

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
NORTHSTAR ACADEMIES, INC.
September 30, 2025**

A meeting of the Governing Board of NorthStar Academies, Inc. was held on Tuesday, September 30, 2025, at 4:30 PM. The meeting took place simultaneously at all NSA locations, including Andrews High School, C.G. Bethel High School, Chambers High School, Main Street High School, Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy, Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy Middle School and Sandra Marie Curtis High School.

The following Governing Board members appeared virtually via Zoom: Chairperson Rob Sparks; Board Treasurer Ira Paul; Member Jeff Mayer; and incoming members to be appointed during the meeting, Dr. Melissa Harts and Viki Hucke-McCright.

The following guests also appeared *via* Zoom: Chad Craycraft, President, Achieve Learning; Dr. Eunice Casey, Regional Vice President - Southeast, Achieve Learning; Michelle Schmitt, Vice President of Finance and Treasurer, Achieve Learning; Lydia Todd, Vice President of Public Policy, Academic Operation, and Regulatory Compliance, Achieve Learning; Nia Bridges, Director of Regulatory Compliance and Internal Review, Achieve Learning; Thomas Sternberg, Tripp Scott, LLP; Maria Rojas, Tripp Scott, LLP; Jeff Wood, Tripp Scott, LLP; Ralph Arza, Arza and Associates; Debra Bele, Compliance Specialist, The School District of Osceola County, Florida; Kerry-Ann Brammer, Principal, Andrews High School; Alejandro Madrigal, Principal, C.G. Bethel High School; Dr. Theola Moore, Principal, Chambers High School; Alexandra Plaza, Principal, Main Street High School; Dr. Dwayne Stewart, Principal, Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy High School and Middle School; Charmayne Joseph, Principal, Sandra Marie Curtis High School.

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. The meeting was chaired by the Board Chair, Mr. Rob Sparks. Ms. Nia Bridges recorded the Minutes and conducted a call. Following the roll call, Chairperson Rob Sparks noted that Mr. Ira Paul and Mr. Jeff Mayer were in attendance. A quorum was present.

To begin the meeting, the Chair requested approval of the agenda. On a motion by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Mayer, the Board unanimously approved the agenda. Following this, on a motion by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Mayer, the Board unanimously approved the consent items as presented in the published agenda.

There were no requests for public comment.

A legislative update was provided by Ralph Arza, and no vote was required.

Dr. Casey updated the Board on operational activities at the schools, beginning with strategic priorities for the 2025-2026 school year. She highlighted initiatives to expand awareness of educational pathways, including virtual instruction programs led by Lydia Todd and Star Connor, and to improve student retention and attendance while maintaining compliance, accountability, and safety across all schools.

These priorities connect directly to enrollment and funding, which Dr. Casey addressed next. The current FTE window, critical for determining school funding, reflects over 2,400 students in the network. While Broward schools (Andrews and Sandra Marie Curtis) have met their enrollment targets, Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy and Main Street campuses are approaching

theirs, and targeted efforts are underway to increase enrollment at C.G Bethel, Chambers, and Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy Middle School by the end of next week.

The discussion then moved to charter renewals, with Dr. Casey providing an update on Andrews High School. Renewal documents were submitted by October 10, and interviews, if required, are scheduled for December 1–12. The school expects notification of its renewal status in the Spring, followed by a presentation to the Superintendent and the Broward County School Board.

Finally, Dr. Casey addressed staffing at Palm Beach Charter Academy Middle School, noting that teachers are supporting both middle and high school students to ensure instructional needs are met.

Dr. Casey also provided the Board with the School Operational Items for the following schools:

Andrews High School

- i. Safe School Officer Compliance
- ii. Parent/ Student NorthStar 25-26 Handbook
- iii. Charter School Safety and Assurance Plan
- iv. ESE Policies and Procedures
- v. Out-of-Field Instructional Staff Announcements
- vi. Principal Evaluation Systems - School Leader
- vii. Teacher Evaluation Systems - Instructional/Teacher
- viii. Compensation/Pay for Performance Plan

C.G Bethel High School

- i. 25-26 School Improvement Plan (SIP)
- ii. Restriction/ Discourse of Employment of Relatives
- iii. Charter School Attestation Form Regarding Employee Contracts
- iv. Principal Evaluation Systems - School Leader
- v. Teacher Evaluation Systems - Instructional/Teacher

Chambers High School

- i. 25-26 School Improvement Plan (SIP)
- ii. Restriction/ Disclosure of Employment of Relatives
- iii. Charter School Attestation Form Regarding Employee Contracts
- iv. Principal Evaluation Systems - School Leader
- v. Teacher Evaluation Systems - Instructional/Teacher

Main Street High School

- i. Out-of-Field Waivers
- ii. Salary Increase Allocation School Distribution Plan 25-26
- iii. Staff Arrest Policy
- iv. Principal Evaluation Systems - School Leader
- v. Teacher Evaluation Systems - Instructional/Teacher

Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy

- i. Out-of-Field Report

- ii. House Bill 443 (Middle School)
- iii. House Bill 443 (High School)
- iv. Principal Evaluation Systems - School Leader
- v. Teacher Evaluation Systems - Instructional/Teacher

Sandra Marie Curtis High School

- i. Parent/ Student NorthStar 25-26 Handbook
- ii. ESE Policies and Procedures
- iii. Out-of-Field Waivers
- iv. Principal Evaluation Systems - School Leader
- v. Teacher Evaluation Systems - Instructional/Teacher
- vi. Compensation/ Pay for Performance Plan

On a motion by Mr. Paul, seconded by Mr. Mayer, the Board unanimously approved the operational items as presented for Andrews High School, C.G. Bethel High School, Chambers High School, Main Street High School, Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy, and Sandra Marie Curtis High School.

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

1. Andrews High School
2. C.G. 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.

Following the discussion of financial matters, the Board Chair introduced governance matters, requesting the appointment of two new board members: Dr. Melissa Harts and Viki Hucke-McCright. A motion by Mr. Mayer, seconded by Mr. Paul, was made to nominate Dr. Melissa Harts to the Board, and another motion by Mr. Mayer, also seconded by Mr. Paul, was made to nominate Viki Hucke-McCright. Both nominations were unanimously approved, and Dr. Harts and Ms. Hucke-McCright are scheduled to serve on the NorthStar Academies, Inc. Governing Board.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned by Board Chair, Rob Sparks at 5:32 PM

By: Rob Sparks
Rob Sparks (Dec 10, 2025 09:22:39 EST)

Title: Governing Board Chair