

MINUTES
RISE Southeast Raleigh Charter School, Inc.

The Board of Directors of RISE Southeast Raleigh Charter School, Inc. met on Monday, December 16, 2024, 1:00 – 2:16 pm. 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 1:03 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

Minutes from the November board meeting will be held for the January 2025 meeting.

A motion was made by Tucker Mann to pass the consent agenda items bulleted below and move other identified items with related committee referrals to 2025. It was seconded by Lynette Aytch. The motion was approved by the board.

Passed

- 2025-26 Calendar
- Highland Green Bus Grant (Board Awareness)

Consent agenda items moved to 2025

- The Finance and Personnel Committees will review the 2025-26 Teacher Compensation Scales.
- The Building Purchase offer discussion will be held until after the Finance Committee reviews the proposal and brings a recommendation to the full board. This will be held until 2025.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Arthur offered ways for the board to engage with the school.

- Attend monthly Character Assemblies. Bring friends.
- Bring gift cards for Mr. Jowers to hand out to staff doing great work.
- Read the Eagle's Nest and share it with your friends; subscribe.
- Help us find Student Teacher/Assistant connections in colleges
- Help us connect with local Pre-K or Daycares to recruit.
- Give online: <https://risese.org/donate/>

Governance

Ms. Arthur provided a Governance update.

- DPI claimed a 3-year renewal
- RISE requested a 10-year renewal
- RISE sent a letter to OCS to advocate for an extended renewal or opportunity to present again

Safety

Ms. Arthur provided a safety update on the recent Lockdown that took place on December 11, 2024. There were lessons learned and action items to take to ensure that RISE's procedures are secure.

Finance and Fundraising

Ms. Arthur discussed the 2021-2025 funding streams and provided charts on the following categories from 2021-2025 on per-pupil funding:

- North Carolina State and County
- Federal
- Foundations & Donations
- PRIs & SERF (program-related investments and SE Raleigh Foundation)

Grants

State Grants: Transportation(dwindling)

- ELISS (1 year)
- Safety (minor).

Foundations:

- Oak/TRCF (8yr)
- Tom Russell (multi)
- Anon. Trust (3yr)
- Fletcher (1yr)

Main takeaway: Need increase in major gifts, donations and extend to new Foundations in order to plug existing gap of approximately ~600pp.

Ms. Arthur also discussed fundraising planning and considerations, as well as offered a draft strategy and fundraising plan.

2024-2025

- Continue to strengthen the results of the school.
- Continue to develop systems within the school for sustained success.
- Begin to codify a model/methodology that can be replicated.
- Test feasibility and fundraise 500K-1M annually and larger campaign.

2025-2026

- Fully codify the replicable methodology.
- Campaign to raise 1-3M in renovation capital: playgrounds, upfits, media/office.
- Develop strategic objectives for 2026+ (expansion, replication, innovation).
- Depending on our strategic goals, we will need to build the fundraising engine to launch a capital campaign (10M+).

4. Committee Updates

A Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled for January.

5. New Business

No new business.

Respectfully submitted:

Annette Corona

Approved on January 27, 2025
Kwan Graham, President