



**Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
November 15th, 2016, 6:15pm
410 East 100th Street, New York, NY 10029**

Minutes

1. Roll call

Chairperson George Sarkissian called the meeting to order. Board members Jon Jelley, Ravneesh Sachdev, Sona Karia, Ivan Fraser and Eboni Kirkland were present, constituting a quorum for the purpose of conducting business. Also present were Stephen Falla Riff (Executive Director), Jason Forde (Development & External Affairs Manager), Terence Joseph (Principal), Pablo Torres (Director of Student Life and Community Engagement), Columbia Law School Group, the following Innovation staff: Yusef Abdul-Sabur, Gerardo Vega, Kim Bobe, Danielle Martin and the students of the Culinary Arts program.

2. Filing of Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the law, a notice of the meeting was published on the school's website, sent via email to the New York Times and posted publicly at the M99 School Building where Innovation High School is located at 410 East 100th Street New York, NY 10029.

3. Review and Approval of Prior Board Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes from the October, 18th Board meeting. Mr. Sarkissian made a motion to approve the minutes from the Oct 18th meeting with minor revisions, Mr. Fraser seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Columbia Law School Team Fall Projects

Columbia Law School students presented the 2 projects they are working on with to the Board for Innovation. They are:

1. Nonprofit Compliance Checklist - Reviewed previous non profit compliance checklist and provided feedback on major differences and updates.
2. Charter School Compliance Checklist - compilation of compliance related materials regarding charter school policies and procedures.

5. Innovation Update: Culinary Arts Development

Culinary Arts program catered this meeting and culinary arts teacher Gerardo Vega provided a review of the development of the Culinary Arts program into a Career and Technical Education ("CTE") Track. Mr. Sarkissian requested additional information to find out what additional resources are needed to get CTE Tracks going. Mr. Fraser has volunteered to work

with the Culinary Arts Program and Operations to create a detailed project plan for the facilities needs to create a Kitchen Classroom at Innovation High School. Mr. Forde will work with Innovation Operations staff to schedule a meeting with DOE facilities staff to begin work related to the installation of equipment, including a commercial grade stove and range.

6. Q&A Discussion: Academic Year in Review

Principal Terence Joseph briefly reprised the Innovation Academic Year in Review (2015-16) presentation that he gave at the last board meeting and gave the opportunity for the Board to ask any follow up questions. The Board did not have any additional questions.

7. Review of NYSED 2015-16 Annual Report

Principal Joseph reviewed the NYSED Annual report with the Board and reviewed the progress Innovation High School has made on their Charter Goals. Results revealed that there has been progress towards Charter Goals and Principal Joseph spoke about several initiatives being executed by Innovation faculty and staff, which include evolving the after-school enrichment program and academic activities.

8. Annual Board Retreat Planning Update

Board retreat is scheduled for December 16th. Acceleration Group Consultant Alejandro Crawford will be reaching out to Innovation Board members to get their input on drafting the Retreat Agenda and a draft agenda will be presented at the next Board meeting.

9. Review of FY'16 Independent Auditor Performance

Ms. Karia, the Finance Committee Chairperson made a brief presentation and the Board accepted the Finance & Audit Committee's recommendation to maintain the services of Innovation's Auditor, Loeb & Troper.

10. Other New Business

Mr. Fraser stated that he wished to discuss the development of the Culinary Arts program and the build-out of the kitchen and installation of equipment. Mr. Fraser questioned the budgeted costs for the facilities upgrades and asked to receive input from the other Board members regarding the value of developing the kitchen as opposed to using those monies to support the school in other ways. This matter will be subject to continuing discussion.

11. Adjournment

Mr. Sarkissian made motioned to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Ravneesh Sachdev and unanimously approved.