


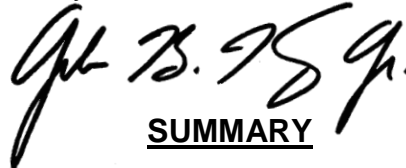


THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

**TO:** P-12 Education Committee  
**FROM:** Ken Slentz   
**SUBJECT:** Charter Schools: Revision to Charter Authorized by the  
Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education  
(NYCDOE) – Renaissance Charter High School for  
Innovation

**DATE:** May 16, 2014

**AUTHORIZATION(S):**

  
SUMMARY

### **Issue for Decision**

Should the Regents approve the proposed charter revision for the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation which is authorized by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE)?

### **Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by State Statute

### **Proposed Handling**

This issue will come before the P-12 Education Committee and the Full Board for action at the May 2014 meeting of the Board of Regents.

### **Background Information**

I recommend that the Board of Regents approve the proposed revision to the charter of the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation, authorized by the Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education in her capacity as a charter school authorizer under Article 56 of the Education Law.

The Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation was first authorized by the Chancellor of the NYCDOE and granted a Charter by the Board of Regents in December 2009. The School opened for instruction in 2010. The School submitted a

charter revision request to the Chancellor of the NYCDOE to amend its charter to revise the School’s management structure by adding a new position of Executive Director. The Executive Director will report to the Board of Trustees and the other administrative leaders, including the Principal, will report to the Executive Director. The chart below outlines the material terms of the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation’s charter and the proposed revision.

Name of Charter School	Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation
Current Charter Term	Initial Charter: December 15, 2009 - December 14, 2014. The School opened for instruction in the 2010-11 school year.
Current Grades and Enrollment	Grades 9-12, 435 students
Community School District of Location	NYC CSD #4. The School is co-located with M.S. 224 Manhattan East School for Arts & Academics, Academy of Environmental Science Secondary High School, Harlem Prep Charter School, and Success Academy Charter School -Harlem 3.
Proposed Charter Revision	Revise the management structure of the School to add a new position, Executive Director. The Executive Director will report to the Board of Trustees and the Principal will now report to the Executive Director.

The material submitted by the NYCDOE to the Board of Regents in support of the charter revision request, including the old and new organizational charts, is attached to this item.

**Recommendation**

VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that the proposed revised charter: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) will permit the charter school to operate in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law; and (4) will have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the above listed charter revision as proposed by Chancellor of the NYCDOE and the provisional charter for the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation is amended accordingly.

**Timetable for Implementation**

The Regents action for this school will take effect immediately.

Attachment



**Department of  
Education**

*Carmen Fariña, Chancellor*

**Sonya Hooks**  
Senior Director  
Office of New School  
Design and Charter  
Partnerships

**52 Chambers Street  
Room 413  
New York, NY 10007  
Tel: 212-374-2327  
Fax: 212-374-5761**

May 8, 2014

Mr. Bill Clarke  
Director, Charter School Office  
New York State Education Department  
89 Washington Ave  
Albany, NY 12210

Re: Material Charter Revision Approval Rationale– The Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation

Dear Mr. Clarke:

This letter is to acknowledge and accept the material charter revision request made by The Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation (Innovation), located in East Harlem, CSD 4, serving grades 9-12. The school seeks to amend the school's management team structure.

The New York City Department of Education (NYC DOE) has reviewed the request to allow the school, The Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation, currently in its first charter, to amend the charter and add the position of Executive Director to the school's organization structure.

The Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation has implemented a new position to the school's management team. The school has added an Executive Director to report directly to the Board of Trustees and who will manage the school's Principal. The Executive Director will take on management of the school. The addition of this position will allow the Principal to concentrate on managing the school's instructional decisions.

As this is a material change to The Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation's charter, a public hearing was held on April 2, 2014 to discuss the proposed school management team restructuring.

After reviewing the request, the New York City Department of Education finds that this revision to The Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation:

- i. will meet the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations;
- ii. will permit the charter schools to operate in an educationally and fiscally-sound manner; and
- iii. is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law.

The New York City Department of Education, on behalf of the Chancellor, has approved this charter provision request. If you require any further information please contact us. NYC DOE recognizes that per law, the State Department of Education may take up to 90 days to review the material change. If we do not hear from you within that

timeframe we will consider that you are in agreement with our determination and the status of these requests.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hooks". The letters are cursive and connected.

Sonya Hooks  
Senior Director  
Office of New School Design and Charter Partnerships  
New York City Department of Education

CC: Frank Saia, Board Chair; Laurie Price, Interim Acting Executive Director, NYC  
DOE

Enclosure(s): School's rationale cover letter, Public hearing notice, Board minutes  
recording the charter amendment vote

The Renaissance Charter High School for

www.innovationhs.org

410 East 100th St • New York, NY 10029 • T: 212.722.5871 • F: 646.430.8555

**By email to Spark15@schools.nyc.gov and to lprice5@schools.nyc.gov**

Sonia Park, Executive Director, Laurie Price, Interim Acting Director  
New York City Department of Education  
Charter School Accountability and Support Office  
52 Chambers Street, Suite 413  
New York, New York 10007

Re: **Proposed Non-Material Charter Revision**

Dear Ms. Park and Ms. Price

I am writing to request a non-material change to the Charter of the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation ("Innovation").

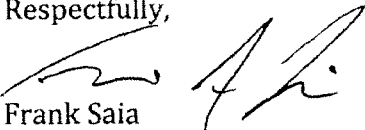
My name is Frank Saia and I am the Chairperson of the Innovation Board of Trustees. Innovation is located at 410 East 100<sup>th</sup> Street, 2d Floor, New York, New York, 10029. Our telephone number is 212.722.5871. Innovation's original Charter was granted on December 15, 2009.

The Charter that was granted to Innovation provides that the Board of Trustees (the "Board") delegates implementation of its policies, and the management of Innovation, to a School Management Team, consisting of a Principal, who reports directly to the Board, and several directors. The Revised Charter adds an Executive Director to the management team and provides that the Executive Director reports directly to the Board of Trustees and manages the Principal.

I have attached a certified copy of the minutes from a duly noticed meeting of the Innovation Board of Trustees, held on February 10, 2014, at which the Trustees unanimously approved this non-material change to the Charter. I have also attached all affected pages of the Charter. These pages demonstrate the old and new language, use strikeouts for deleted text, and bold for additions.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Respectfully,



Frank Saia  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees  
cc: Sonya Hooks, Senior Director, CSAS

**CERTIFIED COPY OF A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
THE  
RENAISSANCE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR INNOVATION**

A duly noticed meeting of the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation, a New York Education Corporation, was held at 5:30 p.m., on February 10, 2014, at 410 East 100<sup>th</sup> Street, 2d floor, New York, New York, 10029

Present in person were all of the trustees: Frank Saia, Sona Karia, George Sarkissian, Ivan Fraser and Stacey Gauthier. These constituted a quorum of the Board of Trustees.

Among the business transacted at the meeting, the following resolution was made, seconded and unanimously passed, by Mr. Saia, Ms. Karia, Mr. Sarkissian, Mr. Fraser and Ms. Gauthier:

WHEREAS, a Charter was granted to the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation ("Innovation" or the "School") by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York Education Department on December 15, 2009, and

WHEREAS, Innovation wishes to delegate management of the School to an Executive Director, and instructional decisions to the Principal; therefore, let it be

RESOLVED, that a non-material change to Innovation's charter shall be submitted to its authorizer, the New York City Department of Education, which shall provide for the creation of an Executive Director position.

**Certification:**

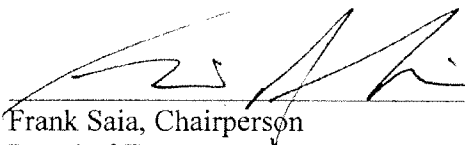
I hereby certify that the resolution set forth above is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation on February 10, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,



Sona Karia, Interim Acting Secretary  
Board of Trustees

Approved,

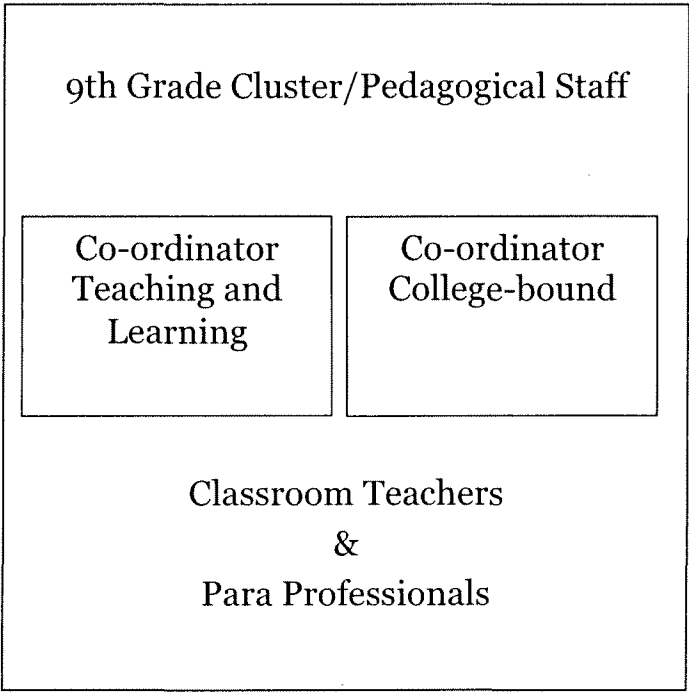
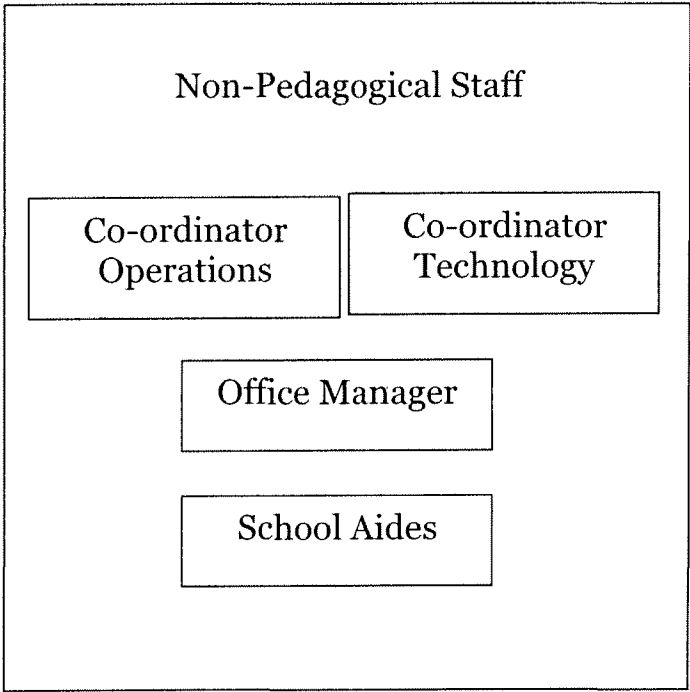
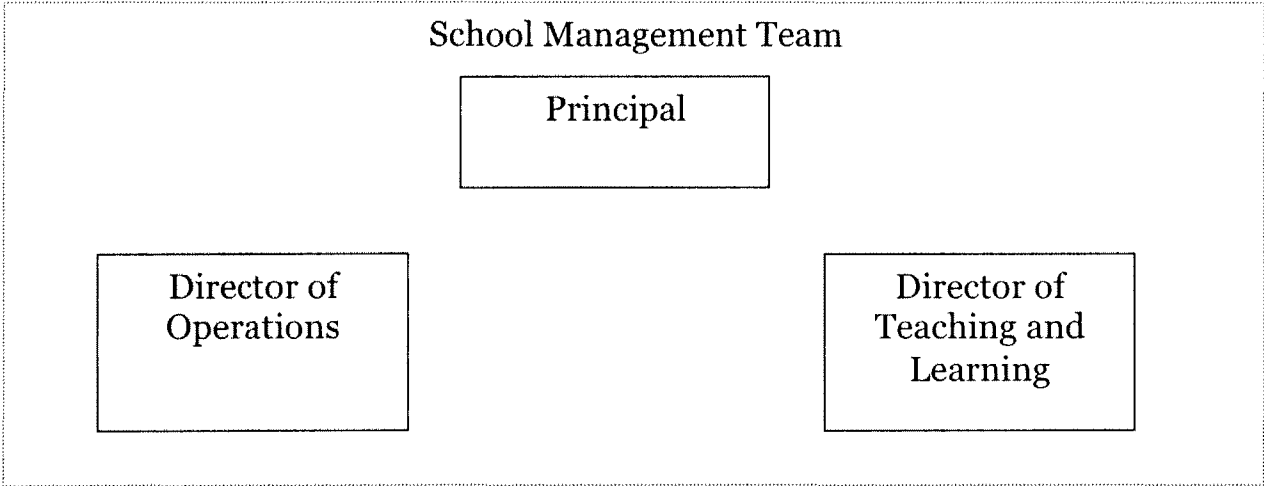


Frank Saia, Chairperson  
Board of Trustees

# Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation

## Year 1 Organizational Chart: Appendix Y

Board of Trustees



2014 Revision  
The Renaissance Charter High School For Innovation  
Organizational Chart

