



**Meeting of the Board of Directors
September 28, 2010**

Board of Directors

Andreina Figueroa (*Chair*) (*Present*)
Lourdes Marrero (*Secretary, Treasurer, & Florida Vice-Chair*) (*Present*)
Angie Hui Fang Su (*Absent*)
David Concepcion (*Present*)
Daniel Diaz (*Present*)
Cynthia Hanson (*Texas Vice-Chair*) (*Absent*)
Carlos Resendez (*Absent*)
Louis Marin (*Absent*)
Shawn Ashley (Somerset Eagle) (*Present*)

Minutes

1. Meeting Call to Order & Establish a Quorum
 - a. Special welcome to guests
2. Public Comment
 - a. There were no comments by the public
3. Consent Agenda

All items listed with letter designations are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board Member or Member of the Public so requests, in which case the item(s) will be removed from the consent agenda and considered along with the regular order of business.

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the minutes of the Somerset Academy, Inc. Board of Director's Meeting for June 4, 2010 as written.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the minutes of the Somerset Academy, Inc. Board of Director's Meeting for June 25, 2010 as written.
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the minutes of the Somerset Academy, Inc. Board of Director's Meeting for July 9, 2010 as written.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the minutes of the Somerset Academy, Inc. Board of Director's Meeting for July 23, 2010 as written.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the minutes of the Somerset Academy, Inc. Board of Director's Meeting for July 30, 2010 as written.
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to receive the Somerset Academy, Inc. Principal Newsletter
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to adopt the 2010 – 2011 School Improvement Plans for the individual schools
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to adopt the Differentiated Accountability Reports for the individual schools (as necessary)
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to adopt the Parent / Student Handbooks, Employee Handbooks, Student Registration Applications
- j. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to receive the Monthly Financial Statements for the individual schools for the following period(s): July 2010 (*transmitted to Board on 8/30/10 via e-mail*)
- k. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the individual charter schools to participate in the Race to the Top Federal Grant Program
- l. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the out of field waiver(s) for instructional personnel with out of field assignments for the 2010 - 2011 school year for the individual schools as presented.

The above consent agenda items were unanimously approved under one Motion by Lourdes Marrero; Second by Daniel Diaz

4. Action & Discussion Items

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board unanimously approved elect Mr. Shawn Ashley to serve on the Board of Somerset Academy Eagle Campus Elementary & Middle Schools (Jacksonville).
Motion by Lourdes Marrero; Second by Daniel Diaz
- b. Financial Report & Approvals
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to adopt The Financial Statement and Independent Auditor's Report for the year ending June 30, 2010 for the individual Miami-Dade Schools.
Motion by Lourdes Marrero; Second by Daniel Diaz
- ii. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to adopt the revised annual budgets for the 2010 - 2011 school year for the following (new) schools:
1. Somerset Academy Grace @ Coral Gables
 2. Somerset Pines Academy
 3. Somerset Preparatory Academy at North Lauderdale
 4. Somerset Preparatory Academy High School at North Lauderdale
 5. Somerset East Preparatory Academy & Somerset Preparatory Academy Middle School
 6. Somerset Academy Village
 7. Somerset Academy Village Middle School
- Motion by Lourdes Marrero; Second by Daniel Diaz*
- c. Facility Report (Rolando Llanes)
- i. Somerset Miramar: Science lab addition in planning process
- ii. Somerset Academy Pembroke Pines: Gymnasium update, remodeling projects
1. **APPROVED:** The Board unanimously approved to install a Dance floor for the dance team for an amount not to exceed \$15,000 & to repair the basketball court for an amount not to exceed \$12,000.
Motion by Lourdes Marrero; Second by Daniel Diaz
- iii. Somerset Academy South Miami: Working on getting lighting on the roof; the fence has been installed
- iv. Somerset Academy SoHo: Working on obtaining quotes on field and court; working with the City and Premier Modular on installing 3-4 classroom portables
- v. Somerset Academy Wilton Manors:
1. **APPROVED:** The Board unanimously approved to replace the A/C units at Somerset Academy in Wilton Manors for an amount not to exceed \$31,000.
Motion by Daniel Diaz; Second by Lourdes Marrero
- vi. Somerset Academy East Prep: Working with the Church on the 40 year inspection
- vii. Somerset Academy North Lauderdale: Working with Broward Traffic
- viii. Somerset Pines: Fence was approved yesterday by building – pending fire approval.
1. **APPROVED:** The Board unanimously approved to install a security fence for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.
Motion by Lourdes Marrero; Second by Daniel Diaz
- ix. Somerset Miramar: Installing flag pole and stair treads
- x. Somerset Academy Gables: Still working on increasing the student count; received comments back from the City recently; it seems that standards are being applied to this site that are not being applied to other public or private schools in the City
- xi. Somerset Academy Silver Palms: a building permit has been issued for Phase II; a groundbreaking should be coordinated in the near future; requesting from the County an increase in current allowable student count
- xii. Somerset City Arts: Expansion of kitchen project and sewer connection projects underway and have been submitted to City for approval; discussion regarding church vs. school responsibility of costs; if an addition is allowable then the cost for sewage connection (approx. \$70k) is more feasible for the school; the Board requests further updates at the next board meeting
- d. Report by Dr. Ruth Jacoby, Executive Director of Education
- i. All school site forms are now available on the web (password protected) for Principal access
 - ii. Working on a leadership program to help "groom" new leaders
 - iii. Working on one more professional development
 - iv. Spelling Bee is scheduled for May 4th
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board unanimously approved to adopt the following revised Board Policies for all Somerset Academy, Inc. schools participating in the CSP grant program (Kelly Mallon):
- i. Financial Policies and Segregation of Duties
 - ii. Student Enrollment Lottery Procedures

Motion by Lourdes Marrero; Second by Daniel Diaz

- f. **APPROVED:** The Board unanimously approved to appoint the following Lead Teachers:
- i. Somerset Academy South Homestead (Middle School) – Layda Morales
 - ii. Somerset Preparatory Academy Middle School - Cara Mendez
 - iii. Somerset Academy Village Middle School – Fiona Johnson
 - iv. Somerset Preparatory Academy High School - Daniel Shourds
 - v. *These persons shall replace the current persons named as Lead Teacher/ Principal for the specific schools.*

Motion by Lourdes Marrero; Second by Daniel Diaz

- g. **APPROVED:** The Board unanimously approved to appoint the following as Vice-Presidents (non-voting Corporate Officers):
- i. Suzette Ruiz
 - ii. Kenneth Feria
 - iii. Idalia Suarez
 - iv. Kim Guilarte
 - v. Dr. Christina Cruz
 - vi. Bernardo Montero
 - vii. Shannie Sadesky
 - viii. Dina Miller
 - ix. Dr. Mary Stuart
 - x. Lara Silva
 - xi. James Griffin
 - xii. Donna Kaye
 - xiii. Dr. Reggie Revis

Motion by Daniel Diaz; Second by Lourdes Marrero

5. Discussion & Update with regards to Somerset Virtual Academy (Tony Morales)

- a. Mr. Morales introduces himself to the Board; he is currently a student at Somerset Academy in Pembroke Pines; he provides the Board some background on the virtual academy and the benefits; Mr. Morales thanks Mr. Robert Baccera and Idalia Suarez for all their efforts with this program
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to include Somerset Virtual Academy in the Somerset Academy, Inc. organization
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the collaborative and ongoing business between Somerset Virtual Academy and Academic Virtual Education.

The above items relating to Somerset Virtual Academy were unanimously approved under one Motion by Lourdes Marrero; Second by Shawn Ashley

6. Discussion Items by Principals

- a. Somerset Academy South Miami Elementary and Middle School (Kim Guilarte)
 - i. Media Center Update: Furniture has arrived; books should be received within the next month at which time the library will be completed
 - ii. Enrollment for 2011 – 2012: If another facility is not located by the 11-12 school year then the pre-school program will need to be relocated; administration would like to see that the middle school program be relocated as opposed to the PK; the Board emphasizes the need to put stress on this item and really look at other facility options
- b. Somerset Academy Silver Palms (Kenneth Feria)
 - i. District visit
 - ii. 2010 – 2011 Activities Calendar
 - iii. Bilingual Parent Outreach Program Seminars
 - iv. Construction
 - v. School update: Orientations, Open House
- c. Somerset Academy in Davie (Dina Miller)
 - i. New math program has been challenging. We hosted a workshop for the Broward Somerset campuses prior to preplanning and will host a Parent University Math Family Night on the 29th to increase parental knowledge and support.
- d. Somerset City Arts (Idalia Suarez)
 - i. Possible expansion and growth for 2010-2011 based on square footage and parking; due to enrollment limits a Kindergarten class will not be able to be added next year if the school cannot be expanded
 - ii. The school did not purchase any textbooks this year as part of their new electronic textbook program

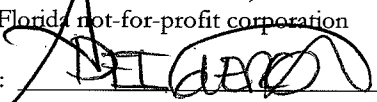
- e. Somerset Academy Pembroke Pines (Bernie Montero)
 - i. Update on recent discipline issues
 - ii. Student trip to China
 - 1. **APPROVED:** The Board unanimously approved to allow Administration to move forward on the planning of the student trip to China; the approval is conditional based on favorable recommendation by legal (Collette Papa) and that the trip is in full compliance with polices set forth by The School Board of Broward County Public Schools.
Motion by Lourdes Marrero; Second by Shawn Ashley
 - iii. General school updates are provided
 - f. Somerset Academy SoHo (Dr. Christina Cruz)
 - i. Field of Dreams
 - ii. Basketball court updates
 - g. Somerset Academy North Lauderdale (James Griffin)
 - i. Staffing
 - ii. Textbooks
 - iii. Technology
 - h. Somerset Academy Eagle Campus (Shawn Ashley)
 - i. Mr. Ashley updates the Board and Staff the school and how it came about; first applicant in Duval County to get 2 applications approved at one time;
7. Other Items by Board Members, Staff, or Academica
- a. The Chair encourages the Principals to submit newsletter items for the Board to review
 - b. Amendment 8 re: class size flexibility

8. Meeting adjourned

The undersigned hereby certifies that he/she is an Officer and/or Director of SOMERSET ACADEMY, INC. a not-for-profit corporations 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 7, 2011.

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

By:  _____

Date: 1/7/11 _____