APPROVED

Research Triangle High School

Minutes

RTHS Board of Directors Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday September 16, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Location
https://rthighschool.zoom.us/j/98479477674

Directors Present
C. Coia (remote), J. Berla (remote), J. Goodwin (remote), K. Daughtry Broccio (remote), M. Dwomoh (remote), P. Thermitus (remote), R. Shrivastava (remote), S. Brown (remote), S. Hunter (remote)

Directors Absent
D. Requena

Guests Present
A. Drake (remote), A. Griffin (remote), Jackie Morgentsern (remote), Jai Arun (remote), Laura Chapman (remote), Trupti (remote), Varshal Arun (remote), dthompson_rthighscho (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

S. Hunter called a meeting of the board of directors of Research Triangle High School to order on Wednesday Sep 16, 2026 at 5:39 PM.

II. Approve Board Meeting Minutes

A. Board Meeting Minutes

J. Berla made a motion to approve the minutes from August 19th RTHS Board of Directors Meeting on 08-19-26.
M. Dwomoh seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

K. Daughtry Broccio	Aye
M. Dwomoh	Aye
R. Shrivastava	Aye
S. Hunter	Aye
J. Berla	Aye
J. Goodwin	Aye
D. Requena	Absent
S. Brown	Aye
P. Thermitus	Aye
C. Coia	Aye

III. Public Comments

A. Open to all community members (students, family members, faculty and staff, community members, and others)

Requests were received before the meeting; open to students, family members, faculty, and staff. Limited to 3 mins for each speaker

- Topic: The removal of 3 freshman students from the AP Cybersecurity Course.
  - Jai Arun, son is a freshman their critirea to select RTHS was because of the AP cybersecuirty course. Jai stated that the kids have joined since they have been in the school enjoyed the class and placed high. Jai would like the board to reconsider removing the 3 freshman students from the course.
  - Varshal stated the understanding how to securely use devices should be taught to the kids. Their son was actively trying to learn this and the coruse was very motivationg for their student to pursue cetifications. Varshal asks the board to reconsider the 3 students removal. Note: Varshal sat in the open house for the session and believes the students can do the work required.
  - Trupti stated seeing the students are doing well in the course an have been removed after 3 weeks they would like for the board to reconsider the removal of the freshman.

The board will discuss this separately, but not at this meeting

IV. Chief School Officer Report

A. Executive Overview

CSO report presented by Akiba.

- Student Council had a color war, great way for students to meet other from different classes
- Meet the teachers was on September 15th, great turn out and wonderful family reviews
- Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month until October 15th, will highlight some of the students.
- Arts department has started activities for Art Education week.
- Homecoming game and Dance
- Senior College App Day

V. Finance Committee Report

A. RTHS Monthly Financials and Other Business

- As of the end of August, we have a surplus of 210,712 in unallocated funds. Still funded off last year's ADM (571) and won't know the new ADM until October.

- Salary adjustments are now included in the budget.
- We have a new employee premium in the state health plan, which is 2.4% of salaries. We do not participate in the state retirement program, so we are being charged and did not know until we received the invoice.
- The new vacancies since last month are School Counselor and EC Teacher.
- The audit projected surplus is 118,002. We have submitted all materials to the auditors; they have submitted a few requests. They know we need the audit by mid-November.

B. Executive Session

M. Dwomoh made a motion to Move to the executive session.
S. Hunter seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
M. Dwomoh made a motion to To approve the recommended contract for Freeman Long as the Science of Photography class teacher.

C. Coia seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Goodwin	Aye
C. Coia	Aye
M. Dwomoh	Aye
J. Berla	Aye
P. Thermitus	Aye
D. Requena	Absent
R. Shrivastava	Aye
K. Daughtry Broccio	Aye
S. Hunter	Aye
S. Brown	Aye

VI. Governance Committee Report

A. Governance Committee Business

Required Legal Language recommended by Lisa to add to the handbook by September 1st, to be approved by the board on September 16th.

Student and Employee Handbook Updates

- Prohibits discrimination based on individuals' protected classifications under federal law, including antisemitism as defined in G.S. 12-3-2

M. Dwomoh made a motion to Approve the new recommended legal launage for the Sutudent and EMployee Handbopoks.
S. Hunter seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

K. Daughtry Broccio	Aye
S. Hunter	Aye
M. Dwomoh	Aye
J. Berla	Aye
S. Brown	Aye
D. Requena	Absent
R. Shrivastava	Aye
P. Thermitus	Aye
J. Goodwin	Abstain
C. Coia	Aye

Michelle Fiscus (Development and Governance interest) and Monique Miller (Academic Excellence and Finance interest) were recommended to be board members.

K. Daughtry Broccio made a motion to Approve Michelle Fiscus and Monique Miller as new RTHS Board Members.
P. Thermitus seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
K. Daughtry Broccio	Aye
P. Thermitus	Aye
D. Requena	Absent
S. Hunter	Aye
C. Coia	Aye
R. Shrivastava	Aye
J. Berla	Aye
S. Brown	Aye
M. Dwomoh	Aye
J. Goodwin	Aye

VII. Academic Excellence Committee Report

A. Academic Excellence Business

School Engagement Team applications went out to the staff members and students who may be interested. The goal is to finalize the team by the end of September. The team already has a 3-year plan mapped out and will select goals to work on during the school year.

Academic Committee reviewed the EOC data for 2023 - 2026. Students are not meeting expected growth in Biology and Math 1 (9th grade math). English is doing well; Math 3 is mixed. Not meeting growth in Biology is a statewide trend in NC; the test was revamped in 2024-2025.

- The Hispanic subgroup is not meeting expectations in Math.
- Biology subgroup data is not available.
- Our Biology percentage for students' passion increased by 2% from 68% to 70%
    - New biology standards were developed; they should be available around October. Teachers are involved in rewriting them, but RTHS teachers were not invited.

Implementation Plans

- Practice questions will be taught throughout the year.
- NC check-ins (interim assessment systems) will be conducted
- Math 1 push-in support from Math instructional coach

VIII. Development Committee Report

A.

Development Committee Business

- Development Committee received the development plan from Dina, and we will update it with current-year info and priorities.
- Shoprasie demo with Akriba is scheduled for September 28th.
- The local business engagement event is in the planning phase, with rain plan options.
- Discussing how to refocus the Raptor Fund so it is distinct from the PTSO.

IX. Remaining Business Matters

A. Remaining Items

Board member orientation for current members is complete.

Steven will conduct the new orientation for recently approved members

Oct 8th board retreat: 8 am - 12 pm, across the street from RTHS, 600 Park Offices Drive, in the Training Room.

The next board meeting is Oct 21.

X. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

M. Dwomoh made a motion to Adjourn the Meeting.
P. Thermitus seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
S. Brown