

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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Everett Boyd

Rebekah Oakes

APPROVED

May 15th, 2024

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.

Margaret Martinez-DeLuca

Meryl Thompson

1. Chairperson's Message – 3 minutes
 - a. Welcome message provided by Monte Joffe at 12:00pm
2. Roll Call – 2 minutes
 - a. Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier, Rebekah O., Dan Fanelli, Raymond Johnson, Chester Hicks, Dr. Rachel Mandel, Monte Joffe.
3. Approval of Last Month's Minutes – 5 minutes
 - a. Minutes approved by acclimation.
4. School Management Team Report – 10 minutes
 - a. Stacey – Renewal in Albany, Vice Chancellor Chin, Commissioner Betty Rosa, Chancellor Young and David Frank, acknowledged we are great school and they support our community. Stacey met with the UFT ELL representative and would be willing to come talk to our teachers with our growing population of our ELL students. Dwayne Andrew was there with Stacey to support our

"Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York"

school as well. They highlighted 3 things about us.

- i. Targeted Reading Intervention Program TRIP
 - ii. Targeted Math Intervention Program
 - iii. D75 inclusion program (Nice to get a shout out about that, as we are the only charter school with that program).
 - iv. Shout out to our Teachers, Parents, and Administrator for all their work. We received a 5-year renewal with no conditions. We sent a letter to staff thanking them and a letter to families as well.
- b. They are starting our lease negotiations for the building. The owner of the building passed away and his wife took over. CSA was in the building to see all the rooms. Once the lease is negotiated, we can move forward with the BTU replacement. If this process moves along quickly, we may have to close the building over the 2025 summer and hold our summer program at Ren 2
- c. Very successful PreK inspection. Big shout out to Marlene, Toyin, Marianela Suzanne, Liz P. We still have not received any money from the DOE for our program.
- d. Dwayne Andrews says we are going to get 210k from the state like we did last year. We still have not received last year's money.
- e. State Testing – ELA and Math are over, Science is happening now, APs and Regents are happening in June.
- f. Art performances, Little Sizzle, and career day are coming. Staff volleyball game this Friday May 17th.
- g. Stacey and Meredith met with Kim Raccio from The Peter and Carmen Lucia Buck Foundation (PCLB). We hope this new relationship will bring some additional funding to the school.
- h. Jorge R. Compose came for Principal for Day, they met with SMT members

and students in the high school, as well as our College Bound program.

- i. Monte raises providing compensation for a successful renewal. Stacey says she will work with Denise to look at the budget to see if this is possible. Perhaps this becomes a stipend? Raymond raises that this could be an issue with the union. The UFT complained that we gave money to teachers through the PICCS incentive teacher bonus. Stacey - we have provided holiday gifts as a thank you for their work.

- i. Resolution: Whereas on May 6th, 2024, the Board of Regents granted The Renaissance Charter School (TRCS) a full five-year renewal of its charter without conditions. Whereas the Board of Trustees (BOT) wish to recognize the hard work and dedication of its staff and their positive impact on TRCS' charter renewal by awarding all staff with a charter renewal gift. Now, therefore, be it resolved, in recognition of the hard work and dedication of the TRCS staff and their positive impact on the TRCS' full charter renewal the BOT intends to provide a financial gift to all the staff in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 subject to consultation with the CFO, Principal, and approval of the executive board.

1. Approved Unanimously.

5. ESF Audit Letter – 10 minutes.

- a. See attached letter that was read to the BOT.

6. Board Resolution to Request Contract Negotiations – 5 minutes

- a. Matthew – this will be discussed in executive session as it is related to collective bargaining negotiations. The UFT over the years has had a willingness to have these negotiations. If there is a vote to do so we will come out of executive session and report out.

7. Board Members' New Business – 10 minutes

- a. Matthew – we have discussed previously that we want to strengthen the process

for adding new board members. Stacey, Monte, and Mathew discussed this and have come up with the following:

1. We would like the board applicant to include their paperwork, resume, why they want to join the board in writing, and interview with a Board subcommittee. Once completed, the subcommittee will report out to the Board, once the full board approves the candidate, their paperwork will be submitted to the authorizer for approval. After authorizer approval, the new board member will be required to attend board training and will be provided with a mentor board member.
- ii. We are doing this to strengthen the board process. We will use this process for all new candidates moving forward, including the current applicant, Jose Mane.
- iii. Resolution to change the process of becoming a board member described above.

1. Approved Unanimously

- b. Monte - we will move forward with the evaluation of School Management Team now and throughout the summer.
- c. Stacey - Jose would like to change the time of BOT meeting because he has a conflict with his current teaching schedule to attend the meetings. Monte will reach out to Jose to discuss this further. We will also survey current Board members to get their feedback on this change as well.

8. Public Speaking – TBD

- a. None

9. Adjournment of Public Meeting to move to executive session

- a. 12:53pm

10. Re-enter public session at 1:54pm
11. The Board resolved to seek a modification of the CBA through collective bargaining with the union for the purpose of tailoring the existing DOE-UFT CBA to tailor the needs of TRCS and its teachers and directed the principal and general counsel to lead the effort.
12. Adjournment of Public meeting 2:05pm