

**MINUTES**  
**RISE Southeast Raleigh Charter School, Inc.**

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of RISE Southeast Raleigh Charter School, Inc. met on Monday, January 27, 2025. The meeting was by Google Meet.

**ATTENDEES:**

**Board Members:**

NAME OF DIRECTOR	TITLE (IF ANY)	PRESENT IN PERSON	PRESENT BY TELEPHONE/VIDEO	UNABLE TO ATTEND
Kwan Graham*	Board Chair	X		
Crawford Crenshaw*	Board Vice-Chair		X	
Annette Corona*	Board Secretary		X	
Willette Morman*	Trustee		X	
Tucker Mann*	Board Treasurer		X	
Lauren Vance*	Trustee			X
Andrew Lakis	Trustee			X
Dexter Herbert	Trustee		X	
Lynette Aytch	Trustee			X
Spencer Robertson	Trustee		X	
Taylor Dewberry	Trustee			X
Craig Herb	Trustee			X

\*Indicates members of the Executive Committee

Please note: Other Board Trustees are welcome to attend all Executive Committee meetings, but not required to.

**Staff and Other Attendees Present:**

NAME	TITLE (IF ANY)	PRESENT IN PERSON	PRESENT BY TELEPHONE/VIDEO	UNABLE TO ATTEND
Dawn Arthur	Executive Director	X		
Jason Jowers	Principal			X

**MEETING ITEMS:**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Kwan Graham determined that the meeting was duly noticed and called the meeting to order at 1:06 pm.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no one present or who signed up for public comment.

### **3. APPROVAL OF PRIOR BOARD MEETING MINUTES & CONSENT AGENDA**

Tucker Mann made a motion to approve all the items on the “Schedule of Motions” which included the following:

- November 2024 and December 2024 meeting minutes as written.
- 2025-26 Teacher Compensation Scales & Model – 24-25 - Move to approve compensation scales and model as presented and based on Finance Committee recommendation.
- Staff Bonuses -Move to approve State Funded Teacher Bonuses as given.
- Upper Room Purchase Proposal - Move to decline the purchase offer in favor of conversations regarding short or long term rentals based on Finance Committee recommendation.
- Rent to RISE Move to approve lowering the rent between the School and Foundation to 375K based on Finance Committee recommendation.
- Stand up Fundraising Committee - Recognize new committee lead by Committee Chair, Craig Herb. Add to Bylaws.

Kwan Graham seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously by the board.

### **4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Ms. Arthur provided an update on the Charter Renewal from the Office of Charter Schools (OCS).

- OCS recommended a 3 year renewal
- RISE advocated for a 5-7 year renewal
- Decision: 7 Year Renewal

Ms. Arthur provided an overview on academic achievement with mid-year Math scores. In almost all cohorts, current scores are better than 2023-24. Reading scores have been delayed due to the winter weather disruption.

Ms. Arthur provided an update on personnel changes, positions that are available and posted on the website. 1005 of teachers and support intend to return in 2025-26.

#### **Enrollment**

Ms. Arthur provided a chart on application trends in Kindergarten and an all grade comparison. RISE enrollment is trending higher than last year.

#### **Finance & Fundraising Summary**

##### **Mid-year Financial Reports**

- Predicting net income between \$0 and -\$75K.
- Identifying cost cutting strategies now and seeking new grants.

##### **Standing up Fundraising Advisory Committee in 2025**

- Chair: Craig Herb
- Outreach coming soon

##### **Long-Term Targets and Modeling**

- Must meet debt covenants (1.2, 70K) though bank is pleased with 7 yr term
- Must build cash (DCOH >60) and carve out plan to improve building

Ms. Arthur provided an update on the School Store, sharing a total of approximately \$4,000 that has been donated to the school.

The board had a discussion regarding student and family safety in relation to recent ICE action. Ms. Arthur is putting together a communication to families on the school's policy in this regard.

**4. Committee Updates**

No additional committee updates.

**5. New Business**

No new business.

Respectfully submitted:

*Annette Corona*

---

Approved on February 22, 2025  
Kwan Graham, President