



### *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.

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## **Meeting of the Board of Directors August 13, 2024**

### **Board of Directors**

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

### **Non-Voting Officers**

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

### **Board Counsel**

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

## **Minutes**

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### **1. Opening Exercises**

- a. Called to Order at 11:00am
- b. Established a Quorum

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 July 17, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify Resolutions by the Board Chair:
  - i. Approved the initial Title 1 Budget Appropriations Forms for the 2024-2025 school year for the necessary schools located in Miami-Dade County.
  - ii. Approved the implementation of the 2024-2025 Parent/Student Handbooks.
  - iii. Approved the revised Title 1 Budget Appropriations Forms (*dated May 31, 2024*) for Somerset Academy South Homestead Middle School W/L# 6013 and Somerset Academy South Homestead High School W/L# 7034.
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the initial Title 1 Budget Appropriations Forms for the 2024-2025 school year for the necessary schools located in Miami-Dade County.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the CIVICA Architectural, Engineering and Facilities Support Services Consulting Services from 7/1/24 to 6/30/25.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the submittal of ESSA School Improvement Plans (SIP) as required by the Bureau of School Improvement for the necessary schools.
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the Lease Agreement between Residences at SoMi Parc, LLC and Somerset Academy, Inc. for the new Somerset SoMI PK Annex.
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the School Projects / Purchase Requests: (*Note: Each project listed has been reviewed and determined to be fiscally acceptable*):
  - i. Somerset Academy Boca East School Hardening / Glass Fortification Project for an amount not to exceed \$75,000 to be paid by Operating/Referendum Funds
  - ii. Somerset Academy DBK School Safety “Key Fob” Project for an amount not to exceed \$200k to be paid with referendum funds.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Board Resolutions for Out of Field / ESOL / Gifted Waiver Assignments for the 2024-2025 school year; further authorizing the Board Chair and/or Vice-Chair to review and make necessary changes and execute for submission.
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the revised Title 1 Budget Appropriations Forms for the 2023-2024 school year for Somerset Preparatory Academy (Homestead) W/L# 0754 and Somerset Preparatory Academy Middle school (Homestead) W/L# 6046.

Todd German pulled item – 3gii – Corrected amount to read from \$200 to \$200k

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

ii. **Action & Discussion Items**

- a. Comments by the Board Chair (*Todd German*)

- i. School Grade Appeal by Somerset Academy Wellington High School
  - ii. Need to add Jacksonville to the monthly agenda; how did we miss this; the grade was a surprise to the board. Discussed how schools can be added to the monthly agenda regardless of previous school grade.
  - iii. Somerset Academy Key update – in litigation; very confident that we are good for this year. Dennis states that he is getting feedback from the community that the church is saying that the school will be removed any day.
- b. Executive Report by the President & Vice-President (*Bernie Montero & Suzette Ruiz*)
    - i. Sarah reports on the school grades; scheduling Inc. data chats
  - c. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or ESP

### **iii. Announcements & Notifications**

- a. Next Board Meeting: September 10<sup>th</sup> at Somerset Academy Canyons

### **iv. Adjourn Meeting at 11:28am**

The undersigned hereby certifies 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 10, 2024.

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