

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. Izzì

**Non Voting Members Present**

S. Izzì

**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*

---

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