



**Renaissance  
Academy**  
CHARTER SCHOOL

*Building Lifelong Learners*

413 Fairview Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460  
610-983-4080 [www.rak12.org](http://www.rak12.org)

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES VOTING MEETING**

January 19, 2023 - 6:30 PM

**Google Meet link:**

<https://meet.google.com/dqs-baqp-mwz>

**Google Slides Link:**

[January Board Meeting Slides](#)

**1. Call to order - 6:49 pm**

**2. Opening Matters**

- **Pledge of Allegiance - [Flag](#)**
- **Attendance** - (virtual, where noted)

**Board of Trustees & Administration**

Elizabeth Falcone (President - Presiding);  
Greg Queen, (Vice-President)  
Monica Reynolds (Secretary),  
Mark Greiner,  
Sujaya Narahari, (nuh-ruh-huh-ree)  
Yvan Francois,  
G. Anne Waskiewicz,  
Gwendolyn Supplee,  
Seyi Akinfenwa,  
Jonathan Duncan,  
Moujan Toloubadei

**Administration:**

Dr. Gina Guarino-Buli  
~~David Cosme, Jr.,~~  
Harold Smith  
Jordan Miller-(attending remotely)  
Tara Webber,  
Michelle Boyd, (attending remotely)  
Carol Schaeffer;  
Heather Rinker; (attending remotely)  
Kendra Gruber;

- **Opening statements – E.Falcone**
  - Executive Sessions Held just prior to this meeting concerning real estate and legal matter.

**3. Consent Agenda -**

- Approval of Agenda
- **\*\* Agenda Change\*\*** December meeting minutes will be reviewed and approved at February 2023 Meeting.

- Administration Reports
- Staff Roster by Business Manager

**Any objections to approval and acceptance of Consent Agenda items? None.**

**Result: Items in Consent Agenda are approved and accepted.**

- 4. Public Comment** - If not submitted as an email, please use the “Raise Hand” feature and you will be called upon - [publiccomment@rak12.org](mailto:publiccomment@rak12.org). **No emails, no persons present or virtually**
- 5. Administration Reports** – Outlines of Reports are now included in the Google slide deck at the link provided above. *See* the slide deck linked above for details.
  - **Principals Report** - Michelle Boyd provided a summary of her report with regard to the high school. Scholarship total is currently \$8.6 million dollars. High School Spirit week next week, homecoming basketball game and homecoming events. Continued focus on grading analysis. Ms. Rinker provided summary for Middle School of her report available on the slide deck. MAP testing finishing up tomorrow. Observations are continuing. Before break, expectations, repeated upon return. Almost have all teachers in place, last “new” 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher begins next week. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> has upcoming “Glow” dance in February, cupcake wars upcoming, skate party. Tomorrow is January walk and talk with Principal dealing with “winter blues.” Comments made regarding positive experiences with new ELA teacher and science teacher for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Kendra Gruber provided summary of her report for Elementary School. Classroom observations continued. SLC’s were a success. Be-kind club, phone is up and running. Students eager to share positivity with peers and families. Improvement in terms of bathroom etiquette. PBIS, movie day on 27<sup>th</sup>, Royal Ball planning ongoing – scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>. Look for upcoming request for book donations for the African American Library Project. Encourage families to get clearances and be able to participate in volunteering. Questions on success of virtual SLC’s. Families appreciated the virtual option.
  - **Student Achievement Report** - Mr. Cosme’s report was contained in the slide deck.
  - **CEO Report** – Dr. Buli - [Report](#) Dr. Buli summarized report that was included in the slide deck. Discussion of Professional Development upcoming.
  - **Deans of Students Report**– Harold Smith provided summary of report. Were questions on last month’s report. This month presented comparison of incident reports from this month to last month. Main issue is dress codes violations. Discussion as to how reports are presented and information underlying various numbers (*i.e.* dress code violations are mostly due to hoodie wearing). Mr. Miller provided summary of his report as well. Ms. Webber provided summary of report, noting code of conduct reduction of incidents. Also noted that it is typical to see increase in referrals during the holidays.
- 6. Committees Meeting updates – Committee Chairs** - Outlines of Reports are now included in the Google slide deck at the link provided above. *See* the slide deck for details.
  - **Development Committee** –Dr. Buli provided summary and the slide deck has highlights of the summary.
  - **Curriculum & Achievement** – Mark Greiner provided summary of report. No update new fine arts grading status, E & E rubric still work in progress.

- Standing Executive Session on HR – Beth Falcone provided summary of report: openings listed: math tutors, special education teachers, van driver. Job fair had good turn-out. Invited a few candidates back for visits with potential to fill roles next year.
- Finance Committee – Written report was shared in Google slide deck. Yvan Francois provided a summary. Met on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Completed review of purchasing journal. Nothing significant to highlight. Also spent time discussing budget. Now that we are post-covid, some of those grants are expiring and costs covered by those grants will be covered in regular spend. Also mentioned grant that was budgeted but not received, and watching for that to potentially impact overall costs. Audits successfully completed December 27<sup>th</sup>. Also re-examining budgets to look back and see how close we are to maintaining budget as means of better budget and how to be able to stay on budget.

Motion to Distribute the 403B match for 2022 made by Y.Francois; Seconded by M.Reynolds: [Distribute 403B Match](#)

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstained</u>
<b>E. Falcone</b>	√		
<b>M. Reynolds</b>	√		
<b>G. Queen</b>	√		
<b>M. Greiner</b>	√		
<b>S. Narahari</b>	√		
<b>Y. Francois</b>	√		
<b>G. Anne Waskiewicz</b>	√		
<b>G. Supplee</b>	√		
<b>S. Akinfenwa</b>	√		
<b>J. Duncan</b>	√		
<b>M. Toloubadei</b>	√		
<b>Total</b>	11	0	0

Result: All in favor and none opposed, motion passes. **The 403B Match will be distributed.**

- Strategic Planning Committee – Written summary shared in Google slide deck. Yvan Francois provided a summary. Did not have a meeting but want to mention some updates. Have ongoing work: major milestones so we can have picture of overall plan, formal kick-off, governance framework, considering dashboard for milestones and issues that need to be discussed. After that focus will be on execution. Also had discussion as to marketing strategy and website launch timing, considerations for delay of launch and need to update some portions in the meantime.
- Climate and Culture – Discussion on how to widen parent involvement. As to ongoing committee work, right now handling on month-to-month basis. Discussion on how to shift focus on accomplishments and positivity.

- Legislative Committee – Written report was shared in Google slide deck. Greg Queen provided summary. Working on building plan for educating public on charter school operations, discussion of school choice week.
- Equality and Equity Committee - Sujaya Narahari provided summary of her report. Met on the 10<sup>th</sup> (moved because of SLC's); BLM mural is on track, MSU preparing for Black History Month. Coexist SLC fundraising for activities spanning k-12; met with C&A committee to talk about rubric.
- Business Manager's Report – Carol Schaeffer. Reports were in folder. Updated because tuition receivable has been reduced significantly. Questions about and discussion held regarding billing process.

7. **Policy Reviews/Resolutions - none**

8. **New Business** – Discussion of connecting each committee to the strategic plan. Discussion held regarding appointment of committee chairpersons and whether to elect or appoint same. Decision to hold appointment/election for committee chairs at February voting meeting.

9. **Adjournment.** Motion to Adjourn made at 8:27 p.m. by M.Reynolds, Seconded by S.Narahari. All in favor and none opposed. Motion carries. **Meeting ADJORNED.**



---

Monica Mathews Reynolds, Trustee and Recording Secretary