



SOMERSET ACADEMY, INC.

2021-2022 Board Meeting Dates

July 13th
August 17th
September 14th
October 14th
November 16th
December 14th
January 11th
February 15th
March 8th
*April 4th
April 12th
May 17th
June 16th (Annual Meeting)

**Indicates a Special Meeting*



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors July 13, 2021

Board of Directors

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

Non-Voting Officers

Bernie Montero, President
Suzette Ruiz, Vice-President

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. Call to Order
- b. Establish Quorum

2. Public Comment

- a. Alana Garcia, Parent from Somerset Academy Bay

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the June 15, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the Mental Health Plans for the individual schools.
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the 2020-2021 FSSAT; further approving the submittal of the 2021-2022 FSSAT.

- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify Resolutions by the Chair.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the following School Project Request(s):
 - i. Somerset Academy Middle School Miramar – Science Lab Furniture for \$60,000 (funded by ESSER)
(Principal Alex Prieto)
 - ii. Somerset Academy Key – Bathrooms and Stairwell Improvements for \$43,00 (funded by operating)
(Principal Dennis Mulrooney)
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Title 1 Budget Appropriation Details Forms for the 2021-2022 School Year for the individual and eligible schools; further approving them to be executed by either the Board Chair or Vice-Chair.
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Mental Health Plans for the individual schools; further approving to ratify the approval for the schools who chose to opt-in to their district's plan, the ability to do so.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Ana Diaz; second by David Concepcion; motion passed unanimously

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair *(Todd German)*
 - i. Statement issued regarding parent concerns at Somerset Academy Bay
- b. Follow up on facility issues with the Archdiocese located schools.
 - i. Gema reports on the status of repairing the items that need to be complete and conversations and actions with taken with the landlord; goal is to have items complete prior to the start of school. Board Chair German states that August 1st needs to be a hard deadline for the Archdiocese to complete. He asks to ensure that we are prepared to take necessary action if they do not complete by this date. Julio Robaina states that we will all be prepared should this deadline not be met. Board Member Diaz requests info on the standard of the work. Collette Papa has requested a copy of the list of pending issues to be fixed. She will put the ADOM on notice of the pending work and the August 1st deadline. If these items are not fixed, then Somerset will fix and deduct the repair cost from the rent. Board Chair German requests that Collette know that the Board Meeting was held at the school so that the Board could see the issues personally.
- c. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson *(Cory Oliver)*
 - ii. Las Palmas *(Kerri Rodriguez)*
 - 1. Principal Rodriguez will update the Board at August meeting.
 - iii. Others, if necessary
- d. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP
 - i. Mental Health Plans – Website Notice *(Kelly Mallon)*

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: August 17th
 - i. A Principal Chat shall immediately follow the August Board Meeting. *(Suzette Ruiz)*

6. Adjourn 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 August 17, 2021.



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors August 17, 2021

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. *(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
- b. Established a Quorum

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the July 13, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify Resolutions by the Chair:
 - i. Approved the Amendment: Somerset Island Preparatory (#0382) hereby requests to increase enrollment to 100 students effective the 2021-2022 school year, and add 1904 Flagler Avenue, Key West, FL 33040, as an additional educational facility.

- ii. Approved the Board Policy regarding Involuntary Examinations (attached). Per Senate Bill 590, each charter school governing board is required to adopt a policy and procedures for parent/guardian notification prior to the removal of a minor student for an involuntary examination. This policy will address and comply with SB 590 and amended Section 1002.33(9)(q), Florida Statutes.
 - iii. Approved to submit a request to Miami-Dade County Public Schools to defer the opening of Somerset Academy Palms Performing Arts Academy (pka Somerset Academy Silver Palms Performing Arts Academy) (WL# 7554) for one year.
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Title 1 Budget Appropriation Details Forms for the 2021-2022 School Year for the individual and eligible schools; further approving them to be executed by either the Board Chair or Vice-Chair.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Resolutions for Out of Field Waiver(s) for Instructional Personnel with Out of Field Assignments.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the following School Project/Purchase Request(s):
 - i. Somerset Academy Lakes Bus Purchase for approx. \$9,000.

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

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair
- b. Follow up on facility issues with the Archdiocese located schools.
 - i. Progress has been made; there are some pending items which still need to be completed.
 - ii. The Board asks for each Principal of an Archdiocese campus to compile a list of pending projects / needs and address with Gema and Collette.
- c. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson – Transition update; DOE is involved; staffing concerns due to transition; COVID update; sending 10-15 students home per day.
 - ii. Las Palmas – There is a new Principal, Shannon Curran; enrollment update
 - iii. Others, if necessary
 - 1. Somerset Eagle – Enrollment is at 598; schools has a waitlist for the first time ever.
- d. Update on Executive Order 21-175 & District Policies
 - i. Read letter dated August 13 from the FLDOE addressed to charter schools regarding mask mandates.
 - ii. Board Member Diaz
 - iii. Board Member Concepcion
 - iv. Discussed employee leave policies and establishment of a committee
 - v. Discussed \$200 Vaccine
- e. Discussion on ADP coverage for employee matters (*Charles Gibson / Collette Papa / Amy Nunez*)
- f. IRS penalty is a result of paper filing 1099's (*Ana Martinez / Christina Perdomo*)
- g. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: September 14th

6. Adjourn 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 September 14, 2021.



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors September 14, 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. *(Present)*
Eleni Pantaridis, Esq. *(Present)*

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. None

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the August 17, 2021 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 to review and make necessary changes and execute for submission.

- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the following Resolutions by the Board Chair:
 - i. Approved the submittal of the following Charter School Amendment Request:
 - 1. Somerset Island Preparatory (#0382) hereby requests to increase enrollment to 100 students effective the 2022- 2023 school year, and add 1904 Flagler Avenue, Key West, FL 33040, as an additional educational facility.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plans; further authorizing the Board Chair to execute for submission.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Individual Charter School Title I Budget Appropriation Details Forms for the 2021-2022 school year for the Title 1 distinguished schools; further authorizing the Board Chair or Vice-Chair to review and make necessary changes and execute for submission.
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Board Chair the ability to approve and authorize the Principals to submit the Instructional Continuity Plans (ICP) by the required due dates.
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Board Chair to approve to submit the Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Reports for the period ending June 30, 2021.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the use of the Florida Consortium of Charter School's State-Approved Systems for Teacher Observation and Evaluations for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Renew the following Charter School Contracts for a minimum five-year term.
 - i. Somerset Academy Charter Elementary School (South Homestead)
 - ii. Somerset Palms Academy
 - iii. Somerset Academy Pompano
 - iv. Somerset Academy JFK Charter School
- j. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the decision for the identified schools to "opt-in" to receive a 2020-2021 School Grade.
- k. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the 2021-2022 Active Assailant Response / Stabbing Procedures.
- l. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the request for two-year extension of teacher temporary certificate.
- m. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to designate Mr. Jason Killins as the new Parent Involvement Representative (aka School Conflict Designee) for Somerset Preparatory Academy High (Homestead) #7242.

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

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)
 - i. Encourages Principals to utilize the Board with parent concerns and any other support needs.
 - ii. Special recognition to Tunji Williams for his recent Op Ed piece.
- b. Follow up on facility issues at Somerset Academy Village
 - i. Issues are slowly resolving; at the point now that we tell them when we are making a repair.
- c. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson (*Cory Oliver*)
 - 1. Reported little to no communication with the district officials; working well with the incoming Principal and AP.
 - ii. Others, if necessary
 - 1. Waki reports things are going very well at SoHo Middle High.
- d. Update on School Mask Policies and Court Ruling (*Julio Robaina*)
 - i. This issue is constantly changing; the current status is that we are not in a position where we can mandates masks without an opt out clause.

- e. Update on Tax Referendum Funds for Charter Schools and Court Ruling (*Julio Robaina*)
 - i. Issue was recently taken up in Palm Beach and the court ruled that the funds had to be shared with charter schools; the court order states that funds will be received by the PBC schools this year; it did not reference if it was retroactive. This particular ruling does not apply to charter schools in other counties. This one was specific because the districts language excluded charter school.
- f. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP
 - i. Julio Robaina reports that the Governor just announced that this is the last year of the FSA; it will be replaced with Progress Monitoring; they are going to develop a system to use statewide (3 times per year); there are still many unanswered questions, including school grades and how to determine a high performing charter school; the State feels that 2 months of true educational time is lost during the testing time.

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: October 12th

6. Adjourn 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 October 14, 2021.



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors October 14, 2021

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) *(Absent)*

Non-Voting Officers

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

Board Counsel

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

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. Sandra Guzman – Somerset Parkland parent addresses concerns with the school, including administration, playground, school improvement plan.
- b. Alexandra Rizek – Somerset Parkland parent addresses concerns with the school's security.
- c. Coraly Schreiber – Somerset Parkland parent addresses concerns with the school's COVID policies and school communication and inconsistencies and want for a full-time principal who is not shared.
- d. Katrenia Sharrieff – Somerset Parkland parent addresses concern with the school's transparency, inability to meet with the Principal, lunchroom concerns and parent volunteers.
- e. Daysi Shamy – Somerset Parkland parent addresses concerns with communication, shared Principal, feels there is a lot of chaos, playground, lawn maintenance.

- f. Adam Steinberg – Somerset Parkland parent addresses concerns with a particular teacher, requests Board to review his email that was sent Tuesday evening, has not received a response at the school level, feels school is understaffed in administration.
- g. Natasha Tomlinson – Somerset Wellington parent addresses concerns with communication from teachers, feels office communication is outstanding.

Board Chair German would like to respond to two comments made today; one is that he notes that he immediately responded to Mr. Steinberg and his items are under review; the other is in response to a parent's comment regarding retaliation from speaking today and confirms that in no way will any parent be retaliated in any means.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the September 14, 2021 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 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.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Receive & File the Financial Statements for the period ending September 30, 2021.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved revised Parent Involvement Representatives for the necessary schools; further ratifying that if the identified individual is unable to assist in a dispute, the Board has designated the President, Vice President and/or employees of the ESP to assist.
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved CIVIA Agreement for Architectural, Engineering and Facilities Support Services from 7/1/2021-7/1/2022.
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved for the individual schools to adopt their Sponsor's Threat Assessment Policies and Procedures.

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

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)
 - i. Jefferson update by Julio Robaina; preparing for session; will share at the next meeting our legislative priorities.
 - ii. Congratulations to all of the Somerset schools who were named as US News Best Schools; special shout outs to Somerset SoMi and Somerset Miramar for being ranked as US News Best Schools.
 - iii. Congratulations to Somerset Academy Silver Palms for being named a Blue Ribbon School.
- b. Follow up on facility issues at Somerset Academy Village
 - i. Principal Marucci reports that the list of repairs is getting smaller; the Archdiocese has been helpful, but the actual church has not; Board Member Concepcion asks if there were any life safety items on the list; Gema responds that there were never any life safety issues.
- c. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson
 - ii. Others, if necessary
- d. Financial Report
 - i. **APPROVED:** The Board reviewed & approved to Receive & File the Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Reports for the period ending June 30, 2021.
Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by David Concepcion; motion passed unanimously
 - ii. **APPROVED:** The Board reviewed & approved to Ratify all Year-End Grants and Loans for the period ending June 30, 2020.

1. Board Member Concepcion inquires about the amount of some of the school loans.
Motion to approve by David Concepcion; second by Ana Diaz; motion passed unanimously

e. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP

- i. Special Congratulations to Somerset Academy for their 25 year anniversary.
- ii. Principal Summit upcoming
- iii. **APPROVED:** The Board approved (contingent upon COVID travel restrictions) the following out of country field trips for Somerset Academy St. Lucie:
 - 1. Japan – 2023
 - 2. Portugal and Spain – 2024

Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by David Concepcion; motion passed unanimously

5. **Announcements & Notifications**

- a. Next Board Meeting: November 16th

6. **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 November 16, 2021.



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors November 16, 2021

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 1:01pm
- b. Established Quorum

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the October 14, 2021 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 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.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the School Wide Plan for Title 1, as necessary for the schools located in Broward County.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the individual Principals the ability to execute all necessary documents / assurances for the ESSER III grant documents.
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the loan from Somerset Academy, Inc. to Somerset Academy Arizona for \$180,000 to be repaid in full within 60-90 days.

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

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair
 - i. Discussed: Somerset Canyons Facility Wishlist and possible grades expansion
 - ii. Comments regarding the recent Principal Summit
- b. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson
 - ii. Somerset Village
 - iii. Others, if necessary
 - 1. Need for high school program for Somerset Miramar as Chapel Trail is unable to continue to absorb them.
- c. Financial Report
 - i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Somerset Academy Kendall loan from Somerset Academy, Inc. not to exceed \$180 for facility remodel and FFE. (Victor Barroso)
Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously
 - ii. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Revised Annual Budgets.
 - iii. **APPROVED:** The Board approved Referendum Budgets for the schools located in Palm Beach County.
Motion to approve items ciii-iii by Dr. Kimmel; second by Ana Diaz; motion passed unanimously
 - iv. Discussed: Miami-Dade Teacher Salaries and last years \$6k increase.
 - 1. The Board would like to see this as an agenda item for next month (for both Dade & Broward).
- d. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP
 - i. Strategic Plan Initiatives

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: December 14th

6. Adjourned Meeting at

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 December 14, 2021.



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors December 14, 2021

Board of Directors

Todd German (Board Chair / Treasurer) *(Present)*
Ana Diaz (Vice-Chair / Secretary /Parent) *(Present)*
David Concepcion
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. *(Present)*

*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 11:08am
- b. Established Quorum

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the November 16, 2021 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 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.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Plans (PFEP) for the individual schools located in Broward County.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the revision to Professional Development Plan for Administrators Policy (included in the Board Policies and Procedures Manual) to remove the reference “FCAT”, per directive by MDPCS at the recent ARC.
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Out of State and/or Country Field Trip(s):
 - i. Somerset Oaks
 - 1. National Convention and Competition for STN (Student Television Network)
 - 2. February 18-21, 2022 in Long Beach, California
 - 3. 12 students to compete
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the request for two-year extension of teacher temporary certificate.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the individual Principals the ability to execute all necessary documents / assurances for all ESSER grant documents.

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

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)
 - i. Announcement of Superintendent Carvalho leaving Miami-Dade
- b. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson
 - 1. March 1st estimated transition date
 - ii. Somerset Village
 - iii. Others, if necessary
- c. Financial Report
 - i. None
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Somerset Academy Prep Homestead Auditorium Project (seating and curtains only at this time) for an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.
 - i. Will add approx. 100 additional student seating
 - ii. Landlord work is moving forward

Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved Somerset Academy City Art’s request to have a student intern from MAST to intern with our school nurse. Her placement to intern next semester requires board approval.

Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously
- f. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: January 11th

6. Adjourned Meeting at 11:48am

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 January 11, 2022.



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors January 11, 2022

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. *(Present)*
Eleni Pantaridis, Esq. *(Present)*

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 11:04am
- b. Established a Quorum

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the December 14, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. Item Pulled - Approval of 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 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.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Receive and File the CIVICA – Somerset Academy Facilities Support Services report for the period August – December 2021.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Receive and File the Letter of Intent (non-binding) for the property located at 5859 SW 16th Street (aka Somerset Academy Gables West Campus).

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Ana Diaz; second by Matt Cox; motion passed unanimously

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair, Todd German
 - i. COVID updates
- b. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson
 - 1. Cory and Julio discuss the ongoing transitional timeline; staffing shortages.
 - ii. Somerset Village
 - 1. Gema reports that they are in permitting for the playground; awaiting quotes for the bathrooms; will be resurfacing the basketball courts.
 - iii. Others, if necessary
- c. Financial Report
 - i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Recoverable Grant from Somerset Academy, Inc. to Somerset Academy Skyway (Arizona).
 - 1. Grant will be repaid as soon as grant funds are received; short-term.
Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Matt Cox; motion passed unanimously
 - ii. Ongoing cash flow is difficult to manage due to all of the grants.
 - iii. Current grant would allow for high school students to tutor our own elementary school students; there are requirements which must be met; will work with each school to determine participation. Ana Diaz asks if the funds could be used for assistants who tutor, as well. Alina states that they are eligible. Principal Rains discusses students on payroll and security clearance; Alina states that they can be on payroll and that they have to be cleared and the grant should be able to cover the clearance fees.
- d. Discuss and Approval: Purchase of Somerset Academy JFK
 - i. An LOI was submitted to purchase the property; a reassignment is needed from Somerset Academy, Inc. to Somerset Academy Foundation; purchase price is \$5M.
 - ii. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the option to assign the right to purchase of the Somerset Academy JFK property from Somerset Academy, Inc. to Somerset Academy Foundation.
Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously
 - iii. The Board requests that Richard Moreno provide financing update at a future meeting. Richard states they will most likely present a traditional financial package.
- e. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP
 - i. Charles Gibson reports on items that he is working on, such as JFK purchase, HOA at Somerset Miramar and others.
 - ii. Save the Date for 25th Anniversary for Somerset Academy on March 12th

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: February 15th

6. Adjourned Meeting at 11:27am

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 February 15, 2022.



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.

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 Hensch)
 - 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.



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors March 8, 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. *(Present)*

*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 11:01am
- b. Established a Quorum

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the February 15, 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 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.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Teacher Certification Extension Request(s).
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Out of State and/or Country Field Trip(s):
 - i. Somerset Preparatory Academy Middle School (5441) – Close Up Trip to Washington DC May 29-June 1.
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the Resolution by the Board Chair to approve the submittal of charter school contract amendment requests to Miami-Dade County Public Schools.
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved for each school to adopt it's respective district's Equity Policy and post on their websites, as required.

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

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)
 - i. Sarah Fye presented Todd a calendar that Somerset St. Lucie created as fundraiser which displays family's dogs.
 - ii. Facilities Update by Julio Robaina
 - 1. Suzette's high school
 - 2. Erika's expansion at Bethany
 - 3. Parkland Expansion – future phase
 - 4. Riverside Expansion
 - 5. Kerri Ann's Athletic Field and other possible growth
 - iii. Session Update by Julio Robaina; at the next meeting a final report can be provided.
- b. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson (*Cory Oliver*)
 - ii. Somerset Village (*Collette Papa, Charles Gibson, Gema Marti, Anthony Marucci*)
 - iii. Others, if necessary
 - 1. Key West is being approved to increase student capacity from 80 to 100 students; future growth goal is 200 students.
 - 2. Somerset Boca's playground is complete; Daniel sends special thanks to Gema.
- c. Financial Report
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Somerset Academy High School (#7042) AIA Agreement for athletic field finish products agreement.
Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by David Concepcion; motion passed unanimously
- e. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: April 12th

6. 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 April 12, 2022.



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors April 4, 2022

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. (*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 11:33am
- b. Established a Quorum

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Somerset Academy Gables West Campus
 - i. Summary of Transaction
 1. Somerset has been occupying building for the past 5 years; during this time the landlord (the church) has been undergoing legal issues; between this campus and the main Coral Gables campus, the schools have a combined waiting list of over 900 students; proposing the purchase the church; requesting authority to move forward with the closing; Somerset Academy Foundation would

purchase and lease to Somerset Academy, Inc. As Friday was the last day to renew the lease with the church, an intent to renew was provided in the event it becomes necessary.

- a. Board Member Cox requests a description of the property being purchased and asks if the land use will remain the same with a change in ownership. He further asks about the condition of the building. A description and condition of the property is provided. It is confirmed that there will be no expected concerns with land use.
 - b. Discussed the lease structure and rent amount. New lease will be set at a per pupil rate with a min. of 480 students.
2. Review of Temporary Loans to Somerset Academy, Inc.
 3. David Cohen reviews the formal board resolutions which have been provided and detail specific board action necessary.
 - a. **APPROVED:** The Board reviewed and approve the following resolutions:
 - i. RESOLVED, that each of the Transactions is approved and the actions of the Company's officers, directors and agents in connection with each of the Transactions as heretofore taken are hereby ratified and confirmed; and
 - ii. FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lease and Security Agreement (the "New Lease"), in substantially the form presented to the directors on or about the date hereof, is hereby approved, and any one or more of the Chair of the Board, a Board member, or any officer of the Company are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the same; and
 - iii. FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Company shall make a prepayment of Fixed Rent under the New Lease in the approximate amount of \$7,000,000, or such sum as the Chair of the Board may determine but not to exceed \$7,500,000, as provided under the New Lease; and FURTHER RESOLVED, that any one or more of the Chair of the Board, a Board member, or any officer of the Company are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all agreements, documents, instruments, certificates and affidavits, as are necessary or convenient for the consummation of each of the Transactions; and
 - iv. FURTHER RESOLVED, that any one or more of the Chair of the Board, a Board member, or any officer of the Company are authorized and directed to execute and deliver, file and record, and attest any documents, instruments or the like necessary or convenient in carrying out the foregoing resolutions of the Company, and to take such actions as may be necessary and convenient therefor.

Motion to approve by Matt Cox; second by Ana Diaz; motion passed unanimously

4. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: April 12th

5. Adjourned Meeting at 11:53am

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 April 12, 2022.



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors April 12, 2022

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) (*Absent*)

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 11:01am
- b. Established a Quorum

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the March 8, 2022 and April 4, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **Item Pulled:** Approval of 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. Item Pulled: Approval of 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.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Teacher Certification Extension Request(s).
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Referendum Budget Updates for the individual schools located in Palm Beach County.
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Premium Service Agreements for the individual schools located in Broward County.
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the submittal of Mental Health Allocation Plans.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize Board Chair to execute charter contracts with The School District of Palm Beach County for Somerset Academy JFK Charter School and Somerset Academy Wellington High School.
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize Board Chair to execute letters of deferral of 5 approved applications with The School District of Palm Beach County (Somerset Academy Cypress; Somerset Academy Jupiter; Somerset Academy Acme; Somerset Academy Avenir; Somerset Academy Sable Palms)
- j. Item Pulled: Approval of the following Out of State and/or Country Field Trip(s):

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

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)
 - i. Article: Court backs charter school in funding fight. – Feel that the court will rule that there will be retroactivity for 1-3 years; the referendum language will be on the ballots this fall; law now contains language that requires districts to share such funding if it passes; the districts wants a unified effort to get this passed. Board Member Diaz asks if there will be restrictions on the use of these funds since the schools used other funds to provide teachers increases over the past few years; this will be determined by the court ruling, but our hope is that the funds come without restrictions. Alina requests establishing a working group of principals from multiple districts to discuss teacher retention and referendum fund matching. She states that as she has met with different principals, many are focused on retaining teachers at their own school. Todd requests that we coordinate with the other networks on this, as well.
 - ii. Legislative Update by Julio Robaina
 - 1. A full report will be provided once complete with all deliverables; all of our items that passed the House and Senate are expected to be passed by the Governor.
 - iii. Requests that the schools take a moment to focus on their signage; keep them simple and with a large Somerset Academy; he requests that Adri and the marketing team further discuss this item at the next meeting; discussed streamlining the signage.
 - iv. Discussed the government's attempt to pause the CSP grants; encouraged Principals to have their stakeholders submit letters to show their disagreement.
 - v. Discussed and reassured the Principals that when transactions occur and schools are asked to loan funds to the Inc. or other schools, the funds are always still those of the loaning school and they will receive it back; such loans are temporary.
- b. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson
 - 1. Board Chair German discusses an incident which occurred last week with a teacher who posted a inappropriate picture on her last day; parents and others stepped in and the picture was removed.
 - 2. Updates provided on testing and transition.
 - ii. Somerset Village
 - 1. Principal Marucci updates the Board on a meeting which occurred with the church to discuss ongoing issues, mostly personality issues and not facility. Marla further discusses and does not feel like they need anything from the Board at this time. If nothing happens in approx. 8 weeks, then they may

request the Board submit a letter to the ADOM. Principal Marucci feels that the ADOM is very understanding, but feels it's the facility representatives at the actual location.

- iii. Others, if necessary
 - 1. Victor Barroso announces the upcoming (year-end) resignation of Principal Hensch at JFK; he discusses how she immediately fell into the role of a lifetime Somerset Principal; Ms. Hensch is the first Somerset Principal to truly retire in the history of Somerset Academy. Bernie and Suzette share their words of support and gratitude for Principal Hensch and thank her for her time with us. Board Member Kimmel thanks Sharon for her service and dedication. Principal Hensch recalls the first time she met Victor and shares a story how she used to tell her staff he was the property appraiser because he was always on campus and they questioned why. Victor states that finding a replacement will not be easy and encourages the other principals to forward any resumes of potential candidates to Suzette and Bernie.
- c. Financial Report
 - i. Discussed issues in Broward County regarding grants and how its exhausting everyone. Alina states they have requested mediation and met at the state level. They asked for a review of what Broward requires versus what other large districts require. Alina feels that Broward is terrified of doing something wrong or not enough. We are hopeful the state will provide them guidance so they are better aware and educated of what the grant requirements should be.
- d. Principal Items (Requests, Approvals, Reports)
 - i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the project request by Somerset Academy South Homestead Elementary for a Basketball Court Resurfacing Project for an amount not to exceed \$55k (operating expense).
Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously
 - ii. Principal Elizabeth Sauri announces the new high school opening at Somerset Academy Wellington. This will be the first K-12 in Palm Beach County.
- e. Somerset Academy Bay – Use of “Loans House”
 - i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved Ratify Board Chair’s approval of substantial compliance application and \$3,684.12 fee.
 - 1. Julio provides background on this item; attempt to amend the zoning to allow school use.
Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously
- f. Accreditation Update & Presentation by Sarah Fye & Layda Morales
- g. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: May 17th

6. Adjourned Meeting at 10:50am

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 May 17, 2022.



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.

Meeting of the Board of Directors May 17, 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 11:06pm
- b. Established a Quorum
- c. Special thanks to Waki for inviting us all to her school today and hosting today's meeting.

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the April 12, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Teacher Certification Extension Request(s), as submitted.
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the Resolutions by the Board Chair.

- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Out of State and/or Country Field Trip(s):
 - i. Somerset College Prep St. Lucie – London Field Trip for Chorus
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the following school project requests:
 - i. Somerset Academy Pines – PA System Upgrade for an amount not to exceed \$60,000
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify Addendum to Lease Agreement between 990 Building, LLC and Somerset Academy, Inc.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by David Concepcion; second by Ana Diaz; motion passed unanimously

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)
 - i. Attending the FLDOE meeting which was held in Key West last week; the new Superintendent of Jefferson County spoke very poorly of Somerset Academy, including personal attacks on Cory and Courtney and stated that the students have not had a solid education in the past five years. Julio Robaina feels that this was extremely disappointed; the agenda had been reviewed prior to the meeting and there was no heads up that this would occur. The next meeting is July 13th which we feel is too far away to provide our response. In the meantime, a call is being set up with officials at the DOE. Cory and team are working on a video to tell the true story of the past five years. Each Board Member expresses their gratitude to Cory and his entire team on everything they have done the past five years.
 - ii. Julio Robaina provides a legislative update; congratulates Mr. Manny Diaz who has been named the new Education Commissioner for the State; FTE increase for the upcoming school year; the assessment bill has been signed and the rules will be worked on over the summer.
- b. School Updates
 - i. Jefferson
 - 1. Thanks everyone for their support over the past few years; will always support the students of Jefferson County, therefore only wishes success of the new leaders.
 - ii. Somerset Village
 - iii. Others, if necessary
 - 1. Tom Rompella
- c. Somerset Academy Gables West Campus
 - i. Plans attached that we are planning to submit to the City of West Miami re: the Special Use Permit application. Also attached are the survey and photos of the facilities.
 - 1. The project is composed of the interior retrofit of the existing church for classroom use. The outdoor space between the church and the existing two-story classroom building will be renovated to include a permanent enclosure. The space will remain un-airconditioned.
 - 2. The existing two-story classroom building will remain as-is. The school may want to make some simple improvements to the interior, but nothing significant.
 - 3. The site will be improved with additional landscaping and reconfigured parking spaces in order to meet code requirements.
 - 4. Cost projection has not yet been completed for this project.
 - 5. Timeline - the idea is to get the Special Use Permit in the next two months, prepare permit plans and hope to have the work done by August of 2023. The logistics, however, are challenging because school will be in session for most of the time of construction.
- d. Somerset Academy JFK
 - i. Closing in the next month or so
 - ii. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the Construction Budget (to be added to the bonds).
Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by Dr. Kimmel; motion passed unanimously
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to designate the following:
 - i. Ms. Sonia Andreu as the Principal of Somerset Academy Riverside Charter School #5387 and Somerset Academy Riverside Charter Middle School #5419, effective the 2022-2023 school year.
 - ii. Elizabeth Sauri as the Principal of Somerset Academy Wellington High School #TBD.

Motion to approve by Ana Diaz; second by David Concepcion; motion passed unanimously

- f. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP
 - i. At the direction of the Board, Adri has been assigned to review all school signage and recommend updates as possible. Adri discusses upcoming school visits and a priority list. She reminds everyone that there are certain restrictions set by municipalities and codes which may impact what we are able to do. David asks if the Board can contribute where necessary. Alina requests that any cost over \$10k be run by her so that the Board can be addressed for possible donation.

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. June 3rd – End of Year Celebration
- b. Next Board Meeting: Proposing June 16th due to conflict on June 14th (original date)

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 June 16, 2022.



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.

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. Caled 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.