



**Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
October 17th, 2017, 6:00 pm
410 East 100th Street, 3rd Floor New York, NY 10029**

Minutes

1. Roll call

Present in person were Chairperson George Sarkissian, trustee Eboni Kirkland and, by video conference (pursuant to Open Meetings Law Section 103(c)), Vice Chair Sona Karia, together constituting a quorum for purposes of the meeting. Also present in person were Executive Director, Stephen Falla Riff, Principal Terence Joseph, Assistant Principal, Ira Yasbin, Associate Director of Finance and Human Resources, Debbie DaGiau, Development & External Affairs Manager, Jason Forde, Innovation Staff, Danielle Martin, William Crowell and Gerardo Vega, and student Kunsu Carter.

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 (5 minutes/Chair)

The Board reviewed unredacted and redacted minutes. Ms. Karia requested revisions to the wording of the minutes regarding Agenda Item 5 for purposes of clarity. The meeting minutes were approved with the revised wording.

4. Review and Approval of Certified Financial Statement (25 minutes/Loeb & Troper)

Representative of the audit firm Loeb and Troper, Partner Joseph Blatt, reviewed the Certified Financial Statement and stated that the report shows Innovation is in a sound financial position. However, audit findings have shown that not all Conflict of Interest forms were retained. Loeb and Troper recommended the adoption of a process to ensure both the collection and retention of these forms. Ms. Kirkland made a motion to approve Certified Financial Statement, which was seconded by Ms. Karia and unanimously approved.

5. 2016-17 School Year Report (20 minutes/ Principal)

Principal Joseph presented the 2016-2017 school year report, including:

- Characteristics of the cohort of 2013.
- Innovation's Core Values & Competencies.
- Graduation rates and college acceptance rates as compared to previous cohorts.

- A higher 4 year graduation rate for students with disabilities than in prior years, which was also higher than the graduation rate for students with disabilities in New York State.
- Regents scores improvement in Algebra, Living Environment, Global & US History.
- Credit accumulation trends and strategies.
- Review of parent and student surveys and identification of positive trends and challenges in parent and student engagement.
- Staff attrition rates, which were cut in half.
- The look ahead: working to increase 4 and 5 year graduation rates and Regents pass rates.

6. Introduction of Board Candidates (5 minutes/ Development & External Affairs Manager)

Due to scheduling conflicts Board Candidates were unable to attend the Board meeting. Mr. Forde reviewed the progress of the Board Candidates on their respective projects. Board Candidates are scheduled to appear at November's Board Meeting and the Board will proceed with the review process and possible vote on their candidacy.

7. Review of Candidates and Candidacy Discussion (15 minutes/Board)

Discussion was deferred for the November meeting.

8. Charter Renewal Update (5 minutes/Executive Director)

Mr. Falla Riff reviewed the Charter Renewal Timeline and highlighted the following:

- The Renewal Application was submitted on 10/2.
- The DOE renewal team will visit are on 12/5 - 6.
- The DOE team meets the board on Tuesday 12/5.
- Charter renewal decision are made beginning in December and January.
- The Renewal Report Writing process occurs from January through April .

9. Other New Business

None

10. Public Speaking

None

11. Adjournment

None