We are also advocating that if the district is offering remote summer school, our students should be able to access courses that we cannot offer.

We are continuing our efforts of outreach to support all students, especially those who have struggled the most during this crisis, and whose academic performances have suffered as a result of the many challenges presented. The school is working on its official grading policy to address the changes that have occurred as a result of remote learning. This policy will first go to The SMT for approval and then come to the board for adoption.

The school has held several remote parent meetings in English and Spanish, with most recent meetings have over 70 parents in attendance. Parents have been informed of all pertinent information regarding remote learning and expectations for their children. Parents have said that they are very grateful for all of things we have been doing to support them and their children throughout this crisis.

We are working on our educational continuity plan, which will be submitted to our authorizer upon its completion.

4. Zoom Policy - Stacey and Matthew

The board was sent a copy of the school's Zoom Policy for review. Matthew spoke to the protocols and needs of the school with regard to the safety and security of using this as an online platform for learning. This policy will become a part of the school's educational continuity plan.

The following resolution was put forth by Everett Boyd and seconded by Monte Joffee, with official language to be forthcoming from counsel: "Whereas TRCS uses Zoom as its online learning platform and has developed a policy to ensure the safety and security of its use during remote learning, therefore be it resolved that The Board adopts this policy as stated." The resolution passed unanimously.

5. MOA between TRCS and TRCS 2 – Matthew

The MOA between TRCS and TRCS 2 memorializes the relationship between the two schools and educational corporations, with a defined structure of overarching leadership between the two entities and the educational and operational support that TRCS will provide to TRCS 2. A resolution was put forth by Monte Joffee to approve the MOA as drafted. The resolution was seconded by Chester Hicks, and passed unanimously.

6. PPP Loan – Stacey

The school received the PPP loan in the amount of \$1.9 million. The money is meant to address any shortfall in meeting payroll commitments that are resultant from business disruptions during this crisis. There have been ongoing discussions regarding the guidelines and requirements for use of these funds and the qualifications that all government funded entities, including charter school must meet to qualify for the loans without further scrutiny. The fact that TRCS received the loan, based on the application meeting the prescribed qualifications, is significant. Counsel and the school are monitoring the official guidance for further updates.

A resolution was put forth: “Whereas TRCS availed itself of The PPP under The Cares Act, based on its fiscal liability, and whereas the school applied for and received a loan under The PPP, the board accepts the loan and authorizes TRCS to utilize the money under the parameters of The Cares Act guidelines, spending at least 75% to cover payroll with the remainder to cover any other qualifying expenses. Additionally, the school has made every effort to secure needed funding outside of The Cares Act and PPP, and all funding is at risk due to this crisis.” The resolution passed unanimously.

The preceding resolution effectively rescinds the resolution to furlough food service employees, which was put forth and passed in the April board meeting.

7. Approval of the April Board Minutes – Tabled for a subsequent meeting
8. Adjournment of Public Session– 5:55 p.m.

The Renaissance Charter School
Public Meeting of The Board of Trustees
June 3, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1) Chairperson’s Message | 5 minutes |
| 2) Moment of Silence in memory of George Floyd | 1 minute |
| 3) Approval of the Minutes | 5 minutes |
| 4) Update on Remote Learning | 15 minutes |
| 5) Approval of Remote Grading Policy | 5 minutes |
| 6) Approval of Remote Attendance Policy | 5 minutes |
| 7) Approval of FY 2021 Working Budget | 15 minutes |
| 8) Renewal of Board Member Terms: Everett Boyd, Raymond Johnson,
Francine Smith | 5 minutes |
| 9) Approval of July and August Remote Board Meeting Dates: July 1 and
August 5 – Time TBD | 5 minutes |

Public Speaking – Please indicate in the chat box that you like to speak and what topic you will be speaking on. Each person will be granted 3 minutes of speaking time.

At the conclusion of public speaking, the meeting will be adjourned.

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Conor McCoy

Francine Smith

June 3, 2020

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

(Held virtually under emergency provision for NYS Open Meetings Law for COVID -19)

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 6:00 p.m.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffe called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for their hard work and commitment to support our students during this time of crisis.
2. Moment of Silence in memory of George Floyd.
3. Roll Call – Attendance was taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary

Present: Monte Joffe, Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, and Francine Smith

Also Present: Denise Hur, Director of Operations

Absent: Conor McCoy, Rachel Mandel, and Margaret Martinez –DeLuca

4. Approval of the Minutes from April 1 Emergency Board Meeting and May 6 Monthly Board Meeting.
Both sets of minutes were approved by acclamation.

The board made note that there was a discussion in a confidential executive session held on April 15. During that meeting, the board resolved to authorize the school to apply for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP – Cares Act), according to the guidelines provided, in order to retain and pay all staff during the time of financial crisis as a result of Covid-19.

5. Update on Remote Learning – Stacey

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We are continuing to follow guidelines provided for remote learning. As a school, we are creating opportunities for students to be academically successful during this crisis and beyond. The school will extend opportunities to students to make up work in classes beyond the end of the school year.

Students will be able to apply for incomplete status in classes where they need to make up work in order to pass. There will also be remote summer school, with teachers from TRCS having committed to extended remote learning to support students through August. We should have further information about this as well as our college and career office report at our July meeting.

6. Approval of Remote Grading Policy – Stacey

The school will follow the same grading policy as it has before Covid -19 and remote learning, except that students will be given extended time and extended opportunities to succeed, i.e. incompletes to make up work, summer school, and remedial support. The grading policy was circulated to the board for review prior to the meeting. The remote grading policy was approved by acclamation.

7. Approval of Remote Attendance Policy – Stacey

The attendance policy was also shared with the board prior to the meeting. The policy follows SED and DOE guidelines for tracking attendance for remote learning. The remote attendance policy was approved by acclamation.

8. Approval of FY 2021 Working Budget – Denise Hur

The budget was circulated to the board prior to the meeting. The budget does not include the PPP loan of \$1.9 million. This will be accounted for as adjustments are made for anticipated funding and retroactive salary relief in the future. The 2021 working budget was approved by acclamation.

9. Renewal of Board Member Terms –

The board voted to renew the terms of following trustees: Everett Boyd, Raymond Johnson, and Francine Smith.

The board voted to designate Margaret Martinez –DeLuca as a trustee on medical leave, until her health status changes or there is more clarification about her board membership.

10. Approval of July and August Remote Board Meeting Dates: July 1 August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2 , all at 6PM –

The board voted to approve the proposed calendar.

11. New Business – Stacey

- a. Graduation 2020 - TRCS will have a drive-in commencement ceremony on Tuesday, June 23 at a location in Whitestone, NY. The location is being through arrangements provided by Scott Barone, and Barone Management, the developers of the facility for TRCS 2.
- b. Parent meetings – TRCS has scheduled several parent meetings in English and Spanish, addressing a number of concerns that parents and students have raised during the pandemic. These meetings have

been very well attended, with the intention of having at least two more meetings before the end of the year, including a workshop conducted by our school social worker, Ali Rosow, to advise parents in their efforts to support their children during remote learning.

12. Public Speaking – None

13. Adjournment – 7:05 pm