



Mission Statement: The mission of The RISE Schools is to provide a rigorous and holistic education that develops the minds and character of scholars to be catalysts for social change.

**The RISE Schools
Governance Board Meeting
April 17, 2024
Document Preparation Information**

Prepared by Tanisha Taylor Jones, Interim Recording Secretary

Meeting Information

Date	Start Time	Location:	Teleconference Details
4/17/24	6:00 PM	Grammar Gymnasium	+1 601-680-7192 Access Code: 807 588 676#
Meeting Objectives: Board Meeting			
Called by: Ms. Lara Sterling, Board Chair Phone: (404) 669-8060		Email Address: lsterling.board@theriseschools.org	

Attendees

Board Members: Desmond Hardy, Dr. Camelle Simmons, Lara Sterling, Tanisha Taylor Jones (Dr. Andrea Crenshaw is out on maternity leave*)

Staff and and Community Members: Dr. Celeta Watson, Nash Alexander, Frederick Stamper, Tamarre T. Pierre, Jewel Adesola, Tiffany Cook, J.T. Folsom, Joy Huguley, Terrence Washington, Tajee Houston, Taniesha Sledge Dondrill McFarland and Gregg Stevens

Call To Order	Call to Order - The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM	Vote: 4-0
Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Hardy and seconded by Ms. Jones. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board Members.	
Approval of Board Minutes (Board Meeting)	There was no meeting held in March 2023.	<i>N/A</i>

Board Chair Report: The following topics were discussed:

- Reminder to all Board Members was given to complete 2023-2024 Background Checks as soon as possible
- April 17th SCSC Mandatory Board Training - Board attended Today

Executive Director Report: Dr. Watson discussed the following topics with the Board and attendees:

- A. District Marketing and Recruitment
 - a. May 15, 2024 is the deadline to meet enrollment and recruitment goals. The target for SY2025 is 550 students enrolled.
 - b. Letters of Intent / Contracts (Student and Teachers) have already been distributed and are in the process of being executed.
- B. State Reporting: CPI, FTE, Student Class, CAP Recommendations/Results
- C. Policy Review - Leadership and the Governance Board to work on revising and amending and then adoption of policies for the SY2025. This work will include:
 - a. Designate Teams for Policy Review
 - b. Student and Employee Handbook to be reviewed, updated and finalized
 - c. Facilities/Operations/Finance policies to be reviewed, updated and finalized
 - d. Governance policies to be reviewed, updated and finalized
 - e. Goal is to finalize the aforementioned deliverables by the end of SY2023-2024 for implementation in SY2024-2025.

Principals Report: Mr. Harden gave a brief discussion of the formation of a Parent Teacher Organization for SY2024-2025. An initial discussion was held surrounding the scope of work planned for this organization. Deliverables for Mr. Harden by the May board meeting is a formalized plan for the Parent Teacher Organization.

Facilities Director Report: Dr. Stamper presented updates on the following facilities action items:

- a. Cost Savings Plan Updates regarding construction projects and third party vendors
- b. New Gym Construction Updates - final numbers presented on the new gym project. This will be the last phase of the \$14.5M construction project. The new gym was put on hold earlier in the year to determine ways to save costs on the project. All other construction projects on the facilities have been completed. Dr. Stamper has requested that the Board vote to move forward with the New Gym based on the new projected cost savings.
- c.

Finance Director Report: Mr. Washington presented an overview of the financials and presented on the following:

- a. Review of January, February and March 2024 Financials
- b. Review of 2024-2025 Budget Planning and Budget Amendments, if necessary
- c. High Risk Monitoring SCSC S
- d. Audit Updates

The board determined that it would table a vote on the financials. The board also agreed to set the dates for SY2024-2025 budget hearings.

Consent Items: New Gymnasium Project	A Motion to accept the new cost savings plan and to move forward with the construction of the new gymnasium was made by Mr. Hardy. Dr. Simmons seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board.	Vote:
Public Comment:	No members of the community signed in for public comment	

Adjournment:	<p>A Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM was made by Mr. Hardy. Tanisha Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board members.</p> <p>**Next board meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm on May 15, 2024</p>	Vote:
---------------------	--	--------------