



Vision

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

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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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors February 15, 2022

Board of Directors

Todd German (Board Chair / Treasurer) *(Present)*
Ana Diaz (Vice-Chair / Secretary / Parent) *(Absent)*
David Concepcion *(Present)*
Dr. Bernard Kimmel *(Present)*
Matthew Cox (Texas) *(Present)*

Non-Voting Officers

Bernie Montero, President *(Present)*
Suzette Ruiz, Vice-President *(Present)*

Board Counsel

Charles Gibson, Esq. *(Present)*
Eleni Pantaridis, Esq. *(Absent)*

In an effort to allow greater public participation and to best accommodate stakeholders, this meeting was held via communications media technology with physical access sites at each of the individual school campuses throughout Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, St. Lucie, Duval, Jefferson and Monroe Counties.

Minutes

1. Opening Exercises

- a. Called to Order at 11:00am
- b. Established a Quorum

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the January 11, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Board Resolutions for Out of Field Waiver Assignments for the 2021-2022 school year; further authorizing the Board Chair and/or Vice Chair to review and make necessary changes and execute for submission.
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Teacher Certification Extension Request.

- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the necessary revisions to the Individual Charter School Title I Budget Appropriation Details Forms for the 2021-2022 school year for the Title 1 distinguished schools, as necessary for the schools located in Miami-Dade County.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the Student Enrollment / Lottery Policy.
 - i. Language was added to reflect that the schools have the following statutory right:
 - 1. The school may implement limited enrollment periods to target specified student populations in accordance with Florida Statute, Section 1002.33(10)(c).
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to renew the following schools whose charter contracts expires June 30, 2023; further approval to request 15 year terms for the High-Performing Schools, as permitted by Statute.
 - i. Broward:
 - 1. Somerset Academy Riverside Charter School #5387
 - 2. Somerset Academy Riverside Charter Middle School #5419
 - 3. Somerset Academy Elementary South Campus #5263
 - 4. Somerset Academy Key Charter Middle School #5413
 - ii. Miami-Dade:
 - 1. Somerset Arts Academy #2012
 - 2. Somerset Academy Charter Middle School (South Homestead) #6013
 - 3. Somerset Academy Kendall #4037
 - iii. St. Lucie:
 - 1. Somerset Academy St. Lucie #0703
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Out of State and/or Country Field Trip(s):
 - i. Somerset Academy Bay – Close Up Trip to Washington D.C.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Revised list of Parental Involvement Representatives.
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved for each school to adopt their respective school district’s 2022-2023 school year calendar (early dismissal days are permitted to be made at the school level).

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Dr. Kimmel; second by Matt Cox; motion passed unanimously

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair *(Todd German)*
 - i. Discussed: Somerset Boca’s learning growth during the pandemic.
 - ii. Julio Robaina provided updates on legislative session, Jefferson County (contract ends June 30; physical leave of plant at the end of the school year in May), Somerset High (Suzette’s) in on track to open in August, new Miami-Dade Superintendent.
 - iii. The property next to Somerset Key West is owned by the landlord and he has offered to sell it; requesting Rolando prepare some sketches of the site.
 - iv. Principal Rompella had a fire in his apartment last week and lost all his clothes. The following day he went to work in shorts and a t-shirt.
- b. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson *(Cory Oliver)*
 - ii. Somerset Village *(Collette Papa, Charles Gibson, Gema Marti, Anthony Marucci)*
 - iii. Others, if necessary
 - 1. Somerset Oaks Leadership Day Invitation
- c. Financial Report
 - i. Requesting approval of Somerset St. Lucie’s Revised Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plan
 - 1. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the revised Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plans for the schools located in Port St. Lucie.

Motion to approve by David Concepcion; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously

- ii. Alina updates the Board on difficulties with Broward County dealing with grants. She also recommends that schools purchase curriculum outright and not multi-year as some districts are not approving multi-year expenses.
 - iii. Spring budget meetings schedule to go out next week.
 - iv. Referendum funds update.
 - v. Broward County teachers stipends / increases; Broward County has already paid their teachers; trying to get the funds approved via a grant which could take some time; the Board wants to pay out asap.
 - 1. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to pay-out the Broward County Somerset teachers immediately, pending confirmation from legal.
Motion to approve by David Concepcion; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously
- d. Project / Purchase Discussions & Approvals
- i. Somerset Academy JFK (Principal Sharon Hench)
 - 1. Project: Replace Intercom, Clock and Bells Systems
 - 2. Amount (not to exceed): \$115,000
 - 3. Funding Source: Referendum Funding
 - 4. The Board does not feel the item needs action and asks for an update after completed.
- e. Discuss: Somerset Academy Oaks
- i. Ford Engineers (Ford) is seeking permits to connect the school building to the new lift station (#45). As part of the original approved purchase of this site Somerset is responsible for a \$250,000.00 to the seller/developer. Agreement has been reviewed and verified; confirmed that Somerset obtained a sewer allocation letter back in March 2021.
- f. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Reminder: Charter Amendment Requests are due March 1st. Please contact Kelly asap if you need to make any changes to your charter (including, but not limited to enrollment capacity, address, grade configuration, name change).
- b. Next Board Meeting: March 8th

6. Adjourned Meeting at 11:50am

The undersigned hereby certified that he/she is an Officer and/or Director of SOMERSET ACADEMY, INC., a not-for-profit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida, and that the above is a true and correct copy of the meeting minutes of the Board of Directors of said corporation.

The minutes were adopted by the Board of Directors at a meeting held on March 8, 2022.