### Minutes of the Raleigh Charter High School, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting 19 May 2025

The Raleigh Charter High School Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors and Raleigh Charter High School Board of Directors held a contemporaneous meeting in virtual meeting format. The meeting began at 5:34 p.m.

Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

**Foundation Board Members**: Lisa Huddleston, Jameson Marks (Chair), Paul McSorley, Neill Robson, Rob Fenoglio, Jonathan Green, Alex Karsten, and Catherine Finch

Absent: none

**School Board Members**: Lisa Huddleston, Paul McSorley (Chair), Rob Fenoglio, Jonathan Green, Alex Karsten, Hannah Page, Jessica McDonald, Peter Smith, Lisa Stephenson, Dwight Thompson, and Catherine Finch

Absent: Sandra Headen

Guests: David Ennis, Shayne Klein, and Caio Setubal

Except where noted below, the meeting followed the Agenda, which was distributed at the meeting, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes.

**Welcome:** The Foundation Chair welcomed all in attendance including the Raleigh Charter High School Board of Directors.

**Minutes of the 24 February 2025 Meeting of the Foundation Board.** The Board reviewed the draft minutes of the 24 February 2025 meeting of the Foundation Board. On proper motion by P. McSorley and second by R. Fenoglio, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the 24 February 2025 meeting of the Foundation Board as written.

**Development Committee**: J. McDonald was recognized to provide an update from the Development Committee. She reported on the following items:

- The Foundation fund has raised \$925K and has received an exciting matching-gift challenge to stimulate donations. The donor will match gifts of \$10,000 or more, up to \$100K total.
- The Phoenix Fund has received over \$250K in donations and pledges as of April 30 report.
- The Foundation Board and the School Board members have been asked to make phone

calls to thank donors. M. Barnett has more information if needed A copy of the Phoenix Fund Report and Foundation Campaign Update as reviewed at the meeting is attached to these minutes.

**Finance Committee:** J. Green was recognized to present his report from the Finance Committee, explaining updates to the 2024-2025 RCHS School Budget as follows:

- Not a lot of change from the 2024-2025 budget but numbers are more accurate as we are nearing the end of the school year.
- There was an increase in revenue of \$4000 as compared to the last budget presented in March.
- There was an increase of \$41,000 in expenses due to costs associated with paying for substitute teachers, personal leave costs, and health insurance costs.
- The Debt Service ratio remains acceptable.

Regarding the 2024-2025 Foundation Budget, J. Green reported a significant increase in revenue due to recent donations, and the total expenses are \$30K lower, so the operational reserve is good. No actions were needed relative to budgets as presented.

J. Green presented a Resolution of the Raleigh Charter High School Foundation which authorizes and approves the acceptance of the \$500,000 interest-free loan from TRCF as a Program-Related Investment. The Board discussed the many benefits of this loan and the impact on the fundraising efforts underway. The Foundation Board voted and unanimously approved this Resolution

**Principal's Report:** L. Huddleston was recognized to provide the Principal's Report. She distributed and led the Board in a discussion of the Principal's Report handout.

L. Huddleston shared a policy update for the Raleigh Charter High School Anti-Nepotism Policy. Upon proper motion by J. Green and second by A. Karsten, the School Board unanimously voted to approve the new policy.

A copy Principal's Report handout as presented at the meeting is attached to these Minutes.

**Nominations Committee**: J. Marks was recognized to provide an update on nominations of individuals to serve on both the Foundation Board and the School Board. At the June meeting, candidates will be presented to both Boards and voted on accordingly.

Upon proper motion by N. Robson and second by A. Karsten, the Foundation Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting of the Foundation Board at 6:16 p.m.

The RCHS Board of Directors continued to meet as outlined below, following the Agenda.

Minutes of the 24 March 2025 Meeting of the School Board. The Board reviewed the draft minutes of the 24 March 2025 meeting of the Board. On proper motion by R. Fenoglio and second by D. Thompson, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the 24 March 2025 meeting of the Board as written.

**Phoenix Parents:** L. Stephenson was recognized to present an update on Phoenix Parents. She reported that Phoenix Parents have been very active in providing meals and support for school events such as the NHS Induction and We The People events. Phoenix Parents has hosted a social event which was well attended. They also hosted an educational event for parents on AI which was well-received. They will support upcoming New Parent Night events and provide food for the Faculty Retreat in June.

**Faculty Representative**: H. Page was recognized to provide an update. She has been utilizing recent Faculty meetings to solicit feedback from Faculty which will help inform strategic planning for the future. She will work on collecting information and will bring it to the Board in a future meeting.

Upcoming Meeting: 23 June 2025 will be a joint meeting with the Foundation Board

**Closed Session**: On proper motion by P. Smith and second by J. Green, The Board unanimously voted to enter Closed Session to discuss a personnel issue. On proper motion by A. Karsten and second by J. McDonald, the board unanimously voted to leave Closed Session.

On proper motion by J. Green and second by D. Thompson, the Board unanimously voted to hire Mitra Norowzi for the position of English teacher and Yearbook advisor with a start date of 1 August 2025.

On proper motion by C. Finch and second by A. Karsten, the Board unanimously voted to hire Jennifer Yeh for the Community Liaison and Testing Coordinator position with a start date of 14 July 2025.

On proper motion by R. Fenoglio and second by P. Smith, the Board unanimously voted to hire Bailey Rose to be the Band and Choral teacher with a start date of 1 August 2025.

On proper motion by J. Green and second by J. McDonald, the Board unanimously voted to hire Ashely Anderson as the Director of Special Programs with a start date of 1 August 2025.

On proper motion by A. Karsten and second by R. Fenoglio, the Board Unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting of the School Board at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Catherine Finch, Secretary

# Raleigh Charter High School Board of Directors' Meeting May 19, 2025 5:30 pm Agenda

**	Joint Session	**

1. Call to Order and Welcome

2. Approval of Minutes of February 24, 2025 Foundation Board Meeting

3. Development Report Jessica McDonald

4. Finance Committee Report Jonathan Green

5. Principal's Report Lisa Huddleston

6. Nominations Committee Update J. Marks, P. McSorley

\*\* Joint Session Ends \*\*

7. Approval of Minutes of March 24, 2025 Board Meeting

8. Phoenix Parents Report Lisa Stephenson

9. Faculty Representative Report Hannah Page

10. Additional Issues / Community Feedback

- 11. Upcoming Meeting
  - a. 06/23/2025
- 12. Closed Session(s)
- 13. Adjourn

# RCHS Foundation Campaign Report

### May 12, 2025

	Forecasted/Pledged	Received	
Current Fiscal Year (7/1/2023 to present)	\$381,700	\$324,600	
Campaign Total (7/1/2021 to present)	\$775,900	\$718,800	
	Amount left to raise	Amount left to be received	
	\$724,100	\$781,200	
Campaign Progress: 52% Fulfilled  Campaign Goal = \$1,500,00			

## Phoenix Fund Report: April 30, 2025

	Goal Phoenix Fund	Forecasted Phoenix Fund	Received Phoenix Fund	Current Parent Participation	New Family Participation	Board Participation <sup>1</sup> (gifts to RCHS or Fnd)	Large Gifts \$1000+2	Recurring Gifts	Alumni	Alumni Parents
April 30, 2025	\$325,000	\$250,590	\$236,033	33%	28%	100%	85	61	15	61
This time last year	\$325,000	\$246,724	\$232,420	40%	45%	100%	88	67	15	56
2023-2024 YE	\$325,000	\$306,541	\$301,742	48%	57%	100%	103	67	20	74
2022-2023 YE	\$325,000	\$276,807	\$274,952	51%	58%	100%	107	59	26	52
2021-2022 YE	\$325,000	\$333,185	\$332,254	44%	40%	100%	99	55	20	40
2020-2021 YE	\$325,000	\$345,128	\$344,766	47%	50%	100%	108	57	24	54
2019-20 YE	\$325,000	\$327,422	\$320,220	49%	43%	100%	98	59	16	54
2018-19 YE	\$325,000	\$342,905	\$338,521	53%	55%	100%	115	56	20 + more in Fdn Fund (5)	63

**Notes:** Forecasted v. received difference due to fees, missed payments, unfulfilled pledges, and timing of disbursements of corporate payroll deductions and matches.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> RCHS Board only, Fnd Board not counted.

RCHS Budget - 2024-25	Final 2023-24	Approved 2024-25	Proposed 2024-25
ADM - State	560	560	560
ADM - Local	-	551	551
Funding per ADM - State Funding	6,403	6,640	6,657
Funding per ADM - County Funding	3,610	3,906	3,957
ADM - EC	18	20	20
Funding per EC ADM - State Funding	5,899	5,809	5,283
State Funds	3,544,402	3,670,588	3,676,268
State EC Funds	106,187	116,187	105,665
NCVPS Reduction	(5,731)	(8,101)	(4,616)
State Funds - F&F	6,548	-	-
State Funds - Gaming	3,712	-	-
State Bonuses	40,468	56,115	56,115
Total State Funds	3,695,586	3,834,789	3,833,432
Wake County	1,953,177	2,053,000	2,068,604
Johnston County	4,086	4,086	13,632
Durham County	42,870	52,600	52,513
Chatham County	20,626	11,033	16,283
Lee County	1,152	1,152	1,212
Chapel Hill/Carrboro	10,560	30,500	26,820
Harnett	-	-	1,276
Total County Funds	2,032,472	2,152,371	2,180,340
Federal Funds - PRC 060	105,762	80,550	87,535
Total Federal Funds	105,762	80,550	87,535
Sport Donations	24,104	30,000	20,880
Educational Programs	24,500	40,000	23,987
Phoenix Fund	295,000	250,000	250,000
Development and Donations	343,604	320,000	294,867
7th Period Class	13,200	13,200	12,000
Gate Receipts	10,608	9,000	8,200
Interest Income	45,000	35,000	25,000
Testing	15,748	15,000	16,885
Parking	23,000	23,000	22,180
Miscellaneous	12,000	-	7,000
Total Other Funds	119,556	95,200	91,265
Total Revenue	6,296,980	6,482,910	6,487,439

Actuals May 15, 2025	%
0.000 550 05	222/
3,063,556.67	83%
105,665	100%
-	0%
-	-
-	-
56,115	100%
3,225,337	84%
1,725,950	83%
7,911	58%
38,729	74%
12,449	76%
1,212	100%
23,004	86%
955	75%
1,810,211	83%
67,382	77%
67,382	77%
20,880	100%
23,987	100%
249,160	100%
294,028	100%
12,000	100%
8,135	99%
18,427	74%
16,885	100%
22,180	100%
6,474	92%
84,101	92%
5,481,058	84%

RCHS Budget - 2024-25	Final 2023-24	Approved 2024-25	Proposed 2024-25
Rent	798,600	798,600	798,600
Utilities	98,000	98,000	98,000
Maintenance & Repair	160,000	165,000	160,000
Miscellaneous	_	-	-
Total Facilities	1,056,600	1,061,600	1,056,600
Salaries	3,829,201	3,905,785	3,905,785
Substitutes	70,360	65,000	72,500
State and Fed Bonuses	40,468	56,115	56,115
Employee Bonuses	306,319	158,900	158,900
Personal Leave	47,500	50,000	62,000
Health Insurance	362,622	380,753	391,632
Retirement (6.0% of salaries)	219,413	234,347	234,347
Payroll Taxes (7.70%)	307,871	320,274	320,274
Flexible Spending Account	9,500	9,750	9,750
Disability Insurance	14,000	14,750	14,750
Workers Comp Insurance	18,250	18,500	19,259
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total Personnel	5,225,503	5,214,174	5,245,312
Academic Departments	55,000	90,000	90,000
Educational Programs	44,000	50,000	50,000
Testing	14,000	15,000	15,000
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total Instructional	113,000	155,000	155,000
Office and Administration	125,000	120,000	130,000
Technology	60,000	85,000	85,000
Sports (incl. coaching salaries)	90,000	90,000	90,000
Legal & Consulting	23,500	26,000	26,000
Development	27,500	11,000	16,000
Admissions	725	1,000	1,000
College Counseling	1,500	2,500	2,500
Graduation	14,500	15,000	15,000
Student Services	27,000	30,000	30,000
Board of Directors	-	500	500
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total Support	369,725	381,000	396,000
Total Expenses	6,764,828	6,811,774	6,852,912
Operating Reserve	(467,848)	(328,864)	(365,473)
Transfer from / to Foundation	25,000	5,000	5,000
School Fiscal Year Reserve	(442,848)	(323,864)	(360,473)

Actuals May 15, 2025	%
665,500	83%
77,827	79%
121,121	76%
-	-
864,448	82%
2,936,677	75%
66,953	92%
56,115	100%
158,900	100%
-	0%
309,716	79%
164,537	70%
231,074	72%
6,950	71%
11,210	76%
19,259	100%
-	-
3,961,391	76%
59,957	67%
41,221	82%
13,087	87%
-	-
114,265	74%
95,430	73%
38,483	45%
65,981	73%
20,006	77%
13,856	87%
562	56%
1,466	59%
6,045 20,204	40%
20,204	67% 23%
117	23%
262,149	66%
5,202,252	<b>76%</b>
3,202,232	10/0

Foundation Budget - 2024-25	Final 2023-24	Approved 2024-25	Proposed 2024-25
Donations - Annual	5,000	1,000	3,200
Donations - Foundation Fund (Received)	130,000	160,000	375,000
Interest Income	80,000	80,000	70,000
Interest Rate Cap	75,000	75,000	52,000
Rental Income - RCHS	798,600	798,600	798,600
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	-
Total Revenue	1,088,600	1,114,600	1,298,800
Audit	7,000	7,500	7,500
Interest Expense	192,000	195,000	165,000
Bond Fee	1,500	1,500	1,500
Amortization Expense	246,344	250,601	250,601
Depreciation Expense	7,695	7,695	7,695
Transfer to RCHS	25,000	5,000	5,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	-	-	-
Total Expenses	479,539	467,296	437,296
Foundation Fiscal Year Reserve	609,061	647,304	861,504

Actuals May 15	%
3,166	99%
351,735	94%
55,755	80%
41,330	79%
665,500	83%
-	-
7,500	100%
126,083	76%
1,500	100%
-	-
-	-
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-	_

Debt Service Coverage Ratio	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Clubs & Activities reserve	(1,000)	6,500	5,000	2,500
Raleigh Charter HS reserve	819	1,612	(442,848)	(360,473)
Foundation reserve	118,304	20,638	609,061	861,504
Plus: Board designated funds	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Plus: capitalized items	15,000	30,000	55,000	10,000
Total reserve	233,123	158,750	326,213	613,531
Plus: depreciation	228,001	228,001	246,344	250,601
Plus: amortization	7,695	7,695	7,695	7,695
Plus: interest expense	80,000	165,000	192,000	165,000
Reserve + depreciation + amortization + interest	548,819	559,446	772,252	1,036,827
Total principal and interest expense	417,302	502,302	529,302	564,798
Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1.32	1.11	1.46	1.84
Requirement (greater than)	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05
Debt Service Coverage Ratio without 100K Designated Funds	1.08	0.91	1.27	1.66
1/100th of total principal and interest changes ratio by .01	4,173.02	5,023.02	5,293.02	5,647.98

### Principal's Report for Raleigh Charter High School Board of Directors' Meeting on May 19, 2025

#### AP Testing

- The regular administration window for AP exams was May 5-16.
- Testing took place at the Royal Banquet Center and on campus.
- The vast majority of AP exams this year included significant digital elements because of changes required by the College Board. All but one of the tests went very smoothly.
- Due to problems with the College Board server during the final testing afternoon on May 16, many schools, particularly on the East Coast, including Raleigh Charter, were unable to administer the planned AP Psychology exam. We will make up this test on Wednesday morning at the Royal Banquet Center. (They provided this opportunity to us for no additional charge.)
- Other AP make-up exams will take place this week. Most will be at Hayes-Barton Baptist Church with a couple occurring on campus.
- Thank you to the many staff members, substitutes, and volunteers who have assisted with administering these exams, and a heartfelt thanks to Hannah Fatool for the many, many long hours of work that she put in managing all aspects of these administrations for us.
- Students' scores will be released around July 1.

#### General

- Spring Break this year ran March 31 through April 4. Monday, April 7 was a teacher work day, and students returned to classes on Tuesday, April 8.
- The fifth grading period ended on Friday, April 11. Report cards went home on Friday, April 18.
- In the morning on Friday, April 11, juniors and seniors walked to the Rialto theater for a screening of the movie *Duality: A Collection of Afro Indigenous Perspectives*. After the film, students participated in a Q & A with the filmmakers.
- Our annual school-level We the People competition took place on Wednesday, April 23. The Honors
  Civic Literacy students mostly tenth graders read prepared papers and answered questions from
  the judges about the United States Constitution, current and historical events, and their views on
  Constitutional issues. We appreciate the support of the many legal experts who volunteered to
  judge for this competition, and thank you to Owen Asplundh for his hard work in preparing his
  students and organizing the day.
- On Thursday, April 24, 14 alumni participated in career panels in our Econ and Personal Finance classes. They talked about their jobs and their career paths and answered student questions.
- Our spring Community Work Day occurred on Friday, April 25. Thank you to Hannah Fatool and Hikaru Wajima for their behind-the-scenes work to make this day go smoothly, and thanks to the many volunteers who drove our students to their various activities.
- NHS Inductions took place on Tuesday, April 29 in an evening ceremony. Thank you to Nina Foster and Mike Rios for organizing this event.
- We have had four Admitted Students events for our incoming students, including two for students admitted off the waitlist. We appreciate the work that Shayne Klein invested in organizing and managing these various events. Many faculty members and students assisted by answering questions, giving tours, and running club fairs. Lots of hard work is going into preparing for the Class of 2029.

- We used a different format for our Senior Parent Night on Wednesday, May 14 and met at a
  restaurant, rather than at school. It was a lovely evening hosted by our Development Committee.
  Approximately 30 people braved a stormy night to gather and welcome our senior parents into the
  Forever Phoenix community.
- Our Choral (May 20 at 7:30) and Band (May 22 at 7:00) programs will hold their annual spring concerts this week at the Kenan Recital Hall at William Peace University. Thank you to Cynthia Brown for her leadership of these programs.
- Approximately 20 alumni will join us after school on Wednesday, May 21 for our College Chats program. The alumni will meet in small groups with some of our seniors to talk about their experiences in college covering everything from navigating relationships with roommates to succeeding academically.
- Student awards will be presented to a number of students at a faculty meeting on Thursday, May 22. Our appreciation goes to Myles Robinson and Dave Palmieri for organizing these presentations.
- Friday, May 23 will be our Phoenix Fest program for this year.
- On Wednesday, May 28, we will have a New Parent Welcome event for the parents of our newly admitted students from 6:00 until 7:30.
- Spring sports have wrapped up for the year. The end-of-the-year barbecue celebration will take place on Friday, May 30.
- Exams will begin on Thursday, May 29 and will include End-of-Course (EOC) testing in Biology, English 2, Math 1, and Math 3. Students will take one exam each day. The final day for make-up exams is Tuesday, June 10. Because the Biology EOC test is being renormed by NCDPI this year, the scores may not be back in time to be included in grades this year. If that happens, students' grades will be calculated based on their cumulative work for the year without their EOC score.
- Graduation is planned for Saturday, June 7 at 4:00 at the Meymandi Concert Hall. Students may bring as many guests to the event as they wish.
- The faculty will hold our annual retreat at Falls Lake on Wednesday, June 11 to wrap up this year and begin planning for the 2025-26 school year.
- We expect to send final report cards to families on Thursday, June 12.

#### School Culture and Belonging

- The senior class held the traditional Senior Breakfast on Tuesday, April 15 at Transfer Food Hall. Thanks to Colin Russell and Jess Oehlrich for assisting the class officers.
- Prom took place on Saturday, April 26 at the Wake County Shrine Club. Thank you to the SGA leaders for their work in hosting this event, and thank you to Charles Montague and Hikaru Wajima for their organizational leadership.
- Our numerous clubs and organizations have been busy preparing and participating in many end-ofthe-year activities. We appreciate all of the club sponsors who have made these events possible.
   Some examples of the many events include:
  - o Academic competitions such as Mock Trial, Science Olympiad, Quiz Bowl, and Brain Game
  - Affinity Group Celebrations
  - Art Farm
  - Cake Bake
  - Charity Basketball
- Heritage Month activities with students in April and May include:
  - Arab American Heritage Month
  - o Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month
  - Jewish Heritage Month
  - Pride Month (upcoming)

#### Compliance

The Office of Charter Schools is requiring a change to the school's Anti-Nepotism Policy. The
revised policy is available here: <u>DRAFT Revised Anti-Nepotism Policy</u>. Changes are indicated in
red.

#### **Upcoming Events**

- Make-Up AP Exams, Monday, May 19 Friday, May 23
- Choral Concert, Tuesday, May 20, 7:30 pm at William Peace University, Kenan Recital Hall
- Band Concert, Thursday, May 22, 7:00 pm at William Peace University, Kenan Recital Hall
- Phoenix Fest, Friday, May 23
- Memorial Day Holiday, May 26
- New Parent Welcome Night, Wednesday, May 28, 6:00 pm
- Last Day of Classes, Thursday, May 29
- Exams, Thursday, May 29 Tuesday, June 10
- Graduation, Saturday, June 7, 4:00 pm at Meymandi Concert Hall
- Faculty Retreat, Wednesday, June 11
- Report Cards Mailed, Thursday, June 12

#### DRAFT

# Raleigh Charter High School Anti-Nepotism Policy

In order to avoid a conflict of interest or favoritism or the appearance of a conflict of interest or favoritism, Raleigh Charter High School (RCHS) adopts the following policy:

- 1. No voting members of the Raleigh Charter High School Board of Directors shall be an employee of a for-profit company that provides substantial services to RCHS for a fee.
- 2. No employee or independent contractor of RCHS shall be immediate family to any member of the Raleigh Charter High School Board of Directors.
- 3. No employee of RCHS shall be a voting member of the Raleigh Charter High School Board of Directors.
- 4. No teacher or staff member that is immediate family of the principal shall be hired without the Raleigh Charter High School Board of Directors evaluating their credentials, establishing a structure to prevent conflicts of interest, approving the hire in a duly called open-session Board meeting, and notifying the Department of Public Instruction, with evidence, that this process has occurred.
- 5. No teacher or staff member will be in a supervisory role for any immediate family member without the Raleigh Charter High School Board of Directors evaluating their credentials and establishing a structure to prevent conflicts of interest.

For the purposes of this policy, the term "immediate family" means a spouse, parent, child, brother, sister, grandparent, or grandchild. The term includes the step, half, and in-law relationships and close personal relationships such as co-habitant, significant other, and domestic partner.

Approved by Raleigh Charter High School Board of Directors on 19 May 2025