



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 April 14, 2026

Board of Directors

Todd German (Board Chair / Treasurer) *(Present)*
Ana Mendez (Vice-Chair / Secretary) *(Present)*
David Concepcion *(Present)*
Brian Matthew (Matt) Cox *(Present)*
Taylor Smith *(Present)*

Non-Voting Officers

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

Board Counsel

Charles Gibson, Esq. *(Present)*
Eleni Noble Zarbalas, 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 and Monroe Counties.

Minutes

1. Opening Exercises

- a. Called to Order at 11:02am
- b. Established a Quorum

- c. Special thanks to our hosts today, Principal Daniel Shourds & Temple Director, Steve Kaufman
- d. Special welcome to members of the public joining us today

2. **Public Comment** - *None*

3. **Consent Agenda** - *All items listed with letter designations are considered routine and were enacted by one motion.*

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the March 13, 2026 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Board Resolutions for Out of Field and/or ESOL and/or Gifted Waiver Assignments for the 2025-2026 school year; further continuing to authorize the Board Chair and/or Vice-Chair authority to review and make necessary changes and execute for submission (including any necessary additions).
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify Resolutions by the Board Chair:
 - i. Approved to renew the following charter school agreements pursuant to our charter contracts and Florida Statute 1002.33(7)(c) - Somerset Academy Pompano Elementary – 5388 & Somerset Academy Charter High School – 5221
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to request to consolidate the charter school contracts for Somerset Academy Canyons Middle School (#4012) and Somerset Academy Canyons High School (#4013) into one seamless 6-12 charter school; further approving the name to be “Somerset Academy Canyons”.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Charter School Renewals (expiring June 2027):
 - i. Miami-Dade
 - 1. Somerset College Preparatory Academy South High School #7078
 - 2. Somerset Academy Continental #0402
 - ii. Broward – (pre-approved)
 - iii. Palm Beach
 - 1. Somerset Academy Canyons Middle School #4012 (HP)
 - 2. Somerset Academy Canyons High School #4013 (HP)
 - 3. Somerset Academy Wellington High School #4131
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the Cooperative Agreement between Miami-Dade County and Somerset Academy, Inc. as part of a collaborative working with The Children’s Trust and the Miami Foundation, to offer a large-scale community-wide free child water safety program in Miami-Dade County, called the Zero Drownings Miami-Dade Program.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Taylor Smith; second by Ana Mendez; motion passed unanimously

4. **Action & Discussion Items**

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)
 - i. Special welcome to Eleni; reminder to all Principals to always have a member of the legal team to review any and all contracts prior to signing them; Eleni discusses the cancellation requirements, as well.
 - ii. Discussed private school voucher and its potential effects on charter and public schools.

- b. Executive Report by the President & Vice-President (*Bernie Montero & Suzette Ruiz*)
- c. Financial Report
 - i. Enrollment Projections & Budget Report for the 2026-2027 School Year (*Alina Chester*)
- d. ESP Report
 - i. Somerset Key Update (*Marla Devitt*)
 - ii. New Schools Updates (*Danny Diaz/Marla Devitt/Frankie Mestre*)
 - iii. Private Schools Update (*Antonio Roca/Lina Sierra*)
 - iv. Colegia
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Corporate Documents for Somerset Academy Texas private schools.
Motion to approve by Matt Cox; second by David Concepcion; motion passed unanimously
- f. Olympia Theater Update (*Dani de la Fe*)
- g. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: May 19th
- b. High School Graduations (*per the requested survey*)
 - i. Somerset Academy Wellington High School (Elizabeth Sauri) – May 16th
 - ii. Somerset Academy Canyons High (George Groezinger) – May 16th
 - iii. Somerset Academy South Homestead (Waki Soberon) – May 19th
 - iv. Somerset Prep Academy Homestead (Jessica Mesa) – May 21st
 - v. Somerset Academy Miramar High School (Athena Guillen) – June 2nd
 - vi. Somerset College Preparatory Academy South (Joel Mesa) – May 29th
 - vii. Somerset Academy Key High School (Dennis Mulrooney) - May 29th
 - viii. Somerset Academy #5221/Somerset Arts Conservatory #5396 (Bernie Montero) – June 4th

6. Adjourned Meeting at 11:58am by unanimous vote

The minutes were adopted by the Board of Directors at a meeting held on May 19, 2026.