

RISING LEADERS ACADEMY BOARD MINUTES

June 25, 2025 MEETING

Board Members Present via Zoom: Mr. Rasheed, Mr. Zawahry, Dr. Baker, Mr. Steinbrecher, Mr. Hinson, Mrs. Khan

Board Members Absent: Dr. Mazloum, Dr. Elzawahry

Administrators Present: Dr. Jaber, Principal Perryman

At 12:00 p.m., Dr. Jaber informed the board that she had called this special meeting to focus solely on one topic:

Voting on retaining a school board attorney with experience in charter school law to assist the school with agreements and contracts, and to provide legal guidance as RLA works on developing our policy manual.

Dr. Jaber explained that Florida has implemented a significant number of updates and changes to its school regulations and laws in recent years, particularly concerning education policies and practices. She stated that retaining a school board attorney would support RLA in staying current with all updates and changes.

Dr. Jaber informed the board that she had met with four attorneys and provided information about each one. Mr. Rasheed called for a motion to vote on retaining an attorney and asked each board member to cast their vote. All board members voted for Mr. Jeffery Wood, who authored the Charter Policy Manual for the Charter Support Unit—the same manual Dr. Jaber is currently working on.

Mr. Rasheed then made a motion for Dr. Jaber to work with Mr. Wood. Ms. Khan seconded the motion, and all board members approved it. Dr. Jaber informed the board that she would work with the attorney and implement all agreements and contracts that do not require board approval, while any action that does require board approval will be presented to the board first.