

The Renaissance

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

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

on

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monte Joffee, Ed.D.

Chairperson

Daniel Fanelli

Secretary

Stacey Gauthier

Chester Hicks

Raymond Johnson

Dr. Rachel Mandel

Everett Boyd

Rebekah Oakes

Jose Mane

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

APPROVED

August 13th, 2025

The Renaissance Charter School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

1. Chairperson's Message – 3 minutes

- a. Welcome message from Monte at 9:06am

2. Roll Call – 2 minutes

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

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

- a. Minutes approved by acclimation

4. School Management Team Report – 10 minutes

Dan-

a) **Summer School Program Recap**

Our K–8 summer school program just wrapped up

- a. **Purpose:** The focus was on closing academic gaps, strengthening student discussion, and building confidence for the fall. We completed weekly
- b. **Participation:** We served students from both schools in ELA, Math, and enrichment.

“Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York”

- c. **Acknowledgment:** A huge thank you to all of our summer school teachers, support staff, and coordinators from **both schools**. Their flexibility, commitment, and ability to adapt made a tremendous difference for our students. Huge shout out to Dawn, JC, and the office staff for helping to ensure our program was fully enrolled.
- d. **Outcome Highlights:** We have seen growth in previous years, we expect to see more growth this year as student discussion was prevalent in every classroom. We have seen growth for students in both content knowledge and discussion skills, aligning with our long-term goals for engagement and academic achievement. Once we have the data we will share it with the board.
- e. The HS program is ongoing, students will take Regents exams and make up credits. This year we worked to identify the top 6 key standards per subject that is being taught and came up with scripted lessons for every day that target those standards over a 6 week period.

b) **Goals for Summer**

Over the summer, our teaching and learning goals focused on:

- a. Increasing student-to-student discussion
- b. Using data weekly to adjust instruction
- c. Building toward proficiency on end-of-year assessments

c) **2025–26 School Year Goals:**

- a. Achieve **20% growth** on all state and internal assessments across both schools.
- b. Ensure that 80% of lessons feature rich student discussion, with a 60:40 student-to-teacher voice ratio.
- c. Use weekly progress monitoring to ensure consistent growth toward proficiency targets.

d) **Fall PD Week Update**

Our Fall Professional Development week is designed to directly support these goals:

- a. Sessions on rigorous questioning techniques and fostering academic discussion
- b. Training in data analysis to inform weekly instructional adjustments
- c. Cross-school collaboration between Renaissance 1 and Renaissance 2 teams
- d. Planning time for grade-level and content-area teams to align instruction to our goals.
- e. Communicating the ICT and ELL vision.
- f. PD will be hands-on, collaborative, and outcomes-focused, ensuring that teachers are ready to start strong in September.

e) **New Teacher Hires**

We are excited to welcome three new teachers for the coming school year:

- a) Liz E, Interventionist – We offered the position To Fio a qualified candidate

- b) Kelly P – We are waiting to hear back from the candidate who has qualifications in kindergarten and was a graduate of the Renaissance a number of years ago. If she accepts the position we will invite her to the next board meeting.
- c) Each brings fresh ideas, strong content knowledge, and a commitment to our mission.

Stacey Report - Dan Wiseman resigned which is not great for us. Stacey is on a Special ed committee which is planning on auditing special education programs for charter schools. It's great that they are so they can provide the charter school perspective.

- a. Federal update, we haven't heard any information back.
 - b. Matthew – we are studying the lawsuit
 - c. We are looking to getting a meeting with Zohran to turn his view on the charter schools.
 - d. We have another alumnus joining Renaissance 2's college bound team. We are very excited to have her. We will invite her to join a board meeting so you can all meet her.
5. Review and Approval of Emergency Response Plan – 10 minutes
- a. Meredith presents the Emergency Response Plan
 - b. Emergency Response Plan approved by acclimation
6. Board Members' New Business – 10 minutes
- a. Dan will need to come off the board as a voting member
 - b. Matthew is looking at the by-laws,
 - c. Board votes unanimously to amend the by-laws to make the Principal a non-voting member of board.
7. Public Speaking – TBD
8. Adjournment of Public Meeting 9:41am