



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 June 16, 2022

Board of Directors

Todd German (Board Chair / Treasurer) *(Present)*
Ana Diaz (Vice-Chair / Secretary /Parent) *(Present)*
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. *(Absent)*
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 11:02am
- b. Established a Quorum

2. **Public Comment** *(Members of the public have a maximum amount of time (3 minutes) to speak at the discretion of the Board Chair. It is noted that the Board will not address the presenter or take action at this time.)*

- a. Constantine Economides – Parent from Somerset Academy Parkland; spoke regarding the recent incident at the school in which caused reportedly loaded firearms were brought onto school property; he states his concern for possible negligence.

3. **Consent Agenda**

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the May 17, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Teacher Certification Extension Request(s).

- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the Resolutions by the Board Chair:
 - i. Approved to amend the name of Somerset Academy Sunset (per approved charter school application) to Somerset Academy Continental; further approving to request the following as the student enrollment capacities in the charter school contract: Years 1-2: K-5 up to 105 students | Years 3-5: K-5 up to 515 students.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the following School Projects:
 - i. Somerset Academy Key
 - 1. Repair/Replace asphalt for two outdoor basketball courts for an amount not to exceed \$110,000 to be paid by operating.
 - ii. Somerset Academy Village
 - 1. Bathroom Renovations for an amount not to exceed \$92,000 to be paid by operating.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to adopt the following school policies:
 - i. Behavioral Threat Assessment (BTA)
 - ii. Safe School Officer (SSO)
 - iii. Involuntary Examinations
 - iv. Emergency Notification
 - v. Parent Right to Access School Safety and Discipline Incidents
 - vi. Parent Reunification
- f. **Pulled:** Annual Approval of Board Policies & Procedures, including:
 - i. Conflict of Interest (*Each Board Member is required to sign and return the written acceptance form*)
 - ii. Ethics
 - iii. Whistle Blower
 - iv. Professional Development Plan for Administrators
 - v. Student Enrollment / Lottery
 - vi. Internet Safety Policy
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Board Chair the ability to approve any year-end financial items which may be necessary to close the books.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Preliminary Board of Directors Meeting Schedule for the 2022-2023 School Year.
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Accept the Annual Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Notice for Directory Information.
- j. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Submittal of the Mental Health Allocation Plans.
- k. **Pulled:** Extend the term of the existing Charter School Educational Services and Support Agreement with Academica for one additional year, expiring June 30, 2023.
- l. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Wellness Policy.
- m. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the 2022-2023 Parent Involvement Representatives.
 - i. Further approving to designate Jeanette Nunez as the Conflict Resolution Person, in the event the Parent Involvement Representative is unable to assist.

Item 3f and 3k were pulled from consent by Board Member Concepcion.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously

Discussed:

- 3f it is requested to know if there have been any changes to these policies; it is noted that there have been no changes since the Board's last adoption.

- 3k it is requested to know if there have been any changes to the agreement, specifically regarding any price increases due to CPI; it is noted there have been no changes to the actual agreement or fees, it is just a one-year extension.
 - o **APPROVED:** The Board approved to extend the term of the existing Charter School Educational Services and Support Agreement with Academica for one additional year, expiring June 30, 2023.
Motion to approve by David Concepcion; second by Ana Diaz; motion passed unanimously

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)
 - i. Discussed a recent article which addressed the majority of Americans are not happy at their jobs. However, his daughter recently attended a meeting at Doral and was surprised to see that everyone there truly seemed happy at their job.
 - ii. Legislative update by Julio Robaina
- b. School Updates
 - i. Somerset City Arts (*Idalia Suarez*)
 - 1. As the building's age is getting higher, more and more facility issues are coming about. One particular instance was a classroom with an unpleasant smell; the wall was removed as it was determined the wall was rotted out; unfortunately the smell still exists. Another issue is that the windows are rotting and need to be replaced.
 - 2. The Board requests that Gema provide a report and action plan to the Board at the next meeting.
 - 3. Victor requests for Collette to review the lease to help determine what costs are that of the school or the church.
 - ii. Others, if necessary
- c. Financial Report (*Alina Chester*)
 - i. **APPROVED:** The Board reviewed and approved to adopt the Final 2021-2022 Annual Budgets.
 - ii. **APPROVED:** The Board reviewed and approved to adopt the Proposed 2022-2023 Annual Budgets.
Motion to approve the financial report by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board discussed and approved the following New Principals:
 - i. Miami-Dade County
 - 1. Somerset College Preparatory Academy South High School #TBD – Joel Mesa
 - 2. Somerset Academy Continental #TBD – Angie Nunez
 - ii. Palm Beach County
 - 1. Somerset Academy JFK Charter School #3995 – Lisa Santiago
- e. Somerset Academy Bethany Satellite Campus
 - i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Board Chair the ability to continue negotiations and execute the final lease, contingent upon final legal approval.
Motion to approve by David Concepcion; second by Ana Diaz; motion passed unanimously
- f. Somerset Academy Continental
 - i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Board Chair the ability to continue negotiations and execute the final lease, contingent upon final legal approval.
 - 1. School to start small with up to 105 and eventual potential to grow after 2 years and then larger in the future.
Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Matt Cox; motion passed unanimously
- g. Presentation by Doral College. (*Judith Marty & Ryan Kairalla*)
 - i. The Board authorized the school principals to execute articulation agreements for Doral College Dual Enrollment for 2022-23 academic year.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to utilize the Doral Leadership Institute Consortium of Public Charter Schools Instructional Personnel Evaluation System and School Administrator Evaluation System.
- i. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP
 - i. Update on Signage Project – hope to have more to present at the next meeting. This is not optional and all new signage must be reviewed and approved by Adri and Gema at the direction of the Board.
 - ii. Board Chair German requests that an item be added to the next meeting regarding teacher retention.

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: July 19th

6. Adjourned Meeting at 12:15pm

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 July 19, 2022.