The Renaissance Charter School Board of Trustees

Public Meeting – February 2, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1) Chairperson's Message 5 minutes
- 2) Roll Call 2 minutes
- 3) Approval of the December Minutes 5 minutes
- 4) School Management Team Report 10 minutes
- 5) Board Members' New Business 10 minutes
- 6) Public Speaking TBD
- 7) Adjournment of Public Meeting

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

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monte Joffee, Ed.D. ${\it Chair person}$ Daniel Fanelli Secretary Stacey Gauthier Chester Hicks Raymond Johnson Dr. Rachel Mandel Margaret Martinez-DeLuca Everett Boyd

APPROVED

February 2nd, 2022

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

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 p.m

- 1. Chairperson's Message
 - a. Welcome everyone, Meredith welcome. Rebekah Oakes is now on Terminal Leave. Monte: A lot of work gets done in the main office, it's the power center, new idea, innovative solutions, Rebekah was a calming voice, a presence of honesty and voice. So much of her work is in the background, working through the night on grants. She started with us as a Kindergarten parent to working with us for over 22 years. She helped us to get through many many times at Renaissance.
 - b. Monte would like to create "The Renaissance Hero's Award", and we would like to nominate Rebekah to receive that award.
 - c. It's a recognition of all of the work behind the scenes done by so many, Raymond with students, Chester with Parents, Stacey, Everett and Dan work on the school
 - Meredith is our New Director of Communications
- Roll Call Attendance taken by Dan Fanelli, Secretary
 - a. Present: Monte Joffee, Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Daniel Fanelli, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson
- Approval of the minutes of the January 5th, 2022, board meeting
 - a. Minutes approved by acclamation
- 4. School Management Team Report Stacey Gauthier
 - a. COVID update
 - i. Testing 25% of our students, vaccinated and unvaccinated, working with bio reference and access
 - ii. Making available an addition testing at the school from 3:30 to 6:00 for both Renaissance and Renaissance 2 families.
 - We still have some students testing positive, but like the rest of the city we are dropping off from the earlier months. We are well supplied with tests.
 - iv. Our plan prior to the mid-winter break, we will give every student a test so they can take it prior to returning from the break.
 - b. We are the recipient of the STOP Grant -

- i. We will be the lead school for the 20 schools on the consortium. Ren 2 will be included. Every school gets a \$3,000 stipend, Emergency management work
- c. The PK contract was approved
 - i. we reapplied to get more money and we were successful; we couldn't have done it without Rebekah's support.
 - ii. \$16,114 is the new PPR plus 2 grants: one for the bathroom renovation and another for supplies
- d. Air Unit Replacement
 - i. Waiting to find out when we are going to get it. We are 75% of the way through the process, when done we will have a new system to control the air and the fire system, it will all be state of the art.
 - ii. We believe this will take place over the summer which will close the school.
- e. Personnel Changes
 - i. Rebekah on "Terminal Leave" till June 30th after which she will retire. She will continue to support us for the reminder of the year with presession.
 - ii. Yumeris Morel was offered a position as an AP at a consortium school to eventually be a principal.
 - iii. Replacement plans: Rebekah's job will be replaced by Meredith as the Director of Communications, Peggy Heaney who has accepted the Director of Development, so we are looking to hire a Parent Coordinator to support the work that Peggy did.
 - iv. Yumeris position, we are looking to see what we can do internally to cover the ELA program and the Advisory Program. We are thinking to create an advisory coordinator that will be under our college bound team supported by Ana.
 - v. Chef Manager: Gregory Hill
 - vi. Our Nurse has to take a leave, we have a replacement, Nurse Pat
- f. "TRCS confessions" has been shut down
 - i. The PTA held a presentation about social media and kids, they had the precinct on to talk about cyber bullying
 - ii. Vincent Garlick, Dean, is supporting getting this site down
- g. Advocacy work
 - i. PBJ supporting our work with getting the state to pay for our pension
 - ii. The UFT, CSA, DC37 union members have all signed a letter in support of paying for our pension.
 - 1. The heads of both CSA and DC37 unions are in support.
 - iii. There are still negative statements about charter schools out there, but we will continue to push through.
 - iv. In the past we have gotten state grants, that were written into the budget. The other way is the city is provided with a pot of money and divides it up between the 3 conversion charter schools.
 - v. The speaker and some other elected are interested in supporting our ask to cover our pension
 - vi. Doesn't look like there will be a charter cap lift
 - vii. UFT is advocating for charter schools to not get rental assistance from the city
 - viii. We will continue to ask for support as we always do.
- h. Chester Hicks Spoke to school safety
 - i. They have a class of new agents graduating, and they plan to support us with another agent
- i. Resolution: Rebekah Oakes to become a new member of The Board of Trustees: approved by acclamation
- 5. Board Members' New Business none
- 6. Public Speaking none
- 7. Adjournment of Public Meeting 6:43pm