



The Renaissance Charter School 2

60-02 Maspeth Avenue, Maspeth, NY 11378
www.renaissancecharter.org
info@rencharter2.org • 917-242-3505

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Monte Joffe, Ed.D.
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John Harrison York
Vice Chairperson
Liz Perez
Secretary
Chester Hicks
Rachel Mandel
Conor McCoy
Victor Motta

January 6, 2021 at
5:00 PM

The Renaissance Charter School 2

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Agenda

1. Meeting Convened
2. Chairperson's Welcome - 2 mins
3. Roll Call - 1 min
4. Approval of December Meeting Minutes - 5 mins
5. School Management Team Report - 30 mins
 - a. Reopening update
 - b. Mid-Year Financial Report
6. New Business
7. Public Speaking
8. Adjournment of Public Session

The Renaissance

35-59 81st Street, Jackson Heights, NY 11372
www.renaissancecharter.org • 718-803-0060 • 718-803-3785 (fax)

Charter School 2

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January 6, 2021

The Renaissance Charter School 2

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting convened at 5:02 p.m.

1. Meeting convened
2. Chairperson's Welcome - 2 minutes
3. Roll Call - 1 minute
 - a. Board Members Present: Monte Joffe, John Harrison York, Liz Perez, Chester Hicks, Rachel Mandel, Victor Motta
 - b. Board Members Absent: Conor McCoy
 - c. Others Present: Stacey Gauthier, Flo Evans, Jessica Kim, Omar Rafael-Davila, Daniel Fanelli, Everett Boyd
4. Approval of December meeting minutes - 5 minutes
5. School Management Team Report - 30 minutes
 - a. Reopening Update (Everett Boyd):
 - i. Scheduled to reopen on January 19. Everett sent communication to family, staff, and the Board of Trustees before winter holiday about issues with keeping school open after the Thanksgiving holiday, i.e., positive cases that necessitated closure before the Winter Recess. One classroom had to quarantine for 14 days, and then a second case occurred and the school followed guidelines and closed.
 - ii. Reopening depends on metrics and where things stand over the next few weeks. Sent notification to families and staff yesterday about opening being dependent on several factors, including NYC positivity rates and more particularly, positivity rates within the school.

- iii. One thing that the school is working on is distributing consent forms to families so that they can consent to be tested. We've relied on self-reporting, and families have been very good about that, but we need to move forward with distributing forms starting tomorrow. Question about whether TRCS2 is doing on-site testing. If there is no on-site testing, consent is not needed. One school is paying \$50 per test plus a qualified person to administer the test.
- iv. Update on DOH - now quarantine is 10-day. Still mandated to report any positive case; DOH won't necessarily investigate unless the school rate is spiking. Discussion of what is needed to meet 20%. School decided to continue testing voluntarily. School staff members told they could volunteer, lab would release results directly to school but no positive cases have come of that yet. We need to start thinking about how we would adapt that with the students. DOE says that someone qualified must swab. Concern about possible litigiousness over swabbing by school personnel; it should be done by someone who has the certification.
- v. Discussion of lawsuit by TRCS1 and six other charters suing DOE and City stating that they are violating health and safety regulations by not providing free testing to charter schools.
- vi. Caveat: testing in schools needs an element of randomness so it's not the same people being tested all of the time.
- vii. Charter schools in private space (Ren2) are subject to different procedures than charters in district space (Ren1).
- viii. Question about time spent getting tested--can take up to three hours. We haven't faced this issue yet. Can become burdensome on a school. This is why the 20% should be more than just staff.

b. Mid-Year Financial Report (Daniel Fanelli):

- i. Executive Leadership team (Dan and Denise) spent time over the summer creating a number of different budget scenarios based on the number of students. Currently we have 138 (86%). Below 100 would not be good no matter the scenario. SED's comments were that we wanted to maintain an enrollment above 85%. We are still in good financial standing in terms of tracking the fiscal year projections for that number of students; no major deficits.
- ii. The various funding we were able to secure in advance allowed for the purchase of PPD and air purifiers and other unexpected costs that arose out of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- iii. Our maximum enrollment being 162, we are still currently under enrolled. We need to focus more on recruitment. Ren1 currently has 2400 applicants and can encourage families who don't come in through the lottery to apply to Ren2.
- iv. On January 11, the Governor is going to begin the process of announcing his budget. There could be significant cuts to school funding.

6. New Business - none

7. Public Speaking

8. Adjournment of Public Session 5:44 p.m.