



**Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation
Agenda for Meeting of the Board of Trustees
April 29, 2013
410 East 100th Street, New York, NY 10029**

Agenda:

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Filing of Notice of Meeting**
- 3. Review of March 18th Board Minutes**
- 4. Non-Material Change to the Charter**
- 5. Presentation by Columbia Law Students**
- 6. Material Change to the Charter**
- 7. Executive Session: Update on Commercial Leasing Matter**
- 8. Executive Session: Personnel Issue**
- 9. Other Business**
- 10. Public Speaking**



**Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation
Minutes for the Meeting of the Board of Trustees
March 18th, 2013
410 East 100th Street, New York, NY 10029**

1) Roll Call:

Attendance was taken. Trustees Sona Karia, Frank Saia and Nicholas Tishuk were present. Members of the school management team, Steve Falla Riff, General Counsel and Director of Operations and Director of Development and Communications, Rita Tishuk were also present. Member of the public, Kiran Rao was present.

2) Filing and Notice of Meeting

The notice of the meeting was filed according to Innovation policy and NYS Open Meetings law.

3) Review of the February 25th meeting Minutes

The minutes for the February 15th meeting were adopted unanimously with several minor additions

4) Election of New Trustee, Kiran Rao

Trustee candidate Kiran Rao has been involved in the work of Innovation since March 2012. He was introduced to Innovation through the PENCIL organization, which connects leaders in the business community with public schools. Mr. Rao met the requirement of volunteer service at Innovation, through this affiliation, specifically his working in establishing a relationship with the Univision.

Following this successful partnership, Mr. Rao and Innovation's management team discussed their mutual interest in him establishing a greater commitment to the school, including Board candidacy. A review of his professional qualifications, conference call with members of the Board of Trustees and a review of Mr. Rao's volunteering with the school on the Univision Project then occurred.

Tonight, Mr. Tishuk submitted a resolution to the Board, for the election of Mr. Rao as a Trustee. Mr. Rao was then elected to be a member of the Board of Trustees, by unanimous decision. (attached)

5) Update on Columbia Law Students

Mr. Falla Riff updated the Board on our second cohort of Law Students. There are 4 law students from Columbia University, who are interning with Innovation. Charter review and accountability is the focus of the Columbia law students. A large component is the further development of the committees of the Board and using Basecamp to organize and build the Board.

This work includes a comprehensive review of the charter and the Charter Act of 1998 (as Amended). The school needs to renew its charter following the 2014-15 school year and this background research and work will allow us grow out the work.

Ms. Karia shared that she was an Ambassador for Dona Karan's foundation and felt that this could also be a good connection for the school, regarding Innovation's strategic initiatives.

6) Principal's Update

Mr. Tishuk briefly discussed Innovation's selection to the Software Engineering Pilot Program, an initiative from Mayor Bloomberg. Innovation was the only charter school selected for this exclusive pilot. Mr. Tishuk discussed potential implications for Innovation's school model, utilizing the Multiple Pathways framework for graduation.

He explained that Innovation remains committed to graduating all students with Regents Diplomas, however this partnership creates a potential opportunity to expand our course offerings leading to Career and Technical Education diplomas and creating developmental and advanced pathways for students that would take 4-6 years for graduation. The Board encouraged Mr. Tishuk to expand these plans and discuss them further, as a potential material change to Innovation's charter.

7) Executive Session: Employee Related Matters

Mr. Saia motioned to begin executive session. Mr. Karia seconded and it was unanimously adopted. Mr. Tishuk recused himself from the meeting.

8) Resumption of Regular Session/Other Business.

There was no other business.

9) Public Speaking

There was no public speaking.

10) Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn Meeting from Mr. Saia, seconded by Mr. Tishuk and approved unanimously.

Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation

The Board of Trustees of the Renaissance Charter HS for Innovation held its monthly meeting on March 18th, 2013. One of the responsibilities of the Board is to review individuals who can contribute to the Board and to appoint Trustees in accordance with its Charter. The two sections relevant to this issue are:

Section 3: Composition

A. Individuals with exceptional business, educational, professional or personal experience appointed for a five (5) year term.

Section 4: Election of Trustees

D. The Trustees may, at any special or regular meeting by an affirmative vote of the majority of the Trustees then in office, elect or appoint new Trustees to complete the number so fixed.

Following a review of his qualifications, resume and interviews with members of the Board of Trustees and School Management Team, the Board of Trustees unanimously voted to appoint Kiran Rao to a term of five (5) years.

3/18/13

Mr. Rao's resume and a copy of this resolution will be forwarded in a timely manner to the NYC Department of Education's Charter School Office, in accordance to section 2.12 of the DOE Charter Agreement.