



Research Triangle High School

Minutes

RTHS Board Retreat

Date and Time

Thursday October 8, 2026 at 8:00 AM

Location

The Frontier
Training Room
600 Park Offices Drive
Durham, NC 27713
(Across HWY 54 from RTHS)

Enter the lobby and head left down the hallway after the elevators until you reach the training room at the end of the hallway.

Directors Present

C. Coia, J. Berla, J. Goodwin, K. Daughtry Broccio, M. Dwomoh, M. Miller, P. Thermitus, R. Shrivastava, S. Brown, S. Hunter

Directors Absent

D. Requena, M. Fiscus

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

J. Goodwin

Directors who left before the meeting adjourned

M. Dwomoh, P. Thermitus

Guests Present

A. Drake, A. Griffin

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

S. Hunter called a meeting of the board of directors of Research Triangle High School to order on Thursday Oct 8, 2026 at 8:07 AM.

B. Record Attendance and Welcome

II. General Information

A. New Board Member Training

All new board members have received their training.

III. Public Comments

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

No request for Public Comments.

IV. Introductions

A. Overview of Meeting Agenda

- Reviewed the Board Roles.
- Review the Board Communication
- Overview of questions to help establish conversation around Board Goals and Committee Goals

J. Goodwin arrived.

B. Get to know each other better....

A meet-and-greet took place before the board meeting was called to order.

Roundtable introductions of who everyone is.

V. CSO Update

A. Topics

Highlights:

- Revamped Professional Development within the school, ensuring we build teachers up for the next stages of their careers, if that is what they want.
- Hired a new AP this year, and the new coaching program is going well.
- College applications still have interest, and Akirba has noticed a trend of students attending CC and then transferring to 4-year Universities. They are working on establishing an Alumni network.
- Over 100 students showed up to the homecoming game!!!!
- Student and Staff morale is up. The Salary increase did receive positive feedback.

Teacher Working Conditions:

- ~79% response rate, roughly 30 teachers.
- Could use improvement, according to the state
 - Some teachers would want to work in another school, but it is an increase from ~61% to ~65%
 - Decrease in feeling comfortable raising issues and concerns.
 - Leadership's awareness of what is going on in my classroom is really low; the consensus was that it was related to access and availability.
 - No clarity on how involved we can actually be in determining the school budget.
- It could be useful to have an outside facilitator conduct a focus group without leadership present.
- Cheating and Skipping are concerns.
 - Cheating is in daily assignments related not cheating on test.

Facilities:

- We currently have an enrollment cap due to overage, leading to overflow into hallways.
- Big Priorities to consider
 - Adding 6 classrooms
 - Obtaining larger Storage rooms
 - Exceptional Children need 2 additional offices
 - At least 1 room for separate testing
 - Counseling suites
 - Flex space for a cafeteria. In need of more microwaves to heat food.
 - STEM LABS!!
 - Building is not ADA compliant.
- Idea to have a Board tour of the building.

VI. RTP Foundation

A. Updates on RTP Community Directions

Background was given on RTP history.

Review of RTP Future development planning.

VII. School Expansion

A. Developer / GC Options

Charter School Expansion: Options and Considerations:

- These are firms and non-profits that help with the construction of Charter Schools.
- Joy interviewed 4 firms, all seasoned groups that have built 20-70 schools across multiple states.
 - They are listed in the presentation attached to the agenda.
 - ([RTHS Expansion 8.8.26.pdf](#))
- Nonprofits are more mission-driven and focus on supporting you and helping lower interest rates.
- Quotes range from \$300-\$450 per square foot for new-build construction.
- A gym averaged 12,000 square feet (\$3.6 - \$5.4 million)

M. Dwomoh left.

P. Thermitus left.

VIII. Planning: Establish Short- and Long-Term Goals and Priorities

A. Board Planning

Thoughts from the board

- A gym with a shop and STEM labs that could be externally accessible.
- We should revisit our school vision after Carolyn and Joy's recent research.
- Discussion of the size of the school. Is the current enrollment the right number?
- Larger class sizes for advanced courses.
- There is competition; it is not enough to just be STEM.
 - What is our differential?
 - We have students who are reaching out for internships.
- How do we engage the community?
- We could close the gap by making students a resource for industry.
- High School Internships.
- How can we improve our Marketing?
- We could reach out to company resource groups
- Enrollment helps with getting county funding.
 - We have to stay around 490 students for our bond.
- Could we expand with middle schoolers? Feed directly into the high school
 - We would get the same funding for an MS Student and HS Students.

- It would be great to have direction and a firm decision on expansion by the end of the school year.

Our Goals Themes (Preliminary --Rough Draft)

- Redefining or envisioning our mission and differentiation
- Discovering ways to engage the community

B. Wrap up and Next Steps

Let's see if we can schedule a work session in December.

- During the week before December 18th, 2026

If you have goal ideas, please send them to Steven, and he will share them at the next meeting.

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

S. Brown made a motion to Adjourn the meeting.

S. Hunter 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 12:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
S. Brown

Documents used during the meeting

- Annual Board Retreat Presentation, 10-08-2026.pptx
- CSO Highlights Board Retreat 2026.pdf
- TWChistorical.pdf
- Facilities and Expansion Needs_ Charted.pdf
- RTHS Expansion 8.8.26.pdf