

APPROVED



RISE Prep Academies

Minutes

Standing Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday March 4, 2025 at 10:00 AM

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.

Directors Present

C. Dias, G. Gassey, J. Egan, J. Leveille, J. O'Rourke, M. Beauchamp, P. Hamilton, T. Calouro

Directors Absent

None

Ex Officio Members Present

S. Izzi (remote)

Non Voting Members Present

S. Izzi (remote)

Guests Present

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 Mar 4, 2025 at 10:07 AM.

C. Approve Minutes

M. Beauchamp made a motion to approve the minutes from Standing Board Meeting on 02-04-25.

C. Dias seconded the motion.

one amendment was made to remove a reference to Federal Guidance as this was not address in that meeting.

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

II. Executive Director Updates

A. General Updates

Ms. DaCruz discussed updates to the RISE letter and the plan for releasing RFPs for architects and owner's representatives, with a draft to be sent for feedback and approval by the Mayor, Mr. Caluro, and Mr. Egan. The team also discussed the lease-to-purchase agreement with a principal and the need to include previous architectural drawings in the RFP bidding process for a new project. Additionally, the board approved the lease to purchase agreement and the purchase and sales agreement for the Blackridge property, with a public announcement of a Stage 2 submission for the project to follow.

Ms. DaCruz discussed ongoing updates to the RISE letter to RIDE Committee, with a focus on changing the language from financial support to general support. She also mentioned the pursuit of an update for the upcoming school year with the Teacher Retirement System, which involved a call with RIDE and the pension. Ms. DaCruz emphasized the need for transparency and the importance of having everything in writing. She also mentioned the need to plan for a potential claw back, which could be around 25%. Lastly, she expressed the need for a workbook from ERSRI to start entering their people and to have everything buttoned up by the end of March for budget purposes.

Next steps:

- Ms. DaCruz and Ms. Waller to finish drafting RFPs for architect and owner's rep positions.

- Mr. Izzy to review draft RFPs for architect and owner's rep positions.
- Mayor, Mr. Caluro and Mr. Egan to meet mid-March to review and approve RFPs for architect and owner's rep positions.
- Ms. DaCruz to table procurement items for construction manager, educational planner, and commissioning agent until the April meeting.
- Ms. DaCruz to connect with Webex (?) regarding timelines for the new high school project.
- Ms. Waller to explore pre-development cost loan options for upfront costs of the high school project.
- Ms. DaCruz to prepare a communication plan with Mike Trainer for a press release and press conference to announce the new high school site purchase, targeting early April.
- Ms. DaCruz to include the lease purchase agreement and purchase and sales agreement in the Stage 2 submission to RIDE in September.
- Board to follow up on pension issue resolution with the State Pension system.

III. Communications Plan

A. Update from Work with Communications Consultant

Ms. Hamilton presented the updates and stated that she was very happy about the collaboration with Mike Trainor and Ms. DaCruz. Ms. Hamilton reiterated that the goal is to be very transparent.

IV. Truancy Process Development: Appointment of District Attendance Officer

A. Discussion

J. O'Rourke made a motion to appoint C. Colarusso to act as RPA's truancy officer.

J. Egan seconded the motion.

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

V. High School Facility Project Requests for Proposals: Consideration of Drafts/Release

A. Construction Manager RFP

C. Dias made a motion to table to April meeting.

J. O'Rourke seconded the motion.

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

B. Architect RFP

Ms. DaCruz outlined the plan for releasing RFPs for architects and owner's representatives in mid-March. She suggested drafting the RFPs and having them reviewed by Mr. Izzy and potentially 2-3 board members before release. The other RFPs will be brought as regular items to the next meeting.

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Formation:

Ms. DaCruz proposed a draft to be sent for feedback and discussed its approval by the Mayor, Mr. Caluro, and Mr. Egan, with a release expected in mid-March. Mr. Izzy suggested taking a vote on these actions. They discussed forming an ad hoc subcommittee to finalize and release certain offers. Kat suggested a motion to approve forming this subcommittee to review procurements.

C. Dias made a motion to approve and AD Hoc committee to review our procurements.
J. O'Rourke seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Owner's Representative

C. Dias made a motion to table to April meeting.
J. O'Rourke seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Educational Planner RFP

C. Dias made a motion to table to April meeting.
J. O'Rourke seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

E. Commissioning Agent RFP

C. Dias made a motion to table to April meeting.
J. O'Rourke seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VI. Executive Session

A. Consideration of Matters Related to Real Estate and Facilities

J. Egan made a motion to 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. O'Rourke seconded the motion.

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

C. Dias made a motion to approve the purchase and sale.

J. Egan seconded the motion.

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

J. Egan made a motion to approve the lease to purchase agreement.

M. Beauchamp seconded the motion.

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

J. O'Rourke made a motion to seal the minutes and exit executive session.

M. Beauchamp seconded the motion.

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

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

J. O'Rourke made a motion to seal the minutes.

M. Beauchamp seconded the motion.

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

J. O'Rourke made a motion to adjourn.

J. Egan 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 10:57 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

G. Gassey

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