THE RISING SCHOOL
RISING TO ACHIEVE GREATNESS

2222 North Craycroft Road Tucson, AZ 85712
(520) 730-2657 www.risingschool.org

Rising Schools, Inc./The Rising School Governing Board Regular Meeting
5931 N. Oracle Rd., #217
Tucson, Arizona, 85704

December 5, 2013
4:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Governing Board present
George Rising, President
Greg Berger, Secretary (telephonically)
Rosie Garcia, Member
Kevin Stombaugh, Member (telephonically)

Governing Board absent
Margret Huebner, Treasurer

Also present
Stephanie Rising, Co-Founder

Item	Action
CALL TO ORDER 4:57 p.m.	
ACTION ITEM 1. Approve minutes of September 26, 2013, Board meeting.	Greg Berger moved approval, Kevin Stombaugh seconded. Approved unanimously by voice vote.
INFORMATION ITEM 2. Update on Expenses and Revenue. Handout provided by email: RSI revenue and expenses since December 2011.	No action required.

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ACTION ITEM 3. Approve Board Resolution No. 8: RSI's racially nondiscriminatory policy. Handout: Board Resolution No. 8. The motion read: "RESOLVED, that the following statement be added to Rising Schools Inc.'s Governing Board Policies: `Rising School, Inc., (RSI) is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in relation to race, color, religion/religious beliefs, gender, age, national origin, sexual orientation, creed, citizenship status, marital status, political beliefs/affiliation, disability, home language, family, social or cultural background. This policy will prevail in all matters concerning staff members, students, the public, educational programs and services, and individuals with whom RSI does business.'"	Kevin Stombaugh moved approval, Greg Berger seconded. Approved unanimously by voice vote.
STUDY ITEM 4. The Board discussed charter-school accounting principles, including procurement regulations. It was agreed that George Rising would contact RSI's accounting firm to help the Board more fully understand charter-school accounting.	No action required.

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ACTION ITEMS 5. Approve Board Resolution No. 9: Amend RSI's procurement policy. Handout: Board Resolution No. 9. The motion read: RESOLVED, Rising Schools, Inc., will follow accounting policies and procedures that comply with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Any procurement of goods and services shall be made by the procurement officer/authorized agent, in the best interest of the school, upon considering the totality of the circumstances surrounding the procurement, which may include but not be limited to, price, quality, availability, timelines, reputation and prior dealings. Rising Schools, Inc., shall not purchase any goods or services from any member of the governing board, an immediate family member of any member of the governing board nor from any entity in which any member of the governing board or an immediate family member of a governing board member may benefit from such a procurement, unless authorized by the governing board after a full disclosure of the potential benefits, and after the consideration set forth in paragraph 1 above. Rising Schools, Inc., understands that the policy cited above applies to purchases made using non-federal funds. As a condition of the receipt of certain federal funds, federal procurement requirements still apply.	George Rising moved approval, Rosie Garcia seconded.

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6. Approve Board Resolution No. 10: Amend RSI's accounting policy from USFRC to GAAP. Handout: Board Resolution No. 10. The most read: "RESOLVED, Rising Schools, Inc., will follow accounting policies and procedures that comply with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). This includes using an accounting system that provides for the proper recording and reporting of financial data and following standard internal control procedures. The school will utilize a chart of accounts that has been developed to align with the chart of accounts found in the Uniform System of Financial Records for Charter Schools (USFRCS) for the purposes of complying with budgeting and annual financial reporting. Revisions will be made periodically for changes in laws, regulations and accounting pronouncements that cover charter school accounting, financial reporting and compliance with state and federal laws."	Greg Berger moved approval, Rosie Garcia seconded. Approved unanimously by voice vote.
<u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u> 7. Update on RSI's search for an auditor to perform the Department of Education's annual audits, starting in 2015. George Rising informed the Board that he had interviewed three experienced charter-school auditors, each located in Tucson, as requested by the Board. George Rising said that the three auditors would receive a Request for Proposal. He suggested that Board members review the Requests for Proposal after they arrived and then vote on the candidate at the next Board meeting; the Board agreed.	No action required.
8. Board members discussed their upcoming New Board Member Orientation training at the Arizona School Board Association's conference. George Rising updated the Board on his future professional-development trainings. He also reminded the Board that RSI had budgeted funds for Board members' professional development and capacity building.	No action required.
9. Discussion of Governing Board evaluation tool of Governing Board and of CEO. George Rising suggested that the Board develop three evaluation tools, each based on ISLLC standards: 1) a self-evaluation tool for each Board member, 2) a tool for Board members to evaluate the Board as a whole, and 3) a tool for Board members to evaluate the CEO.	No action required.

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10. Update on facilities. The Board discussed a visit on December 6 to tour a possible facility for the school.	No action required.
11. Termination of negotiations with Dr. Jonas Ohrberg. George Rising requested that record reflect that negotiations with Dr. Jonas Ohrberg had terminated on October 7, 2013. On that date, George Rising had informed Board by email that negotiations had terminated.	No action required.
FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS None	
REGULAR BOARD MEETING ADJOURNED 6:12 p.m.	