

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF  
NORTHSTAR ACADEMIES, INC.  
March 18, 2025**

A meeting of the Governing Board of NorthStar Academies, Inc. was held on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 4:30 PM. This meeting was held at Andrews High School- 3500 North Andrews Ave , Pompano Beach, FL 33309.

The following Governing Board Members appeared virtually *via* Zoom: Vice Chair, Mr. Robert Holland; Board Treasurer, Mr. Ira Paul; Board Secretary, Mr. Douglas Shelton; and Mr. Martin Burkett.

The following guests also appeared *via* Zoom: Thom Jackson, Pres. & CEO, EdisonLearning; Dr. Eunice Casey, Vice President of School Operations, EdisonLearning; Dr. Sharard Walker, Vice President of Strategic Growth and Development, NorthStar Academies; Nia Bridges, Executive Assistant, EdisonLearning; Susan DeAngelo, Talent Acquisition Specialist, EdisonLearning; Thomas Sternberg, Tripp Scott, LLP; Maria Rojas, Tripp Scott, LLP; Dr. Tony Arza, Arza and Associates; Dr. Theola Moore, Principal, Chambers High School; Dr. Dwayne Stewart, Principal, Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy; Kerry-Ann Brammer, Principal, Andrews High School; Charmayne Joseph, Principal, Sandra Marie Curtis High School; Alexandra Plaza, Principal, Main Street High School; Alejandro Madrigal, Principal, CG Bethel High School, EdisonLearning; and Debra Bella, Osceola School District.

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. The meeting was chaired by the Board Vice Chair, Mr. Robert Holland. Ms. Nia Bridges recorded the Minutes and conducted a call. Following the roll 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 consent items as presented.

Maria Rojas from the Tripp Scott Team provided an update on pending litigation in Broward County involving Sandra Marie Curtis High School. A complaint was filed in December to reinstate the 2024 property tax exemption, removed due to a change in ownership or name. Although there has been no recent movement, the team will follow up with the Property Appraiser's Office, and the appraiser is working with the landlord to apply the exemption retroactively.

A similar issue occurred in Palm Beach County with Palm Beach Preparatory Academy, where the second floor's opening led to the removal of the full exemption, though the first floor's exemption was reinstated. Efforts are now focused on securing the second-floor exemption. Additionally, ongoing litigation involving former employees in the Starr and Main Street cases is being handled by insurance counsel.

Lastly, at last month's board retreat General Counsel reviewed and revised policies, with feedback now being gathered for the annual meeting in April, where updates will be finalized. Dr. Walker and his team have ensured all changes aligned with the workshop discussions. Board members were also

reminded about the upcoming National Charter Alliance Conference in Orlando, offering valuable learning and networking opportunities. Dr. Walker and Mr. Paul encouraged board members, principals, and key staff to attend, with travel and lodging reimbursed per bylaws. Those planning to attend should inform the administrative team.

Dr. Walker provided the Board with an update from the Office of Strategy, Growth, and Development in regard to the Dan Marino Foundation MOU and Project HEAL. The MOU, aimed at improving the tracking of education data, especially for CTE graduates, includes a 90-day trial period. The council has reviewed and approved the agreement.

On motion from Mr. Burkett and a second from Mr. Shelton, the Board unanimously approved the MOU for the Dan Marino Foundation.

Dr. Walker introduced Project HEAL, a new initiative funded by the Children's Services Council of Broward County, providing trauma-informed therapy, academic and workforce support, and emergency services to high school-aged youth and adults in CTE programs. Serving 300 participants across Broward, the program will focus on individuals who have experienced trauma, with services beginning on January 15, 2026. The program will receive \$2.8 million annually for up to three years, with support including transportation, food, and utility assistance. Managed by NorthStar and with outreach handled by Blessed Serving Others, the initiative aims to boost student engagement, reduce trauma symptoms, and improve academic outcomes, with potential for future funding based on success.

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

Ms. Jackson 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

On a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Burkett, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the financial reports as presented for Andrews High School.

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

On a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Burkett, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the financial reports as presented for Chambers.

On a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Burkett, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the financial reports as presented for Main Street High School.

On a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Burkett, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the financial reports as presented for Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy.

On a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Burkett, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the financial reports as presented for Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy Middle School.

On a motion by Mr. Burkett and seconded by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the financial reports as presented for 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.

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

Andrews High School

- a. Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan Opt In Form

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

Chambers High School

- a. Out of Field Assignments – Subject Areas
- b. 2023-2024 SY CHARTER SCHOOL Youth Mental Health Awareness Training ATTESTATION FORM

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

C.G. Bethel High School

- a. School Parent Representative /Conflict Resolution Designee – Dr. Moore

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

Sandra Marie Curtis High School

- a. Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan Opt In Form

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

Additionally, Dr. Casey provided an update on Spring ELDA update, highlighting that it began on Monday (3/17) and will continue throughout the week up until Thursday (3/20). The focus is to ensure principals, and their teams are aligned with the Achievement Framework, receive necessary support, and understand the implications of AI for students and staff.

Regarding the confirmation of Principal Appointments Ms. Plaza from Main Street, met all leadership goals and maintained full district compliance. Dr. Casey requested a motion to confirm Ms. Plaza as school principal at Main Street High School.

On a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Burkett, the Board unanimously agreed to approve Ms. Plaza's principalship.

Lastly, a safety and security update was given for Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy, addressing non-compliance with Behavioral Threat Assessment requirements. Corrective actions are being taken, and Dr. Casey will provide an update at the next meeting.

The following principals provided the Board with school reports:

- Ms. Brammer – Andrews High School
- Mr. Madrigal – CG Bethel High School
- Dr. Stewart – PBPCA

Ms. DeAngelo provided the Board with the personnel report. On a motion by Mr. Burkett 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 6:08 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Mr. Burkett.

By: *Beth Adelman*  
Beth Adelman (Apr 16, 2025 16:05 EDT)  
Title: Governing Board Chairwoman