



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 September 12, 2023

Board of Directors

Todd German (Board Chair / Treasurer) *(Present)*
Ana Mendez (Vice-Chair / Secretary / Parent) *(Present)*
David Concepcion *(Present)*
Matthew Cox *(Present)*

Non-Voting Officers

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

Board Counsel

Charles Gibson, Esq.
Eleni Noble Zarbalas, 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 and Monroe Counties.

Minutes

1. Opening Exercises

- a. Called to Order at 11:02am
- b. Established a Quorum
- c. Introduction of Pastor Tokar

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Consent Agenda

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the August 8, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Board Resolutions for Out of Field and/or ESOL Waiver Assignments for the 2023-2024 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 Individual Charter School Title I Budget Appropriation Details Forms for the 2023-2024 school year for the Title 1 distinguished schools.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to ratify the individual Mental Health Plans, as necessary.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Board Chair to approve and authorize the submittal of the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plans.
- f. **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, 2023.
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to receive & file the Financial Statements for the quarter ending June 30, 2023.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to adopt the Internet Safety Policy to comply with Fla. Admin. Code R. 6A-1.
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the School Improvement Plans, as necessary.
- j. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the General Knowledge Waivers.
- k. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the following Resolutions by the Board Chair:
 - i. Approved to authorize the Vice-Chair (who also serves as the Academic Advisor to the Board) the ability to execute all academic / education items and deliverables due to the individual sponsors, including but not limited to Out of Field Waivers, Employee Contracts, School Improvement Plans, Title 1 Budgets, etc...
 - ii. Approved the Internet Safety Policy. In accordance with the State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.0957, the Governing Board is required to adopt an Internet Safety Policy (the "Policy") to ensure that students utilize school technological resources in a safe and productive manner. The Policy is designed to promote healthy technology practices as well as ensure our schools' compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].
- l. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the individual Principals the ability to execute all necessary documents and/or reimbursement requests for ARP (American Rescue Plan) / ESSER 3 and CCRSA (ESSER 2).

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

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)
 - i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the nomination and election of New Board Member: Taylor Smith.
Motion by Todd German; second by Matt Cox; motion passed unanimously
 - ii. Waki's New Office
 - iii. Merchandise donations to Cuba and call for retired athletic uniforms
- b. Executive Report by the President & Vice-President (*Bernie Montero & Suzette Ruiz*)
 - i. Support to non-Florida schools, including Somerset North Las Vegas and Florida school support.
 - ii. US News school list excludes certain schools for unknown reasons; looking into this.
 - iii. School visits were very successful and will continue.
- c. School Updates
 - i. Academic/Data Reports
 1. Somerset Arizona (*Diana*)
 2. Somerset Academy Texas (*Cory Oliver*)
 - ii. Others, if necessary
- d. Financial Report
 - i. Enrollment update; updated budgets will be presented after the October FTE
 - ii. Importance of having the registrar to call back applicants quickly
 - iii. School Recognition Funds are being funded this year
- e. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP

5. Announcements & Notifications

- a. Next Board Meeting: October 10th via Zoom. For those who would like to attend in person, you may do so at the Academics office 3rd floor.

6. Adjourned Meeting at 11:55am

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 10, 2023.

SOMERSET ACADEMY, INC.
A Florida not-for-profit corporation