

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

RENAISSANCE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Board of Trustees

September 11, 2018

5:00 PM

Location: 299 Kirk Road Rochester, New York

Mission: *Renaissance Academy Charter School of the Arts will provide children an enriched and rigorous educational experience through the infusion of the humanities and arts rooted in a culture of high academic standards leading to success in college and careers.*

Welcome/Call to Order and Introductions

- **Members Present:** Mr. Steve Gordon, Mr. Bert Brinkerhoff, Dr. Guy Arie, Mr. Zachary Harrison, Mrs. Janine Barry
- **Members Absent:** Mrs. Dale Klein, Dr. Marilyn Patterson-Grant, Dr. Makini Beck
- **Others Present:** Dr. Donna Marie Cozine, Mr. Craig Eichmann, Mr. Alan Lockwood

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

[**Note:** *Single items can be removed from the list and considered separately at the request of a Board of Trustees member*]

- **Motion 67.8 to approve Consent Agenda for Items listed below:**
- **(Motion to approve September 11, 2018 Agenda.)**
- **(Motion to approve Minutes from August 14, 2018 Board Meeting.)**
- **Motion to approve:** Dr. Rosen **Seconded:** Mrs. Barry
- **Ayes:** 5 **Nays:** 0

Chief Educational Officer Report [Dr. Donna Marie Cozine]

Dr. Cozine presented the CEO report and provided an overview of student cohort data as it relates to our school performance. The students who have been with us the longest are performing the best. In addition, our students who are classified with special education needs are also performing well.

Math Fellows

The math fellows will be presenting at the October meeting to update the board on our math program. Dr. Cozine suggested that if members can submit questions in advance of the October meeting that the math fellows can address during the presentation. Mrs. Cait Loury (Director of Elementary Education) and Mr. Ben Koch (Director of Intermediate Education) will be in attendance as well.

Therapy Dogs

We have two therapy dogs in training at this time. Dr. Cozine is utilizing grant funds from Charlotte's Litter to help offset the cost of training them.

Enrollment and Admissions

Dr. Cozine advised we have identified a need in the community. We have had many requests from the community and family members of our students who are asking for siblings to be admitted to our school. We can accommodate this due to the students who transitioned to middle school in their home district or Urban/Suburban (parents who were seeking a middle school option) for grades 6-8. This would require a revision to our enrollment policy to open receiving of applications for grades 3-6 providing priority to siblings and our home district of Greece, NY.

- **Motion 67.9 to approve a non-material charter revision to the Admissions and Enrollment policy to allow student acceptance/admission in grades 3-6 if seats are available:**
- **Motion to approve:** Mr. Brinkerhoff **Seconded:** Mr. Harrison
- **Ayes:** 5 **Nays:** 0

Education Committee Report (Dr. Makini Beck)

Dr. Arie reported that he and Dr. Beck attended the Leadership Retreat and discussed the math program including strategies for how to address individual student needs.

Development Committee Report (Dr. Aaron Rosen)

Dr. Rosen reported that he and Nan Westervelt to work out the details for how to best approach the development campaign's first annual appeal mailing. There are plans to send two different letters. One to community members who have donated in the past and a different letter to those on the feasibility study mailing list that have not donated. Letters will be personalized by board members. We have plans to host the 2019 Reach for the Stars at the Harro East Theatre and Ballroom. We are asking that board members and RA staff assist in building our list of potential donors.

Dr. Rosen and Mrs. Westervelt are working on ways and means on broadcasting our successes.

Finance Committee Report (Bert Brinkerhoff)

Mr. Brinkerhoff referred to the audit summary provided to the members. We added a grade so there is an increase in per student income with an offset of an increase in associated expenses (new teachers, etc). We also had surplus for the last fiscal year in the amount of \$550,000, which appears lower than in the previous year. In effect, revenues in the previous fiscal year were overstated due to increased grant funding in that prior year of \$450,000. We spent approximately 85% on programs and 15% on overhead. This is a positive as it represents that typical industry standards show that 80% of funds are spent on programs and 20% on overhead.

Facilities Committee Report [Steven Gordon, Alan Lockwood]

None.

Human Resources Committee Report (Janine Barry)

Mrs. Barry reported that the committee met in August and will be meeting in September. The focus is on salary comparison for staff as well as developing the goals for Dr. Cozine for the upcoming year.

Governance Committee Report (Dale Klein)

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Public Comments

None.

Adjournment at 6:15 PM

- **Motion 68.0 to approve adjournment:**
- **Motion to approve:** Mrs. Barry **Seconded:** Mr. Harrison
- **Ayes:** 5 **Nays:** 0