



**Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation
Agenda for Meeting of the Board of Trustees
May 21st, 2012
410 East 100th Street, New York, NY 10029**

Agenda:

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Review of the April Board Minutes**
- 3. Presentation on the Rules of Professional Conduct**
- 4. Financials Year to Date Status by Dennis Stamm**
- 5. Audit Committee and Financial Committee Update**
- 6. Board Retreat**
- 7. Public Speaking**



**Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation
Minutes for Meeting of the Board of Trustees
April 30th, 2012
410 East 100th Street, New York, NY 10029**

Agenda:

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Review of March Board Minutes**
- 3. Committee mission and work plan**
- 4. Revision of Board Meeting Calendar**
- 5. Budget Review**
- 6. Audit Committee Update**
- 7. Development Update**
- 8. Governance Update**

1. Roll Call

Stacey Gauthier, Frank Saia, Leanne Sajor, George Sarkissian, and Nicholas Tishuk were present. Also present were Rita Tishuk, Director of Development and Communications as well as Steve Falla-Riff, School's Counsel from Legal Aid Society.

2. Review of March Board Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from March 20th. Mr. Saia motioned to approve, Ms. Gauthier seconded and the minutes were approved with the full approval of the board.

3. Committee mission and work plan

Ms. Gauthier explained the review committee's dashboard and design from last year's Principal and Director of Development and Communication's review. She also mentioned exploring 360 reviews, which the board plans to implement in the future. Ms. Gauthier will be working on writing the mission statement for the committee and creating the calendar for the review committee to be added to the master board calendar.

Ms. Sajor presented the Board Governance committee mission and tasks. She explained the next priority for the committee is to cultivate and bring on a parent representative. She will be working with Rita Tishuk, Pablo Torres,

Chief of Staff and Debbie DaGiau Associate Director of Finance to coordinate the parent teacher organization's election.

Mr. Tishuk recommended that the board create a document that states expectations and goals for the entire board in addition to the committee responsibilities. Mr. Falla-Riff encouraged the Board Governance committee to revisit the by-laws and make some necessary updates as well. The finance committee's mission and work plan was not presented because of Ms. Karia's absence.

4. Revision of Board Meeting Calendar

The Board agreed on setting the dates for the last two months of the academic year. The next Board meeting will now take place on Monday, May 21st and June's meeting will be on Monday, the 25th. The Board will create the calendar for the 2012-2013 academic calendar over the summer.

5. Budget Review

Mr. Tishuk reported that the school remains fiscally sound. Innovation is closing off the academic year strongly with actual expenses slightly lower than the projections. He explained that the budget continues to be weighty on teaching staff. Innovation will continue to invest on qualified staff members to provide the best support for the students.

6. Audit Committee Update

Mr. Falla-Riff and Ms. Karia had a conversation with the auditors, Mr. Stamm and Mr. Bader. The auditors advised the board to create a finance handbook or a charter to help clarify the work relationship between the school and the auditors as well as to inform the audit/finance committee's responsibilities.

7. Development Update

Ms. Tishuk explained to the Board that fundraising through foundations have been difficult. Most foundations are interested in charter networks or necessitate hard data such as graduation rates, neither of which apply to Innovation. Ms. Tishuk told the board that her team would be exploring corporate sponsorships and the extra curricular programs are a big attraction for these types of revenue. Innovation's program at Credit Suisse will be continuing next year with a new cohort of students and the instructors are working to make a connection with the philanthropic arm of the company. Programs like Innovation Think Tank, The Freedom Riders and Innovation Cares were central to the Participatory Budgeting campaign and helped build exposure in the community. Mr. Sarkissian urged the Board to reach out the locally elected officials for smaller grants, he volunteered helping out with this task. Ms. Gauthier encouraged the two sister schools, Innovation and

Renaissance to work together for collaborative grants. Mr. Tishuk also mentioned that there could be many opportunities for cross programming for career and technical education in both schools.

8. Governance Update

Ms. Sajor welcomed George Sarkissian on the Board. Ms. Sajor proposed that the Board have a retreat sometime at the end of June or the beginning of July to create a work plan for the year and to make this an annual practice. Ms. Gauthier agreed and the board will choose a facilitator or consultant for the meeting as soon as possible.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Saia motioned to adjourn and Ms. Gauthier seconded. The meeting was concluded with the unanimous agreement of the board.