Renaissance Academy

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting

- **School Name:** Renaissance Academy
- **Meeting Date & Time:** August 12, 2026 | 7:04 PM – 8:48 PM
- **Board Chair:** Cameron Hughes
- **Quorum Status:** Yes

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1. Attendance Roll Call

- **Board Members Present:** Andrew Hong, Haley Sousa, Jenny Buck, Laura Olsen, Victor Rodriguez, Cameron Hughes
- **School Leadership & Staff Present:** Mark Ursic (Executive Director), Stephanie Avery, Shailey Hardman
- **Recording:** Fireflies AI

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2. Call to Order & Public Comment

- **Call to Order:** Called to order at 7:04 PM on August 12, 2026.
- **Public Comment Period:** No members of the public were present; public comment period was skipped.

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3. Approval of Prior Minutes

- **Motion:** To table the voting on approval of minutes from April, May (three meetings), and June until the next session | **Moved by:** Andrew Hong | **Seconded by:** Jenny Buck | **Status:** Passed
- **Note:** Mark Ursic committed to providing all outstanding minutes by Friday, August 16, 2026, for board review prior to the next meeting.

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4. Leadership & Financial Reports

Principal's Progress Report – Executive Director Update

Budget Reconciliation & Funding Clarifications

- Clarification made regarding state funding programs: The Salary Supplement for Highly Needed Educators (SHINE) program was discontinued by the Utah State Legislature under HB 3 (2026) and will not be funded for fiscal year 2027.
- TSSP (Teacher Salary Support Program) received a deferred payment of $2,278 for a teacher approved prior to March 1, 2026; no future funding is budgeted.
- State website information on funding allocations may be outdated; the school's allotment memo does not reflect SHINE funding for FY 2027.

Enrollment Analysis & Projections

- Current enrollment (as of August 12): 768 students (down from 782 on August 1).
- Budget baseline: 760 students.
- Historical attrition data: 1.5–2.5% of registrations typically decline during summer months.
- New enrollment metrics developed to improve forecasting accuracy, including by-grade breakdowns and waitlist conversion rates.
- Projected worst-case scenario (750 students) would result in approximately $89,000 revenue reduction; however, the school maintains sufficient reserves to absorb this impact while meeting bond covenants.
- Overbooking strategy employed in early grades (kindergarten and first grade) to account for anticipated attrition.
- Flexibility to add classroom sections based on demand has been implemented in recent years.

Dual Language Immersion Program

- The state eliminated dedicated world language staff funding positions at the state level, removing centralized support and training for immersion programs.
- Despite state-level changes, Renaissance Renacademy maintains a strong community reputation for language instruction and does not anticipate short-term enrollment impact
- Executive Director will investigate broader demand trends for immersion programs across the state.

Assessment Results – FY 2026 Highlights

- **Third Grade ELA:** 54% proficiency (five-year high; 10-point increase from prior year).
- **Secondary Math (Math 1):** 92% proficiency (significant improvement from 29% in 2024 and 70% in 2025).
- **Fourth Grade Math:** 82% proficiency (32 points above state average).
- **Ninth Grade Science:** 84% proficiency (34 points above state average).

- **Seventh Grade Scores (Highest on Record):**
    - English Language Arts: 77% proficiency (33–41 points above state average)
    - Math: 87% proficiency (33–41 points above state average)
    - Science: 82% proficiency (33–41 points above state average)

Five-Year Trends

- **RISE Math (Grades 3–8):** Improved from 51% to 72% proficiency; state average remained flat at 44% (27-point advantage gained).
- **Science (Grades 4–8):** Consistently beat state average by 13–25 percentage points across all five years.
- **ELA (Grades 3–8):** Increased from an 8–11point advantage over state average to 15 points in FY 2026.
- **Acadience Math (Grade 5):** 20-point jump from 69% to 89% proficiency.
- **Third Grade Reading (Acadience):** 10-point increase (largest jump since pre-COVID).

Comparison to Alpine School District

- Renaissance Renacademy significantly outperforms district averages:
    - Math: 72% vs. district 50%
    - English Language Arts: 64% vs. district 51%
- Improvement attributed to targeted reading and math intervention programs.

Areas for Monitoring

- Eighth-grade math has the smallest margin above the state average and will receive closer attention.

Financial & Budget Update

Budget Reconciliation Summary

- **June 2026 Projected Surplus:** $880,000
- **August 2026 Revised Projected Surplus:** $275,000
- **Primary Driver of Adjustment:** Inclusion of bond payment (~$700,000) not accounted for in June budget; late-summer revenue adjustments related to discontinued state programs.
- **Playground Project:** Included as an expense in the revised budget; does not materially alter surplus projections.

Bond Payment & Covenant Compliance

- Bond schedule reviewed and confirmed accurate.
- School maintains sufficient reserves to meet bond covenants even under worst-case enrollment scenarios.

5. Voting & Board Actions

Agenda Item 1: After-School Programs & Fee Approval

Discussion Summary:
The board reviewed proposed after-school programs for FY 2026–2027, including running club, arts and crafts, art studio, adult Chinese class, Lego Builders, study hall, children's choir, sports (basketball and volleyball), and space club. A Chinese instrument class (Erhu) was added as a pilot program. Drama club was noted as missing from the current list and will be added with pricing from the prior year ($105 and $55).

The study hall program generated discussion regarding pricing strategy and prevention of misuse as childcare. The Executive Director explained that pricing was intentionally set to minimize casual enrollment and that enrollment agreements include behavioral expectations and, if necessary, refund provisions.

Fee schedule to be on September's agenda for approval.

Agenda Item 2: Artificial Turf Installation Update

Discussion Summary:
The artificial turf project ($150,000 budgeted) requires rebidding due to time lapse since original specifications. Installation will take approximately 10 days and will disrupt playground access. Two timing options were discussed:

1. Early school year (September): Would result in a 10-day playground closure
2. Fall break: Would minimize instructional disruption.

The Executive Director will coordinate with staff to determine optimal timing and will release bidding specifications soon.

Agenda Item 3: Website Redevelopment

Discussion Summary:
The website redesign is on track for launch by early September

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Agenda Item 4: Administrative Corrections – Public Notices & Board Listings

Discussion Summary:
The board identified that the Utah public notices website lists outdated contact information for board members. The Executive Director committed to updating these records immediately.

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6. Assigned Follow-Up Action Items

Assigned Task / Action Item	Owner	Deadline
Provide board minutes from April, May, and June for review	Mark Ursic	Friday, August 16, 2026
Rebid artificial turf project with updated specifications and initiate bidding process	Mark Ursic	After school start; two-week bidding window
Coordinate with staff regarding optimal artificial turf installation timing.	Mark Ursic	Before September 9, 2026
Complete website redevelopment and launch	Mark Ursic	Early September
Send assessment highlights and test data summaries to board members for reference	Mark Ursic	ASAP
Locate prior-year drama club fee pricing for board approval	Mark Ursic	Before September 9, 2026

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7. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Board member oath of office
Budget amendment vote
School Fee Approval

8. Adjournment & Next Meeting

- **Adjournment Motion:** To dismiss the board meeting | **Moved by:** Andrew Hong | **Seconded by:** Haley Sousa | **Status:** Motion Carried
- **Next Scheduled Meeting:** September 9, 2026
- **Meeting Concluded At:** 8:48 PM