

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.

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Approved

May 7th, 2025

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. Monte Provides Welcome message at 9:06am

2. Roll Call – 2 minutes

- a. Present: Stacey Gauthier, Chester Hicks, Raymond Johnson, Everett Boyd, Rebekah Oakes, Monte Joffee, Dan Fanelli
- b. Absent: Dr. Rachel Mandel, Jose Mane

3. Approval of Last Month's Minutes – 5 minutes

- a. Minutes approved by acclimation

4. Development Report – 10 minutes

- a. See attached Report
- b. We would like to invite Meredith back again to share out her work around Rensizzle.

"Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York"

5. School Management Team Report – 10 minutes

- a. Shout out and thank you to Andrea, Victor, others, and the co-coordinators who has supported school testing.
- b. Shout out to a team of teachers that have agreed to work on a grant from the consortium. Ariel, Nicole, and Daniela have been working hard on innovated approaches to literacy. This will continue into the summer
- c. Shout out to Cristine in her new role as Social Studies Coach. She is doing great work. She will come to talk about her work at the next BOT meeting.
- d. Summer Boost grant received shout out to Dan. Every time we were at Renaissance and Renaissance 2 we heard that families wanted an extended day afterschool program Monday - Thursday and a full day of Enrichment on Friday. We are very excited about both the K-8 program and the HS program.
- e. Governor and legislator are passing the “Bell to Bell” cell phone policy. We would take the phone from the students in the morning and don’t get it back until the end of the day. We anticipate some issue and pushback from families with this; the SMT will meet next week to talk about this further and create a plan.
- f. Pre-K – We have not yet received the money for this year. Money was approved for the installation of a new sink. We have also gotten the proportionate shared use agreement monies. We have two pending conversion school monies to be collected on. Denise reaches out weekly. We have over 600k of pending money.
- g. Mental Health Grant was discontinued by the Trump Administration. It appears that Blue States had the grant cancelled, and Red States did not. The money will be discontinued in March 2026. We plan to file a letter to reconsider the grant to the Trump Administration. Our legal and Government teams are involved to create a plan moving forward to respond. The grant originally came from the Trump administration in the first term.

- h. Our working budget for SY2025-26 is almost ready, but the State has yet to finalize its budget, so we are a bit delayed. Teacher preference sheets are due back on May 9th. We need an extra Math teacher and that has been budgeted for.
 - i. Supreme Court Case – We are following it; this could impact Charter Schools in NYS.
 - j. Principal Review – We are continuing to update and parts of the action to implement it next year. We would like to link that work to the new graduation requirements. We need to be ahead of the curve and competitive on these things. We want to make sure families continue to choose our schools.
6. Board Members’ New Business – 10 minutes
- a. None
7. Public Speaking – TBD
- a. None
8. Adjournment of Public Meeting
- a. Adjourned at 9:55