

The Renaissance

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

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APPROVED

September 10th, 2025

The Renaissance Charter School

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Sandra Geyer, 1941-2019

Hazel DuBois, Ph.D. 1937-2013

Francine Smith, 1949-2021

Hon. Rudolph Greco, Esq.

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Mervl Thompson

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

1. Chairperson's Message – 3 minutes

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

2. Roll Call – 2 minutes

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

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

- a. Minutes approved by acclimation

4. School Management Team Report – 10 minutes

Dan's Report --

a) Network-Wide 2025-2026 Outcome-Focused Goals

- a. The Outcome-Focused Goals document was distributed to all board members, and is part of this meeting's records.
- b. First day across many classrooms saw the work in action in day to day teaching, saw student engagement and teacher questioning at high levels.

"Developing Leaders for the Renaissance of New York"

- c. School-wide data overview – 3rd-8th grade results show 65% ELA 5% increase; 60% Math, a 2% drop. A detailed document will be provided next month.
 - i. HS Regents – mixed results. 78% proficient in ELA, but struggling in other content areas.
- d. Next steps: NWEA assessment will happen next week, in order to start targeted tutoring earlier from a targeted curriculum with a coach, in Math and ELA. Cluster leaders starting to coordinate peer observations.
- e. PA has a movie night upcoming.
- f. Thanks to all the teams that worked hard to welcome students: SMT, academic, maintenance, and kitchen.
- g. Good news: 3rd grade was 83% proficient in Math with brand new teachers and on-going coaching and assessment. Half of all MS 8th students earning US History, passing regents. Looking for 20% growth for Math; 7th and 8th graders are now taking Algebra, so those students who stay on for HS will not be meeting Algebra for the first time in 9th grade, as in past years.
- h.

b) Fall PD Week Update

- a. Teacher goals were the focus of the professional development during the first week, focusing on the Danielson rubric on student engagement and questioning. Additional PD for our special populations, to give teachers strategies and tools for ELL and SPED populations, ICT teaching. Thanks to Liz Perez and James Drumgoole for coordinating and communicating the ICT and ELL vision. We are at 19% IEP and 22% ELL, growing from the 2 previous years as an example of our changing demographics.
- b. Planning time for grade-level and content-area teams to align instruction to our goals.

Stacey's Report –

- a. Cross-school collaboration between Renaissance 1 and Renaissance 2 teams will be exciting, even as our schools are different, with Ren 2's longer day and full 3-days of targeted tutoring.
- b. Federal grant update; our appeals against our grant repeals are still in the works, but nothing definitive yet. The federal literacy grant has also been pulled. The loss of all of these grants will have a significant impact on both of our schools. Project Prevent is the only one left so far.
- c. Although not in this year's NY State budget, it looks like we will be in the "clean-up" bill. Including all that we are owed from previous years, it will total \$630,000.

Monte asked Dan if there is anything the board can do to help with meeting our goals; any encouragement from the board is appreciated. Monte: raise consciousness and excitement around the push to meet these goals – posters, contests, prizes? Keep this as a standing item on the agenda so the board can stay informed.

5. Board Members' New Business - None
6. Public Speaking – None
7. Adjournment of Public Meeting - motion to adjourn at 9:37 am.