



RISE Prep Mayoral Academy

Standing Board Meeting

Published on January 27, 2025 at 12:26 PM EST

Amended on January 28, 2025 at 12:14 PM EST

Date and Time

Tuesday February 4, 2025 at 10:00 AM EST

Location

30 Cumberland Street
Woonsocket, RI 02895

A vote may be taken on any agenda item.

Zoom link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8615357511?pwd=VVhWdElmLzRRWWhvOFZDQVVBZzQrZz09#success>

Note: Members of the public can participate in public comment virtually. All RISE Prep Board Members must participate in-person.

Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
I. Opening Items			10:00 AM
A. Record Attendance		Georgeta Gassey	1 m
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Paulette Hamilton	5 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
C. Approve Minutes	Approve Minutes	Paulette Hamilton	5 m

Approve minutes for Standing Board Meeting on January 7, 2025

II. Public Comment

Members of the public who wish to provide public comment may do so at this time.

III. Executive Director Updates

10:11 AM

A. General Updates	Discuss	Rosalind DaCruz	15 m
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- **Major Amendment Application Withdrawal Update/Financial Impact Remedy**

- Financial impact of RIDE-directed Major Amendment Process
- ERSRI

- **HS Facility SBA LOI - Phase I & 2 Timelines**

- **Upcoming Priorities:**

- Q3/Q4 MAP + Academic Growth/Performance (K-9)
 - Focus: High Quality Curriculum Implementation Coaching + Progress Monitoring (K-8)
- Establishing Culture of Learning + Earning 9th Grade Credits for Promotion (9)
- FY26 Budget
 - + CRP
- HS Facilities
- Proactive communications to refute misinformation
- Hiring/Retention Conversations
- High School Enrollment (grades 9+10)

- **Federal Guidance in Schools**

- **Upcoming School Events:**

- Wednesday 2/5: RISE Prep Upper Academy Prospective Scholar Open House
 - 6-7PM @ 600 Social Street, Woonsocket
- Friday 2/14: Lower Academy Q2 Honor Roll Recognition Breakfast
 - 8:15-9:15AM @ 30 Cumberland Street, Woonsocket

IV. Communications Plan

10:26 AM

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
A. Discussion with Mike Trainor, Communications Consultant Discussion of monthly communications month-to-month contract: \$2,500 (<i>located in "Documents" tab</i>)	Discuss	Paulette Hamilton	15 m
V. Virtual Learning Plan			
The Board will need to vote to approve the Virtual Learning Plan draft (<i>located in "Documents" tab</i>) in order for the schools to be able to conduct synchronous virtual learning during inclement weather.			
VI. Finance Committee Update			10:41 AM
A. Updates from Jan 28 Finance Committee Meeting Finance Committee Meeting with Auditor + Audit Update	Discuss	J.Leveille & C.Dias	15 m
VII. Executive Session			10:56 AM
Note: This matter may be considered in executive session pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46- 5 (a)(5), (discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public). If held in executive session, the board may vote to seal the minutes of the executive session.			
A. Consideration of Matters Related to Real Estate and Facilities Discussion of RISE Prep Upper Academy's facility	Vote	Stephen Izzi	10 m
B. Consideration of Matters Related to Potential Litigation Discussion of potential litigation or pathway to remedy lost funding due to external process errors.	Discuss	Stephen Izzi	10 m
VIII. Closing Items			11:16 AM
A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Paulette Hamilton	1 m

Note: Members of the public may provide public comment virtually, but the Board of Directors must participate in the meeting in-person.

Coversheet

Approve Minutes

Section:	I. Opening Items
Item:	C. Approve Minutes
Purpose:	Approve Minutes
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	Minutes for Standing Board Meeting on January 7, 2025

APPROVED



RISE Prep Academies

Minutes

Standing Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday January 7, 2025 at 3:30 PM

Location

30 Cumberland Street
Woonsocket, RI 02895

A vote may be taken on any agenda item.

Directors Present

C. Dias, G. Gassey, J. Egan, J. Leveille, P. Hamilton, T. Calouro

Directors Absent

J. O'Rourke, M. Beauchamp

Ex Officio Members Present

S. Izzi

Non Voting Members Present

S. Izzi

Guests Present

C. Colarusso, K. Waller, R. DaCruz

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

P. Hamilton called a meeting of the board of directors of RISE Prep Academies to order on Tuesday Jan 7, 2025 at 3:32 PM.

C. Approve December Special Board Meeting Minutes

C. Dias made a motion to approve the minutes December Special Board Meeting on 12-17-24.

J. Egan seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Executive Director Updates

A. Major Amendment Vote Debrief

Ms. DaCruz provided a summary of the RIDE Council of Education vote on the Major Amendment request held on Wednesday January 22nd, 2025. She emphasized that RISE followed all the guidelines and procedures established by RIDE and expressed disappointment with what appeared like a lack of information that the council was given on the process and guidance from RIDE to RISE. Multiple board members expressed their displeasure with the comments made by the Woonsocket State Reps and members of the School Committee.

Ms. Dacruz emphasized that RISE will continue to explore all the legal options and efforts that will lead to the best outcome for the school in the best interest of the children/students.

B. Board of Directors Code of Conduct [Draft]

Ms. Hamilton reviewed the draft and emphasized the pros and cons of board members using responding to social media misinformation and false claims, asking the board members to use caution with that.

C. RISE Prep January Happenings

Ms. DaCruz presented the Lower Academy and Upper Academy Athletics Schedules.

Ms. DaCruz informed the board that Wardwell Foundation will visit the school on January 13th, 2025, at 9:30 am.

Ms. DaCruz stated the school will be closed on January 20th, 2025, in observance of MLK Day.

III. Finance Committee Update

A. Audit, ERC, Financial Statement Updates

Ms. Waller informed the board that she filled for the extension for the audit and everything went well, with the draft being reviewed by the end of next week.

Ms. Waller stated that there were no updates regarding ERC, but it was anticipated that there would be more information to share with the board members at the next meeting in February.

Ms. Waller plans to present the board at the meeting in February a report of the budget vs actual expenses.

IV. Executive Session: Consideration of Matters Related to Real Estate and Facilities

A. Consideration of Matters Related to Real Estate and Facilities

J. Leveille made a motion to enter executive session pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46- 5 (a) (5),(discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, or of the disposition of publicly held property wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the interest of the public). If held in executive session, the board may vote to seal the minutes of the executive session.

J. Egan seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Dias made a motion to allowed S Izzi to continue the negotiation.

J. Egan seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

P. Hamilton made a motion to enter open session.

C. Dias seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

P. Hamilton made a motion to seal the minutes, adjourn the meeting.

J. Egan seconded the motion.

S Izzi made the announcement that a vote was taken.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

P. Hamilton made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

C. Dias 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 4:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

G. Gassey

Documents used during the meeting

None

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