



**Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation  
Minutes for Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
May 28, 2014, 6 p.m.  
410 East 100th Street, New York, NY 10029**

**Agenda:**

**1. Roll Call**

George Sarkissian called the meeting to order. Mr. Sarkissian, Sona Karia, Stacey Gauthier, and Ivan Fraser were present. Also present were Stephen Falla Riff, Executive Director, Terence Joseph, Principal, Matt Boyle, Facilities Manager, and Pablo Torres, Director of Community Engagement.

**2. Filing of Notice of Meeting**

In accordance with the law, a notice of the meeting was published on the school's website and also posted publicly at the M099 Educational Complex where Innovation High School is located, at 410 East 100th Street New York, NY 10029.

**3. Review and Approval of February 10, 2014 Minutes**

The Board reviewed the February 10, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting minutes. Ms. Karia made a motion to approve the minutes, and Ms. Gauthier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**4. Proposed Revision of M099 Building Utilization Plan ("BUP")**

This matter was also discussed at the March 31, 2014 Board meeting. Because of the proposed modification to the BUP Innovation is unable to expand its enrollment to 500 students from the present enrollment of approximately 440. The modification also has a negative impact on Innovation's educational programming and the range of services available to special needs students and academically challenged students. In response to Innovation's protests, the DOE brokered a deal to provide Innovation with an additional quarter-room and an additional half room. In addition, Harlem Prep, offered Innovation an additional half room on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor for the 2014-2015 school year. Mr. Falla Riff informed the Board of the amendment to the Education Law that provides that any proposed space allocation changes made must receive consent from the charter school affected. The PEP meeting, to be held on May 29, 2014, has the building space issue on the agenda. Mr. Sarkissian then proposed the following resolution: "Whereas progress has been made, space needs have not been resolved. The Board of Trustees requests that the proposal to amend the M099 Educational Complex Building Utilization Plan be tabled at the PEP meeting on May 29, 2014, and placed on the agenda for the following meeting, to give the parties an opportunity to resolve the space

issues.” Mr. Sarkissian moved to approve the resolution and Mr. Fraser seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**5. Charter Renewal**

Mr. Falla-Riff informed the Board that on June 4, 2014 the DOE will send their Charter Renewal team to Innovation. The Innovation management and staff have prepared documents concerning pedagogy, finance, business operations and governance. In the days leading up to the DOE visit, teachers will receive training in preparation for the visit. The student body will also be informed about the visit and its purpose.

**9. Summer Relocation of Innovation for PCB Abatement**

Deputy Chancellor Kathleen Grim notified Innovation that from July 1, 2014 through mid-August, Innovation will be relocated to a nearby school. This temporary relocation is required because the M099 building must be closed during the summer for the purpose of a PCB abatement of the light fixtures.

**10. Proposal to provide financial support to the Coalition of Community Charter Schools (“CCCS”)**

Ms. Gauthier provided information on the CCCS: a coalition of 50 charter schools serving 15,000 students. The CCCS was formed upon Mayor Bill de Blasio taking office to demonstrate the good work that many charters are doing educating special needs kids, creating effective partnerships with other schools and local community-based organizations, and creating best practices in education. Ms. Gauthier requested that Innovation make a financial contribution of \$10,000 to the CCCS to enable it to continue its fine work and to establish a stable organizational structure. Similar contributions are expected from many other charter schools. Ms. Karia moved to approve this contribution, and Mr. Sarkissian seconded the motion, which was unanimously passed. Ms. Gauthier abstained from the voting process.

**11. Other New Business**

No other new business was discussed.

**12. Adjournment**

Mr. Sarkissian moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Fraser seconded, the motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was concluded.