



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 May 24, 2021

Board of Directors

Todd German (Board Chair / Treasurer) *(Present)*
Ana Diaz (Vice-Chair / Secretary / Parent) *(Present)*
David Concepcion *(Absent)*
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.
Eleni Pantaridis, Esq.

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
- b. Established a Quorum

2. Public Comment

- a. There were no comments by the public.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the April 20, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. Item Pulled: Approval of Resolutions: Out of Field Waiver(s) for Instructional Personnel with Out of Field Assignments.
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Revised Charter School Title I Budget Appropriation Details Forms for the 2020-2021 school year for the Title 1 distinguished schools, as necessary.

- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Revised Articulation Agreements for:
 - i. St. Lucie
 - 1. Articulation Agreement from Somerset Academy Bethany to Somerset College Preparatory Academy.
 - ii. Miami-Dade
 - 1. Articulation Agreement from Somerset Academy Palms to Somerset Academy Palms Performing Arts Academy.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the following Board Chair Approved Resolutions:
 - i. Amend the name on the approved charter school application from “Somerset Academy Silver Palms Performing Arts Academy” to “Somerset Academy Palms Performing Arts Academy”.
 - ii. Confirmation of Board Members
 - iii. Approval to name Adriana Diaz as the Parent Involvement Representative for Somerset Academy Palms Performing Arts Academy.
 - iv. Approval of Revised Title 1 Budget for Somerset Academy Oaks.
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved Teacher Certification Extension Request.
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved for Somerset Canyons to apply for Regions Bank Visa credit card, use of which shall be limited to bus-related expenses such as fuel, toll fees, and repairs and maintenance.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the following School Projects:
 - i. Somerset Academy Boca’s Playground Project for an amount not to exceed \$85,000. (*Principal Daniel Shourds*)
 - ii. Somerset Academy Central Playground Project for an amount not to exceed \$150,000. (*Principal Athena Guillen*)
 - iii. Somerset Academy Prep Sunset Classroom Renovation Project for an amount not to exceed \$120,000. (*Principal Angie Nunez*)
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Board Chair the ability to retain a FLDOE approved vendor(s) to comply with Alyssa’s Alert Law.
- j. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Receive & File the Financial Statements for the period ending March 31, 2021.

d. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)
 - i. Happy to be present in Jacksonville today; the turnaround of the school is something to be proud of; Principal Williams gives the Board updates on the school year and the new building; an opportunity has presented to purchase the property next door; another party has expressed interest in purchasing and building a high school, so the landlord has offered the property to Somerset; still some room to grow on the current property; board and staff discuss and are interested in possible pursuing this.
- b. Tabled: Follow up on facility issues with the Archdiocese located schools.
- c. Tabled: Follow up on tabled third-party Facility Usage Agreements for SoBay and Riverside.
 - i. Additional information is needed; would like to table until the next meeting.
- d. Items for Discussion
 - i. 3rd Grade Retention Policy – Board needs to adopt its own policy
 - ii. Summer School Issue – Seeking further clarification
 - iii. Handbook Updates / Requirements – Seeking further clarification; will circulate some sample policies / language.
- e. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson (*Cory Oliver*)
 - ii. Somerset Academy Palms Performing Arts Academy was recently approved by CRC and is expected to be approved by the School Board at its June meeting; this is a high school to be located on the existing Somerset Academy Palms Campus (Sunset and 120th Ave. in Miami-Dade).

- iii. President Montero updates the Board on new Principal position interviews; these will be presented at the June Board Meeting for formal Board approval.
- iv. Board Chair German discusses a recent cease and desist which was issued to a parent.

- f. Doral Leadership Report
 - i. Professional Development Title 2 MOU Agreement
 - 1. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the President Montero the ability to negotiate and execute the MOU with DLI.
Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Matt Cox; motion passed unanimously
 - ii. Innovate 2021

- g. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP
 - i. Alina Chester provides an update on the Jacksonville schools' financials for the upcoming school year; they look fantastic.

e. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: June 15th

f. Adjourned Meeting

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 June 15, 2021.