Proposed Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Rise Academy

The Board of Directors of Rise Academy held a regular meeting on June 4, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at 207 N. M.L.K. Blvd., Lubbock, TX.

The following directors, constituting a quorum of the board, were present at the meeting:

Richard Baumgartner, Frank Gutierrez, Raquel Gonzales, Phyllis Gant & Kimberly Bush

Absent: Frank Gutierrez left early at 8:00

Meeting Called to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. by R. Baumgartner.

Approval of Minutes The minutes of the regular meeting of May 7, 2026, were approved on first motion by R. Gonzales and second by P. Gant. The vote was 5 to 0 in favor.

Public Comment No members of the public were present for comment.

Financial Matters R. Baumgartner presented the monthly financial reports for April 2026. R. Gonzales asked about the Higginbotham expenditures listed in the reports. Baumgartner stated that these were insurance premium payments, and then Gonzales asked which coverage of insurance Higginbotham provided. Baumgartner answered that he believed it was for the employee supplemental policies but that he would check for sure. After some discussion, the financial reports were approved on first motion by P. Gant and second by K. Bush. The vote was 5 to 0 in favor.

Baumgartner next presented amendments to the 2025-26 budget. After some discussion, these amendments were approved on first motion by R. Gonzales and second by K. Bush. The vote was 5 to 0 in favor.

Next Baumgartner updated the other members on the transferring of funds in the Plains Capital Bank money market account to other financial institutions that might offer a better rate of return. He stated that he contacted the Plains Capital agent about transferring the account elsewhere but that the Plains agent then offered a better rate than what Landing Rock Financial was offering to transfer. Therefore, Baumgartner stated, he renewed the Plains Capital account with this better rate of return. Baumgartner then mentioned that this scenario unfolded just as

R. Gonzales suggested that it might during the prior board meeting. Finally, Baumgartner informed the other board members that the Self-Help loan on the campus was now paid off in full. F. Gutierrez left the meeting at 8:00.

Enrollment Update Baumgartner next informed the other members that the number of new enrollers was still very modest in number. He stated, however, that the number of leads generated by the Target River ads were greater in number than he had originally thought. The problem was that most of the leads did not convert to newly enrolled students because prospective parents failed to follow through on their initial interest. The other board members added their thoughts and comments. R. Gonzales and K. Bush stated that the school needed to be open for Google reviews so that prospective parents had something to refer to and be persuaded by when they searched for information about Rise. The discussion ended with the consensus that an additional round of Target River ads would be run.

Staff Update Baumgartner informed the other members that the school had received a complaint filed with the EEOC by a former teacher for discrimination based on handicapped status. He briefly explained that the claims of the complaint were entirely without merit and that he was responding to the complaint with clear documentation as to why the teacher was terminated with cause for performance reasons. Baumgartner next informed the other members that he had hired a new prek-3 teacher, and that he was planning to begin the transition of certain duties from the remote business manager to the business assistant on campus.

STAAR Results Baumgartner reported that the STAAR scores were released for individual students, although the official school A – F ratings would not be revealed until late summer. He stated that it appeared that Rise students had performed approximately the same as the year before, so either a high ‘B’ or low ‘A’ would likely be the school’s accountability rating when those results are released.

Armed Staff Baumgartner next explained that the board had to annually declare the number of armed personnel on campus to fulfill a state requirement. He stated that there were two people – himself and the security guard – trained under the Guardian program as the board members already knew. The required document was then signed after a 4 to 0 vote in favor, on first motion by P. Gant and second by K. Bush.

Board Training The members briefly discussed whether to try to hold training sessions during regular board meetings or to instead hold separate training sessions to get the training done. R. Gonzales suggested that maybe the first session could be done together and then perhaps each member could then complete training units on their own.

Adjournment On motion by R. Gonzales and second by P. Gant, the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed

Dated: _______ Name/Title____