

The Renaissance Charter School
Public Meeting of The Board of Trustees

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

Via

Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88512702116?pwd=eG1qTGF2OVNjcFdBdk9ZdTN5dHMxQT09>

AGENDA

- 1) Chairperson's Message – 5 minutes
- 2) Roll Call- 2 minutes
- 3) Approval of the October, 2021 minutes – 10 minutes
- 4) Review of FY 21 Certified Financial Report – 15 minutes
- 5) School Management Team Report – 15 minutes
- 6) Board Members' New Business – 10 minutes
- 7) Public Speaking – TBD
- 8) Adjournment of Public Session
- 9) Executive Session

The Renaissance

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

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monte Joffe, Ed.D.

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Chester Hicks

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Dr. Rachel Mandel

Margaret Martinez-DeLuca

FINAL

November 03, 2021

The Renaissance Charter School

HONORARY MEMBERS

Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Francine Smith, 1949-2021

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

Meryl Thompson

The meeting convened at 6:00 pm.

1. Chairperson's Message – Dr. Joffe welcomed everyone and acknowledged that the beginning of the school year has been full of difficult challenges, yet November is here. Dr. Joffe reminded everyone of the great progress that Renaissance has made since its inception and now with a second school, TRCS 2, in its second year of operation and looking ahead to moving into a brand new facility next year.
2. Roll Call – Attendance was taken by Everett Boyd, Secretary

Present: Monte Joffe, Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Daniel Fanelli, Chester Hicks, Rachel Mandel, and Raymond Johnson

Absent: Margaret Martinez –DeLuca
3. Approval of minutes October 6, 2021 board meeting Minutes ap-
proved by acclamation
4. Review of 2021 Certified Financial Report - Stacey Gauthier
 - a. Ms. Gauthier reported that the Board Finance Committee met to review the report.
 - b. The report was presented by the school's accountants.
 - c. The school's financial position is positive, with the school not running a deficit.
 - d. The report was clean in its findings.
5. School Management Team Report - Stacey Gauthier

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

- a. TRCS is fully enrolled, for the most part, with some seats reserved for Kindergarten.
 - b. TRCS has almost 300 applicants for next year and plans to have several virtual open houses to prepare for the April lottery.
 - c. Election Day PD was very successful, with a focus on progress reports and meeting the needs of IEP students and students with special needs.
 - d. Testing has been completed to identify ELL students. The school has identified 90 students who qualify as English Language Learners.
 - e. TRCS will be a pop-up vaccination site on Tuesday, November 9, and will advertise to its community and to TRCS 2 to open the site for participation to those who are eligible.
 - f. The number of fully vaccinated students continues to grow, with some classes having achieved a 90% vaccination rate.
 - g. TRCS continues to test students for COVID-19 on-site who have been given permission to be tested. The school uses a private provider as well as the DOE's testing service.
 - h. The school continues to conduct robust interim academic testing to gauge student achievement.
 - i. The school has a new Director of Operations, Omar Rafael, who was brought over from TRCS 2. He has taken on a multifunctional role and manages the school's COVID responses, including the testing program and outreach to the school community when there are cases of any positive COVID cases.
 - j. The school has also hired a new chef/kitchen manager.
 - k. The building will probably be closed next summer for scheduled HVAC updates.
10. Board Members New Business -
- a. Chester Hicks brought up several issues -
 - i. Vaping seems to be on the rise in bathrooms
 - ii. Recently there was a report of two female students who were engaged in a public display of affection in one of the girls's bathrooms.
 - iii. There are reports of students exiting the building at dismissal and then re-entering the building without being checked or monitored.
 - iv. Mr. Hicks is also concerned about the possibility of a harsh winter and protecting students who may be waiting outside to enter the school
 - b. Stacey responded to the reports and said that these matters (vaping, inappropriate public displays of affection, and student access to the building after school) should be referred to Vinny (Vincent Garelick, Dean of Students).
 - i. Vaping has always been a major concern. The school has joined a class-action lawsuit that if it wins, may address some of the issues of detecting vaping, with the installation of vaping detectors. The larger issue is about health and safety concerns and the need to educate students and parents about the immediate and long-term health hazards of vaping.
 - ii. The school is also concerned about students who may be exposed to extreme weather and will work to ensure that parents are aware of the need to plan ahead for the possibility and to adjust the arrival time of their children accordingly.
11. Public Speaking - None
12. Meeting Adjourned - 6:30 PM
13. Confidential Session Convened at 6:31PM