

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

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APPROVED

December 4th, 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 9:05
2. Roll Call – 2 minutes
 - a. Present: Rebekah Oakes, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, Dan Fanelli, Everett Boyd, Stacey Gauthier. Monte Joffe,
 - b. Absent: Dr. Rachel Mandel
3. Approval of Last Month's Minutes – 5 minutes
 - a. Minutes approved by acclamation.
4. School Management Team Report – 10 minutes
 - a. Stacey – Progress toward goals, we met all but one goal; the enrollment target for ELL students compared to the district. This has been an ongoing discussion.
 - b. Stacey - Very strong report overall on academics, governance, and financial.

"Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York"

- c. Stacey - The goals may change for the new charter as the regents may or may not be required. Once we get more information we will share with the board
- d. Stacey - SPED funding – we have never received an increase in funding for Special Education students since we became a charter school. This is problematic because we have a high fringe, and the needs of our students have increased over time.
 - i. Stacey and Liz Perez are on a SPED committee that looks at the changes to SPED funding. This change looks like it will take place for the 2026-27 SY. The Charter Center is looking into this as well and how it will impact charter schools.
 - ii. We think the Funding will be impacted based on the services provided to SPED students from 0-20%, 40-60%, and 60%+
 - iii. District schools will not have to cut funding mid-year based on enrollment.
- e. Stacey - Increases in health and pension costs are expected in the coming years. We will continue to monitor this.
- f. Stacey - We are currently operating under a number of grants, just to shout out a few and those that are involved.
 - i. Literacy grant: Nicole Jollon, Daniela Labella, and Ariel Sacks thank you for your work on this grant
 - ii. Mental Health Grant: New Dawn is the lead; we will be able to keep our practicum students.
- g. Stacey - Chronic absenteeism – students that have stopped showing up are problematic. This even includes students with excused absences. We are working with one of our grants to hire a community resource associate that will help us to address students with chronic absents issues.
 - i. We are close to hiring someone that has experience working with

families.

- ii. Monte – we would like this to be a standing item for future board meeting.
 - h. Additional hours of Alternative instruction for students that are suspended. Students must participate in alternative instruction. It must include instruction and students
 - i. Peer intervisitation – shout out to clusters 2 & 3 for working together to take part in peer observation. This is a great practice for teacher to engage in as they can learn from each other and grow. We are looking forward to the possibility of a few teachers from cluster 1 piloting this work before the entire cluster takes it on.
5. Board Members’ New Business – 10 minutes
- a. Education committee – we need to meet to have a conversation about SMT review
 - b. Updated ESSA information will require the financial committee to meet again.
 - c. Delay the next board meeting to the 22nd of January 2025.
 - i. Changed of meeting date approved by acclimation.
6. Public Speaking – TBD
7. Adjournment of Public Meeting
- a. 9:31am
8. Executive Session