Vision
Empowering students to explore global learning opportunities to promote and enrich their communities and the communities we serve.

Purpose
Somerset Academy, Inc. promotes a transformational culture that maximizes student achievement and the development of accountable, global learners in a safe and enriching environment that fosters high-quality education.

Florida Charter School Meeting of the Board of Directors
April 15, 2019

Board of Directors
Todd German (Board Chair / Treasurer) (Present)
Ana Diaz (Vice-Chair / Secretary /Parent) (Present)
David Concepcion (Present)
Jenny Esquivjarosa (Parent) (Present)
Dr. Bernard Kimmel (Present)
Louis Marin (Texas (Vice-Chair Texas) (Present)
Matthew Cox (Texas) (Absent)

Non-Voting Officers
Bernie Montero, President (Present)
Suzette Ruiz, Vice-President (Present)

Board Counsel
Charles Gibson, Esq. (Present)
Eleni Pantaridis, Esq. (Present)

Minutes

1. Opening Exercises
   a. Meeting called to order
   b. Established a Quorum

2. Public Comment
   a. Jacqui Luscombe – Somerset Riverside (Email Request Attached)

3. Consent Agenda
   a. APPROVED: The Board approved the Minutes from the March 4, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting.
   b. APPROVED: The Board approved the Minutes from the March 19, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting.
c. **APPROVED**: The Board approved to renew the following charter school contracts which expired June 30, 2020; further approving to renew for 15 years as allowed by statute if a High Performing School:
   i. **Miami-Dade**
      1. Somerset Academy Oaks #3033
      2. Somerset Academy High School (South Homestead) #7034
      3. Somerset Preparatory Academy Sunset #5002
   ii. **Broward**
      1. Somerset Academy Village #5004
      2. Somerset Academy Village Charter Middle School #5002
      3. Somerset Preparatory Academy Charter School at North Lauderdale #5003
      4. Somerset Preparatory Academy Charter High School at North Lauderdale #5006
      5. Somerset Preparatory Academy Charter Middle School #5441
      6. Somerset Pines Academy #5030

d. **APPROVED**: The Board approved to authorize the Chair or Vice Chair the ability to approve Out of State Field Trips within a reasonable distance for Somerset Academy Jefferson Schools due to the school’s proximity to the state border.

e. **APPROVED**: The Board approved the following Out of State Field Trip(s):
   i. Somerset College Prep – Spain / Portugal Spring Break 2020 with EF Tours (Principal Erika Rains)
   ii. Somerset College Prep – Japan Spring Break 2021 with EF Tours (Principal Erika Rains)
   iii. Somerset Academy St. Lucie #0703 - Annual Spring 5th grade field trip to Washington D.C. with EF Tours (Principal Joann Roach)

f. **APPROVED**: The Board approved the Promissory Note from Somerset Academy, Inc. to Somerset Academy of the Arts (Palm Beach) for $25,000 to fund start-up expenses.

g. **APPROVED**: The Board approved for Somerset College Prep Academy to purchase an additional school bus for an amount not to exceed $118k to be paid by the operating account (financially reviewed & approved by Alina Chester).

h. **APPROVED**: The Board approved to designate Erika Rains as the Principal of Somerset Career Academy Port St. Lucie.

**Motion to approve the consent agenda by Louis Marin; second by Ana Diaz; motion passed unanimously**

4. **Action & Discussion Items**

   a. Discuss: New Article re Governor’s Warning to School Boards re Security Requirements /
      i. Willy Tagle provides an update on school security and procedures for reporting incidents.

   b. Accreditation Visit / Update
      i. All pre-visits for Texas, Nevada, Palm Beach, and Duval have gone very well; Jefferson will be visited next week; board member interviews will take place on April 30th; retreat on June 28th for all Somerset principals and board members prior to the National Charter School Conference.
         1. George and Tunji thank Sarah and Christine for all their preparation, support, and guidance.

   c. School Data Reports
      i. Somerset Lakes (*Clint Duvo*)
      ii. Somerset Key (*Dennis Mulrooney*)
      iii. Somerset Pines (*Donna Kaye*)
      iv. Somerset Eagle Prep (*Tunji Williams*)
      v. Somerset Riverside (*Geyler Herrera Castro*)

   d. **APPROVED**: The Board approved the Sublandlord Rent Adjustment for the Somerset Academy Lakes / SLAM Lease Rate.
      i. This item will need to be reviewed and adjusted annually as the enrollment fluctuates each year.
      **Motion to approve by Ana Diaz second by Louis Marin; motion passed unanimously**

   c. **Title 2 Update**
      i. Judy Marty updates the board on the amendment request to opt out of Title 2 funding; met with the district about this; would like to remain with the district for another year; the district has promised to work with the schools and improve this item; this gives the schools a full year to prepare and can later decide to opt out with better planning.
ii. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to withdraw the amendment request to Opt Out of Title 2 funding directly by the district for the 2019-2020 school year; the board reserves the right to resubmit the request in the future.

*Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously*

f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the following Revised 2018-2019 Annual Budgets due to adjustments in loans and grants:
   i. Somerset Silver Palms #0332
   ii. Somerset Academy High School #7042
   iii. Somerset Palms #5015
   iv. Somerset St. Lucie #0703
   v. Somerset Chapel Trail #5141, #5151, #5221, #5396
   vi. Somerset Academy Miramar #5405, #5406, #5054
   vii. Somerset College Prep #0712
   viii. Somerset Prep Jacksonville #3550, #3126, #3125

*Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Jenny Esquijarosa; motion passed unanimously*

g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Board Chair to approve additional costs for the St. Lucie VOTech project; proposals are expected by tomorrow which total up to $150,000.

*Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously*

h. Tabled: Update & Possible Action: Somerset Pines Relocation

i. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESSP
   i. Danny Diaz updates the Board on the Sunset site; working on getting substantial compliance.
   ii. Board Chair updates everyone on a recent school board meeting in Jefferson which Cory attended; the Chair of their board went on record opposing money being put through legislation for Jefferson for buses and mental health; hopeful that the funds still go through; wanted the board and everyone to know what we are dealing with in Jefferson.

5. Announcements & Notifications

a. Upcoming Meetings
   i. Application Review Meetings
      1. April 22nd in St. Lucie
   ii. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for May 17th at 12pm via Zoom.
   iii. The next Strategic Planning Meeting on June 14th.
   iv. The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on June 20th in Key West & via Zoom.

b. Other Events
   i. National Charter School Conference is June 30 – July 3 in Las Vegas (For more info: https://ncsc.publiccharters.org)
   ii. Somerset Academy, Inc. District Spelling Bee Thursday, April 18th
   iv. Elementary Battle of the Books—Tuesday, April 23rd at Somerset Central
   v. Middle School Battle of the Books—Wednesday, April 24th at Somerset Central

6. Meeting Adjourned

**The minutes were adopted by the Board of Directors at a meeting held on May 17, 2019.**