



# RISING LEADERS ACADEMY

## Governing Board Minutes – March 18, 2015

### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

A public meeting of the Governing Board was called to order by Dr. Eren Ozgen, President, at 12:00 p.m.

Other Board members present included: Mr. Osama Albibi, Dr. Ahmed Rezk, Mr. Todd Zaborski, Dr. Ahmed Baker

Administrative staff present: Mrs. Suha Jaber, Principal

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of February 4, 2015 were unanimously approved by the Board.

### ITEM # 1: Mr. Bozarth's Visit to Discuss Facility Options

Mr. Bozarth came to provide the following message:

Bay District Schools is currently looking for a facility to house their Pre-K students. Mr. Husfelt will like to have a new Pre-K program for 3 years old all day. Therefore, BDS is offering RLA free rent for the upcoming school year to save money and move to a different facility, or RLA can choose to purchase the current facility. RLA may purchase the facility before the end of the 5 years contract.

Suha Jaber asked Mr. Bozarth about why the contract does not include that 50% percent of the rent goes towards purchasing the facility, as the founders and BDS (specifically Mr. Bozarth) agreed on. Mr. Bozarth says he remembers that the agreement was that 50% of the rent goes towards purchasing but does not know how that did not get put in the contract. Suha Jaber reminded Mr. Bozarth that he told her several times that the contract is a lease-to-buy with 50% of the rent going towards purchasing when he was informed that the State contacted RLA concerned about the fact that RLA is paying rent when the Florida Statue states that charter schools can use a vacant facility at no charge.

*Statue 1022.32(18)(e) –*

*If a district school board facility or property is available because it is surplus, marked for disposal, or otherwise unused, it shall be provided for a charter school's use on the same basis as it is made available to other public schools in the district.*

*The charter school shall agree to reasonable maintenance provisions in order to maintain the facility in a manner similar to district school board standards.*

ITEM # 2: VOTE TO PURCHASE THE FACILITY

After Mr. Bozarth left, the Board voted to purchase the facility. Suha Jaber will inform Mr. Husfelt of the Board's vote.

ITEM # 3: VOTE ON NEW BOARD MEMBER

The board members voted on a Board Member: Chelsea Holmes, who is a banker at Regions Bank.

ITEM #4: LOOK FOR FINANCING OPTIONS

Mr. Todd Zaborski, Mr. Osama Albibi, and Ms. Chelsea Holmes said they will look at financing options to provide to the Board on the following meeting. Suha Jaber will also contact the organizations that provide non-profit charter schools with affordable financing options.

ITEM #5: TOUR THE FACILITY

The Board toured the school and saw a lot of room for potential and improvement.

ACTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING:

1. Discuss contract with BDS
2. Review financing options of Mr. Albibi, Mr. Zaborski, Chelsea Holmes, and Suha Jaber