

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
NORTHSTAR ACADEMIES, INC.
November 19, 2024**

A meeting of the Governing Board of NorthStar Academies, Inc. was held on Tuesday, November 19th, 2024, at 4:30 PM. This Meeting was held at C.G. Bethel High School, located at 16150 NE 17th Ave, North Miami Beach, FL 33162.

The following Governing Board Members appeared in person: Chairperson, Ms. Beth Adelman; Board Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Ira Paul, at the Florida Charter School Conference.

The following Governing Board Members appeared virtually *via Zoom*: Mr. Robert Holland.

The following guests also appeared in person: Dr. Eunice Casey, Vice President of Operations, EdisonLearning; Dr. Sharard Walker, Vice President of Strategic Growth and Development, NorthStar Academies; Mendi Riggins, Procurement & School Compliance Manager, EdisonLearning; Jeff Wood, Tripp Scott, LLP; Dr. Tony Arza; Arza and Associates; Dr. Theola Moore, Principal, Chambers High School; Alejandro Madrigal, Principal, CG Bethel High School; Dr. Dwayne Stewart, Principal, Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy; Kerry-Ann Brammer, Principal, Andrews High School; and Alexandra Plaza, Principal, Main Street High School.

The following guests also appeared *via Zoom*: Michelle Schmitt, Vice President of Finance and Treasurer, EdisonLearning; Susan DeAngelo, Talent Acquisition Specialist, EdisonLearning; Nia Bridges, Executive Assistant, EdisonLearning; Charmayne Joseph, Principal, Sandra Marie Curtis High School; Chris Skierski, Principal, Palm Springs Preparatory Charter Academy, Middle School; and Jennie Gil de Lamadrid Rubio, Osceola School District.

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. The meeting was chaired by the Board Chairperson, Ms. Beth Adelman. Ms. Nia Bridges recorded the Minutes and Dr. Walker conducted a roll call. Ms. Adelman noted that Mr. Robert Holland, Mr. Ira Paul were present and that Mr. Douglas Shelton and Mr. Martin Burkett was absent from the meeting. Following the role call, a quorum was present.

There were no requests for public comment.

On a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the October Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Thomas Sternberg briefly addressed the board on governance matters. His discussion focused on updating policies and bylaws. Additionally, he gave an upvote on current Board member officer terms. Following Mr. Sternberg's Report, the Board needed to conduct officer elections.

- On a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously agreed to reappoint all of the current members to their current officer positions for another year.
- On a motion by Ms. Adelman and seconded by Mr. Holland, the Board unanimously agreed to nominate Mr. Paul for Treasurer.
- On a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously agreed to nominate Ms. Adelman to be reappointed as Chair.
- On a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Ms. Adelman, the Board unanimously agreed to nominate Mr. Holland for Vice Chair.
- On a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously agreed to nominate Mr. Shelton for Secretary.

Following board member officer elections Thomas Sternberg, also brought to the Boards attention information regarding a Whistleblower complaint received regarding AI used in curriculum. This complaint has been referred to the General Counsel and it will be independently reviewed, and a comprehensive analysis will be provided to the Board.

Dr. Walker presented the Board with updates from the Office of Strategy, Growth, and Development for the following districts: Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Osceola. In addition, the NSA schools winter celebration was mentioned, no vote was required. The COGNIA System Accreditation Task Force was brought up last meeting, Dr. Walker requested for the Board to vote on the creation of a task force that would be led by Dr. Casey

On a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously agreed to create a task force for COGNIA system accreditation.

Dr. Walker briefly gave an update on House Bill 733, and how it impacts the students' NSA serves. Dr. Walker will consult with the Azra Group to identify if the legislation aligns with our student population. He also informed the Board of updates to the Middle School Awareness Council and how in 2025 the creation of forums in the four districts we serve will be up and running with the purpose of educating parents on the importance of getting their child enrolled early into our Middle Schools. A discussion on ongoing review and revision of board policies was also brought up, Dr. Walker reminded the board that regarding executive strategic planning sessions, they would be having a follow up meeting scheduled for December and January in preparation for the Board Retreat in March. Lastly, Dr. Walker also discussed the NSA Alumni Association and suggested including alumni as guest speakers at graduation.

Dr. Arza presented the Board with the legislative update. No vote was required.

Ms. Schmitt provided the Board with a review of the financial reports and updates for the following NorthStar Academies:

1. Andrews High School
2. CG Bethel High School
3. Chambers High School
4. Main Street High School
5. Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy
6. Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy Middle School
7. Sandra Marie Curtis High School

A complete copy of the financial reports for each school was included in the Board packet distributed for the Board's review prior to the meeting. On a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul the Board unanimously agreed to approve each of the financial reports as presented for each of the above schools.

Dr. Casey provided the Board with the Office of School Operations Report for the following schools:

Andrews High School

- a. Charter School Teacher Salary Allocation Form
- b. Out of Field- Waiver
- c. Evaluation for School Leaders S.Y. 24-25
- d. Evaluation for Instructional Employees S.Y. 24-25
- e. School Improvement Plan
- f. Florida School Recognition

On a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously agreed to approve operational items as presented for Andrews High School.

C.G. Bethel High School

- a. Florida School Recognition Plan Form
- b. Charter School Policies and Procedures Attestation
- c. Florida School Recognition Award Funds

On a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Holland, the Board unanimously agreed to approve operational items as presented for C.G. Bethel High School.

Main Street Highschool

- a. Florida School Recognition Award Funds
- b. Out of Field- Waiver
- c. Annual Enrollment Capacity

On a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously agreed to approve operational items as presented for Main Street High School.

Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy

- a. Florida School Recognition Award Funds

On a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Holland, the Board unanimously agreed to approve operational items as presented for Palm Beach Preparatory Charter High School.

Chambers High School

- a. Charter School Policies and Procedures Attestation

On a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously agreed to approve operational items as presented for Chambers High School.

Sandra Marie Curtis High School

- a. Charter School Teacher Salary Allocation Form
- b. Evaluation for School Leaders S.Y. 24-25
- c. Evaluation for Instructional Employees S.Y. 24-25
- d. Out of Field- Waiver
- e. School Improvement Plan
- f. Florida School Recognition Award Funds

On a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Holland, the Board unanimously agreed to approve operational items as presented for Sandra Marie Curtis High School.

The following principals presented a brief report on the accomplishments and goals of their schools. Dr. Theola Moore, Principal, Chambers High School; Alexandra Plaza, Principal, Main Street High School; Chris Skierski, Principal, Palm Springs Preparatory Charter Academy Middle School; and Ms. Charmayne Joseph, Principal, Sandra Marie Curtis High School. No vote was required.

Ms. DeAngelo provided the Board with the personnel report. On a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously agreed to accept the Human Resources Report as presented regarding the employment vacancies throughout the NorthStar Academies.

With no further discussions, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47p.m. on a motion by Mr. Holland and seconded by Mr. Paul.

By: Beth Adelman
Beth Adelman (Jan 23, 2025 13:29 EST)
Title: Governing Board Chairwoman