

Educational Program Request Form

Submit this form and all supporting documents to charter.schools@ped.nm.gov

The Charter Contract was entered into by and between the New Mexico Public Education Commission (PEC) and Renaissance Academy Charter School, hereafter "the school," effective on July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029.

The school requests consideration from the PEC to change the terms of its contract as follows: Amend Section 3.4 – I, which currently states that The School does not use mixed grade or mixed age education as part of its model to allow for such use.

The Charter School Contract Enrollment Cap currently reads: 500 students in grades 4-8

Current Enrollment and Demographics: Current enrollment is 130 students. Demographics: Caucasian = 0.47, Hispanic = 0.43, Black = 0.04, American Indian = 0.05, remainder masked

The amendment requests that the PEC approve Section 3.4- I of the school's contract so that the Educational Program reads: The school does use mixed grade or mixed age education as part of its model.

Rationale for the requested amendment/change, including how the change will support students' outcomes and growth: Renaissance Academy, per Section 3.4- B, currently employs an instructional model in which 4th and 5th grade instructors teach both grades by looping with their students in either Math or Language Arts. The school finds that, in many instances, students benefit from being with their age and or intellectual peers due to the developmental gaps that exist in the lower grades.

Describe how the proposed change will affect the curriculum, methods of instruction, formative and summative assessments, staffing and resources, budget, and the community: The proposed change will not impact the curriculum, methods of instruction, implementation of formative or summative assessments, but will allow the school flexibility in assigning resources and aligning staffing decisions to best serve the needs of our students and community stakeholders.

Effective Date: July 28, 2025

The school's contract amendment is hereby submitted by: Jonas Cossey, Head Administrator

Signature of School Representative:  **Date:** 5/30/25

Signature of Governing Board Chair:  **Date:** 5/30/25

For PEC/CSD use only

PEC Meeting Date:

Agenda: ☐ Regular required

The school's contract amendment was: ☐ Approved ☐ Denied (see transcript)

Electronic signature of PEC Chair: _____ **Date:** _____

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The Charter Contract was entered into by and between the New Mexico Public Education Commission (PEC) and Renaissance Academy Charter School, hereafter "the school," effective on July, 12024 through June, 30, 2029.

The school requests consideration from the PEC to change the terms of its contract as follows: Amend Section 3.4 – G, which currently states ‘The school provides a Spanish course for all students,’ to read ‘The school provides a Humanities course for all students.’

The Charter School Contract Enrollment Cap currently reads: 500 students in grades 4-8

Current Enrollment and Demographics: Current enrollment is 130 students. Demographics: Caucasian = 0.47, Hispanic = 0.43, Black = 0.04, American Indian = 0.05, remainder masked

The amendment requests that the PEC approve Section 3.4 – G of the school’s contract so that the Educational Program reads: The school provides a Humanities course for all students. Implementation is evidenced by one or more of the following: classroom observations, student, teacher, and parent focus groups, sample lesson plans, rosters.

Rationale for the requested amendment/change, including how the change will support students’ outcomes and growth: At renewal, our Mission changed to include a Humanities component with the expectation that the school would build out a mission-specific goal in this area by the end of the contract term. This change will provide all students with access to a more robust and vertically aligned curriculum that can be delivered across multiple grades by a content specialist.

Describe how the proposed change will affect the curriculum, methods of instruction, formative and summative assessments, staffing and resources, budget, and the community: This change to the educational program will allow for a cohesive and vertically aligned curriculum for all students. The method of instruction will be significantly improved as instruction in the humanities will be delivered by a content specialist who will allow for formative and summative assessments to be grade and subject matter aligned. Staffing and budget will be minimally affected by this change which directly appeals to our community stakeholders, as it is strategically aligned with the school’s existing mission statement.

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Electronic signature of PEC Chair: _____ **Date:** _____

CERTIFICATION OF GOVERNING BODY VOTE

This document certifies that on May 28th, at 5:00 pm, a meeting of the Governing Body of Renaissance Academy Charter School, a New Mexico public charter school, was held via the Zoom teleconference platform. The meeting and all votes were conducted in compliance with the New Mexico Open Meetings Act.

A quorum of the Governing Body's members being present and voting 4 in favor and 0 against, to approve the following:

1. Amendment language that would change the school's educational program at Section 3.4 – G by removing the existing Spanish course and replacing it with a Humanities course. This change in program best aligns with the school's mission as defined in the charter contract entered into with the New Mexico Public Education Commission (NM PEC), effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.
2. Amendment language that would modify the school's manner of instruction at Section 3.4 – I by allowing the school to utilize mixed grade or mixed age instruction as part of its model. This change would enable the school to have flexibility in meeting demonstrated student needs, in addition to accommodating staffing decisions that are consistent with the school's programmatic needs.

The members voting in favor were: Chris Ortiz, Jessica Garcia, Xavier Chavez, and Michelle Vigil.

The members voting in opposition were: N/A

I, the undersigned, certify that this is a true copy.

Chris M. Ortiz

Printed Name

Governing Body President

[Signature]

Signature

05/30/25

Date



Renaissance Academy

Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting of the Governing Council

Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at 5:00pm

This public meeting will be held via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7159150490?pwd=RTZvNlNMeEZFWGpHWFB0cHNQZ2laUT09>

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call :

Wednesday May 28 ,2025 at _____ 5:21PM _____.

Present: Chris Ortiz, Jessica Garcia, Xavier Chavez, Michelle Vigil (joined at 5:34pm)

Absent: DeEtte Peterson

Guests: Jonas Cossey, Angie Lerner

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Chris Ortiz

C. Adoption of the Agenda*

Motion by Xavier Chavez

Seconded by Jessica Garcia

Carried All in Favor

D. Adoption of the Minutes from the April 23, 2025 Regular Meeting*

Motion by Jessica Garcia

Seconded by Xavier Chavez

Carried All in Favor

II. Public Comment (2 minutes per individual with the right to allow more time at the discretion of the Governing Council President)

A. Seeking input regarding: Parental Advisory Committee, Governing Board Membership, Title I , IDEA-B

III. Governing Council Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee - met May 28 at 4:15pm

Finance Reports

1. BARS* 18-I, 19-I

Motion by Jessica Garcia

Seconded by Xavier Chavez

Carried All in Favor

2. Bank Reconciliation April 2025*

Motion by Jessica Garcia

Seconded by Xavier Chavez

Carried All in Favor

3. Cash Disbursements April 2025*

Motion by Jessica Garcia

Seconded by Xavier Chavez

Carried All in Favor

B. Audit Committee – Audit has started for 2024-2025.

C. Strategic Planning Committee – Chris Ortiz reported that the committee will be meeting soon.

D. Ethics Committee -Xavier Chavez reported that there was nothing to report.

1. Resolution of Renaissance Academy Charter School Governing Council
Waiving Nepotism 2025-2026*

Motion by Xavier Chavez

Seconded by Jessica Garcia

Carried All in Favor

Michelle Vigil was able to join meeting at 5:34pm.

IV. Blanket Bar Approval for 2024-2025 year end*

Motion by Jessica Garcia

Seconded by Xavier Chavez

Carried All in Favor

V. Budget 2025-2026 conditionally approve the budget pending final approval by the PED
with possible budget changes*

Motion by Jessica Garcia

Seconded by Xavier Chavez

Carried All in Favor

VI. Calendar 2025 -2026*

Motion by Jessica Garcia

Seconded by Xavier Chavez

Carried All in Favor

VII. Certified Staff Salary Schedules 2025-2026*

Motion by Jessica Garcia

Seconded by Xavier Chavez

Carried All in Favor

VIII. RACS Manual of Accounting Policies – Internal Controls*

Motion by Jessica Garcia
Seconded by Michelle Vigil
Carried All in Favor

XI. Charter Amendment* - Jonas Cossey presented the proposed amendments; the school proposes removing the existing **Spanish course** for all students and replacing it with a **Humanities course** that aligns with the school's mission statement. In addition, the school proposes the use of mixed-grade or mixed-age education as part of its instructional model.

Motion by Xavier Chavez
Seconded by Jessica Garcia
Carried All in Favor

X. Closed Meeting* (The Public will be removed to the waiting room for this portion)
The Board will meet in closed session pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15- 1(H)(2) to engage in discussion regarding the Head Administrator's Evaluation at 5:58pm

Motion by Chris Ortiz
Seconded by Xavier Chavez
Carried All in Favor

XI. Open Session and possible action on matters discussed in closed session* at 6:21pm

Motion by Chris Ortiz
Seconded by Jessica Garcia
Carried All in Favor

X. Motion to renew Jonas Cossey contract for three more years as Head Administrator for school pending contract written by lawyer.*

Motion by Jessica Garica
Seconded by Xavier Chavez
Carried All in Favor

XI. New Governing Body Business

A. Governing Council Training Status – everyone has until June 30 to complete training.

XI. Head Administrator Report : Jonas Cossey reported on the following

A. Staffing – we are fully staffed for SY 2025-2026

B. Enrollment – 129 students currently enrolled. Working with ACES on advertising to increase enrollment.

C. Academics- 100% of students where tested on NWEA

D. Other Matters – 8th grade graduation last week, 80 family members attended.

Incentive day for testing was today, students got treats and pizza. Field day for students is tomorrow.

XII. Next Regular Renaissance Academy Regular Governing Council Meeting*

1. Thursday, June 19, at 5:00 pm

Regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday June 19, 2025 at 5pm, motion to move meeting to Wednesday June 25, 2025 at 5pm.

Motion by Xavier Chavez

Seconded by Jessica Garcia

Carried All in Favor

Adjournment* at _____ 6:30pm _____

Motion by Chris Ortiz

Seconded by Jessica Garcia

Carried All in Favor

Note: * Indicates Action / Approval Item.

If you are an individual with a disability who needs a reader, amplifier, qualified sign interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact Jonas Cossey (jcossey@racs-abq.com, 505-321-2154) at least one week prior to the meeting, or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats.