A BRIEF HISTORY OF TIME...

The Rising School began as a collaboration between Dr. George Rising, an experienced educational leader, and his wife, Stephanie Rising, a longtime Tucson businesswoman. Encouraged by colleagues, Dr. Rising decided to take what he had learned working at some of the best schools in Tucson and combine it with his own research and convictions about how to create a great academic institution.

He chose the name "The Rising School" in homage to his alma mater, The Roeper School, one of the top college-prep schools in Michigan, and he named the management organization "Rising Schools, Inc." Stephanie Rising, owner of Canyon Concepts, helped with the business and marketing side of founding The Rising School.

Over the past few years, the Risings have built a stellar team, which includes the Governing Board, educational experts, business/finance advisors, and various committees.

THE RISING SCHOOL
RISING TO ACHIEVE GREATNESS

www.risingschool.org
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THE FACTS:

In Arizona, 68 out of 100 students graduate from high school. Of those, 8 graduate from college within four years.

OUR GOAL:

Change those facts.

Why "Rising To Achieve Greatness?"

Throughout The Rising School's (TRS) development, we knew it was essential to measure all of our decisions—curriculum, teaching practices, learning environment—against a very clear vision for the school. It quickly became obvious that all roads led back to one guiding principle: We are committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to achieve greatness in their education, and their academic preparation and confidence will empower them in their adult life.

Great teaching is the heart of The Rising School.

At our school, teaching is a demanding job, requiring expert content knowledge, effective instructional implementation, personal approachability, organization ability, and collaboration skills.

With those high expectations also comes daily support. Dr. George Rising, an experienced educator, has a collaborative and empowering leadership style. He and the teachers work together in a weekly Professional Learning Community, in professional development opportunities, and during planning periods. They jointly create curriculum, refine instruction, and analyze assessment and other data. The result: courses that are rigorous, challenging, engaging, and relevant.

One of the many advantages of operating a charter school is streamlined, onsite decision-making—especially concerning curriculum and teachers. Dr. Rising is the school's instructional leader and is directly responsible for hiring, supervising, and evaluating teachers. Teachers' expertise in content and instruction is demonstrated through advanced degrees in their teaching subject; previous effective classroom experience; and observations and evaluations by Dr. Rising, faculty peers, and students. Dr. Rising's evaluation of teachers will rely heavily (50%) on their students' academic growth.

Civic leadership is an expectation and a grade

Active class participation, respect for fellow students, service to the community—such actions build character as well as a great college resumé. Rising To Achieve Greatness requires us to be aware of and engaged in the world around us, and it's for that reason TRS students receive a "civics" grade in addition to their academic grades. As your neighborhood school, TRS leadership has deep ties with the Tucson community, and we coordinate opportunities for students to be active, contributing citizens. By 2016, our 12th graders will perform internships as a graduation requirement.

Education and Tucson business

Everyone involved in developing TRS is a long-time Tucson resident and professional. Our co-founder, Stephanie Rising, is a small business owner, as is one of our Directors (Margret Huebner) and a great many of our advisors and committee members. We all share a desire to raise the standard for education, making Tucson known for a highly qualified, intelligent workforce.

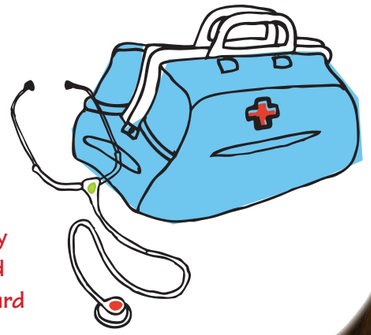
Unfortunately, given the poor performance of so many of our public schools, of the 68% of students who graduate from high school, their basic math and writing skills are sorely lacking. Not only does this affect their ability to enter college or secure employment; it also affects the ability of their future employer to entrust them with jobs requiring critical thinking and leadership.

TRS is accutely aware that outstanding schools attract higher paying jobs and larger companies to Tucson, improving economic opportunities for all.

To sum up: College prep rigor with free tuition

TRS is a high-quality college-prep school that prepares Tucson-area students for success in school, college, and 21st century careers. At TRS:

- Students, parents, and teachers are treated with respect andenjoy being part of a safe, caring community.
- Classes are engaging and relevant; teachers are experts in curriculum and instruction; and standards and assessments are rigorous.
- Students create quality projects; surpass state and national standards on assessments; and mature into alumni who are successful scholars and professionals engaged with their community and the world.



DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF THE RISING SCHOOL'S PROGRAM:

- Challenging courses aligned to rigorous standards
- Instruction by great teachers grounded in research-based methods
- Personal attention for all students
- Extra help for students who need it (including students with special needs)
- A safe and orderly learning environment
- A welcoming environment
- Family and community involvement
- Class sizes targeted at 25 students or less

The Rising School is the product of years of planning and development by a group of smart, knowledgeable, and dedicated professionals. For our Board bios, visit our website at

www.risingschool.org.