

**RENAISSANCE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL OF THE ARTS**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting – Monthly Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 18, 2023 4:30 - 6:00 PM**  
**Location: 299 Kirk Road**  
**MINUTES**

**Mission:** *The mission of the Renaissance Academy Charter School of the Arts is to provide children an enriched and rigorous education through the humanities and arts integration leading to success in college, careers and life.*

**Welcome/Call to Order and Introductions TIME:** 4:45 pm

**Members Present:** Kristian Walker; Mike Osborn; Dr. Deasure Matthew; Tom Merkel

**Members Absent:** Cheryl Hayward; Mark McDermott; Ann Seigler

**Others Present:** Dr. Cait Loury; Craig Eichmann; Nan Westervelt

**Kudos & Celebrations:**

- ❖ Mike Osborn was welcomed as a new member of the Board of Trustees.

- ❖ **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 # 103.9 to approve consent items: 11/16/22 Agenda and 104 to approve 10/19/22 Regular Meeting Minutes;**

- **Motion:** Tom Merkel **Second:** Mike Osborn
- **Discussion:** None
- **Ayes:** 4 **Nays:** 0 **Abstention:** 0

- ❖ **CEO Report Highlights - Dr. Cait Loury - [5 Minutes]**

- Dr. Loury presented several items from her written report.
  - Upcoming school events were mentioned such as National School Choice Week; RAFFA meeting; Black History Month Celebration performances; holiday gifts for 21 families supplied by the Center for Youth and Toys for Tots; and an update on a student who has been hospitalized for several weeks.
  - The status of the principal situation was presented and discussed by the board.

- ❖ **Finance Committee Report - Mr. Tom Merkel [5 Minutes]**

- The monthly and YTD Financial Report as well as the Balance Sheet was presented and thoroughly reviewed and discussed by the Board. School finances are in good shape.
- The 2023-24 budget plan process will be shared with the Board.
- The Board will review a presentation that will be created to educate the staff on the differences between the New York State Retirement Plan and the RA 403b program.

- ❖ **Academic Committee Report - Mr. Mark McDermott [5 Minutes]** *In the absence of Mr. McDermott, [Dr. Matthew, a member of the committee, provided the report.]*
  - A report on the K-6 Arts Program was presented by Rhiannon Tobeck, Director of Arts and Technology.
  - The committee will be focusing on methods and resources to address specific needs of 3-6 students “on the cusp” in ELA and Math.
  
- ❖ **Resource Development Committee Report - Mr. Mark McDermott [5 Minutes]** *In the absence of Mr. McDermott, Dr. Loury, a member of the committee, provided highlights of the written report.*
  - Total YTD unrestricted contributions total ~\$16,700.
  - A request that Board members make thank you calls to significant donors was made and several will do so. Additionally, an email annual appeal letter will be provided to Board members. A LYBUNT (Last Year But Not This Year) email appeal will be sent in the spring.
  - Reach for the Stars sponsorship solicitation documents will be forwarded to Board members.
  
- ❖ **Governance Committee Report - Dr. Deasure Matthew [5 Minutes]**
  - **Motion #104.1** *The Renaissance Academy Charter School of the Arts Board of Trustees, having conducted a thorough criminal history record check via fingerprinting which is deemed acceptable by NYSED, and having discovered no State or federal criminal history, or having provided information regarding such history to NYSED, if found, and having verified that any academic and/or professional credential or qualification presented by the proposed member is genuine, and having reviewed the application in its entirety, has voted to select STEVEN MORSE as a member to its Board of Trustees, with a term expiring on January 18, 2026, pending approval by NYSED. The resolution approving STEVEN MORSE is adopted upon NYSED’s approval.*
    - **Motion:** Tom Merkel    **Second:** Kristian Walker
    - **Discussion:** None
    - **Ayes:** 4    **Nays:** 0    **Abstention:** 0
  - Mike Osborn will join the Governance and Resource Development Committees.
  - A Board Education Retreat will be held in March.
  
- ❖ **Human Resources Committee Report - Ann Seigler [5 Minutes]**
  - The HR Committee does not meet monthly.
  
- ❖ **Old Business**
  - None
  
- ❖ **New Business**
  - **Motion 104.2 to approve following vendor: Virtuous Consultant Services, LLC**
  - **Motion:** Tom Merkel    **Seconded:** Mike Osborn

- **Discussion:** Dr. Loury described the HR services provided by Virtuous Consultant Services, LLC.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

- |                   |            |    |            |
|-------------------|------------|----|------------|
| ➤ Cheryl Hayward  | N/A        |    |            |
| ➤ Mark McDermott  | N/A        |    |            |
| ➤ Ann Seigler     | N/A        |    |            |
| ➤ Mike Osborn     | <b>Yes</b> | No | Abstention |
| ➤ Kristian Walker | <b>Yes</b> | No | Abstention |
| ➤ Deasure Matthew | <b>Yes</b> | No | Abstention |
| ➤ Tom Merkel      | <b>Yes</b> | No | Abstention |

❖ **Motion #104.3 to Adjourn.**

- **Motion:** Tom Merkel **Seconded:** Mike Osborn
- **Discussion:** None
  - **Ayes:** 4 **Nays:** 0 **Abstention:**0

**Adjournment - TIME: 6:22 PM**