# MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NORTHSTAR ACADEMIES, INC. September 21, 2021

A meeting of the Governance Board of NorthStar Academies, Inc. was held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 4:30 PM. This Meeting was virtually, in light of Executive Order 20-69 (Emergency Management - COVID 19 – Local Government Public Meetings), dated March 20, 2020, which allows the Governance Board to "utilize communications media technology, such as telephonic and video conferencing," this meeting will be conducted by the Governance Board via electronic communication and will be live-streamed on Zoom.

The following Board Members were present via Zoom video conference: Board Chairman Mr. Leonard Posey, Ira Paul, and Ms. Beth Adelman.

Also present via Zoom video conference were Mr. Thom Jackson, President & CEO, EdisonLearning; Dr. Eurnice Casey, Director of School Leadership & Support Services, EdisonLearning; Mendi Riggins, Sr. Executive Assistant, EdisonLearning; Michelle Schmitt, Senior Controller, EdisonLearning; Jennifer Anglin, Director of Career & Technical Education/Grants, EdisonLearning; Marines Alvarez, Human Resources, EdisonLearning; Jeff Wood, Director, Tripp Scott LLP; Thomas Sternberg, Tripp Scott, LLP; Ralph Arza, Principal, Arza and Associates; Luis Sullivan, Assistant to Mr. Ralph Arza; Dan Walke, Principal, Chambers High School; Alejandro Madrigal, Principal, C.G. Bethel; Dionne Stone, Principal, NorthStar Academy of Pinellas; Kerry-Ann Brammer, Principal, Andrews High School; Dr. Sharard Walker, Principal, Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy; Dwayne Stewart, Principal, Main Street High School; and Marie Curtis Incoming Principal, Sunrise High School.

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m.

A quorum was present.

There was no public input.

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Leonard Posey, the Board Chairman. Ms. Mendi Riggins recorded the Minutes. Ms. Riggins conducted a roll call. The Chairman noted that Mr. Ira Paul and Ms. Beth Adelman were present.

On a motion by Mr. Paul and a second by Ms. Adelman, the Board unanimously approved the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- a. Board Meeting Minutes for May 18, 2021
- b. Board Meeting Minutes for June 15, 2021
- c. School Calendars 2021-2022
  - 1. Andrews High School
  - 2. C.G. Bethel High School

- 3. Chambers High School
- 4. Main Street High School
- 5. NorthStar Academy of Pinellas County
- 6. Palm Beach Prep. Charter Academy
- 7. Sunrise High School
- d. Parent/Student Handbook for 2021-2022
  - 1. Andrews High School
  - 2. C.G. Bethel High School
  - 3. Chambers High School
  - 4. Main Street High School
  - 5. NorthStar Academy of Pinellas County
  - 6. Palm Beach Prep. Charter Academy
  - 7. Sunrise High School
- e. NorthStar Employee Handbook Revisions SY2021-2022
  - Time Off sections 6.3 and 6.11
- f. Out of Field Waivers
  - 1. Andrews High School
    - i. Phillip Ross Math
  - 2. Chambers High School
    - i. Alana Mejia ReadingElizabeth Merkling Spanish
    - ii. Javier Delgadillo Biology
  - 3. Main Street High School
    - i. Jean Lesperance Social Studies
  - 4. NorthStar Academy of Pinellas County
    - i. Lynn DeMoray 9-12 ELA
    - ii. Alice Reed 6-8 ELA, ESOL
  - 5. Palm Beach Prep. Charter Academy
    - i. Lisa Pinkney ESOL Category 1
    - ii. Sharard Walker ESOL Category 1
    - iii. Julian Wilburn ESOL Category 1
    - iv. Jacqueline Howard ESOL Category 1
    - v. Sandro Palacios ESOL Category 1
  - 6. Sunrise High School
    - i. Oral Allen ESOL
    - ii. Irela Septien ESOL
    - iii. Ciro Surarez ESOL
    - iv. Sophia Brown ESOL and Reading
    - v. Jean Rya ESOL
    - vi. Marlenis Calmell ESOL

The Chairman requested that the meeting agenda be amended to have item E: NorthStar Employee Handbook Revisions SY2021-2022in consents be moved to the Personnel Matters section for discussion. Mr. Paul and Ms. Adelman agreed.

On a motion by Mr. Paul and a second by Ms. Adelman, the Board unanimously agreed to ratify the following actions by the Board Chairman which were required to be performed prior to the extant Board meeting:

# **Andrews High School Documents:**

Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan
Disaster Relief Attestation
Charter School Safety and Security Requirement Assurance
Charter School Safe School Officer
Charter School Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plan
Involuntary Examinations Policy & Procedures
Evaluation System for Instructional
Authorized User Form for Charter.Tools

# **Chambers High School Documents:**

Alyssa's Law Security Compliance Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan State Accountability: Charter School Opt-Out Form Charter School Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plan Charter School Fee Schedule

### C. G. Bethel High School Documents:

Alyssa's Law Security Compliance
Charter School Safety and Security Requirement Assurance
Charter School Safe School Officer
State Accountability: Charter School Opt-Out Form
Florida Department of Education Project Plan
Charter school Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plan
Charter School Fee Schedule
Agreement for Charter School Teachers Requirements for the ESOL Endorsement

### **Main Street High School Documents:**

- Florida Department of Education Project Plan
- Authorization of New Alternative Education High School of Osceola County dba Main Street High School
- Article of Merger
- · Agreement and Plan of Merger

- Resolution of the Board of Trustees of NorthStar Academies, Inc.
- Charter School Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plan

# NorthStar Academy of Pinellas County Documents:

Alyssa's Law Security Compliance
Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan
Florida Department of Education General Assurances
School Messenger: Opt-In/Opt-Out Form
Charter School Referendum Fund Expenditure Plan
Florida Department of Education Project Plan

# Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy Documents:

- Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan
- FY21 Title 1 Reimbursement Letter
- Charter School Direct Deposit Authorization Agreement
- Charter School Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plan
- · Dynamic Security Guard Agreement

## **Sunrise High School Documents:**

- Charter School Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plan
- Statement of Assurance for Exceptional Student Education
- Authorized User Form for Charter. Tools
- Charter School Safe School Officer
- Charter School Safety and Security Requirement Assurances
- Disaster Relief Attestation
- Mental Health Assistance Allocation Plan Form

Mr. Jackson recommended to the Board that it adopt a policy requiring all school staff to be vaccinated by 12/1/21. Mr. Jackson explained that the policy would be consistent with the guidelines and recommendations of the Center for Disease Control, and would include an incentive period with would commence on October 1, 2021. Following a discussion by the Board with respect to the importance of maintaining the health and safety of the students, Ms. Adelman moved that the Board adopt Mr. Jackson's recommendation. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Stenberg provided a report on Senate Bill 590-Involuntary Examination, and recommended that the Board adopt a policy consistent with its requirements. The Board Chairman expressed a concern for the danger such policies typically present for students of color and cautioned the school principals to ensure that the policy is fairly applied. Mr. Sternberg noted that the Board is required to adopt a policy consistent with Senate Bill 590 and confirmed that the policy presented met the

mandate. On a motion by Mr. Paul and a second by Ms. Adelman, the Board adopted the policy by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Ralph Arza provided legislative update. No vote was required.

Each of the Principals provided the Board with an update on their school and highlighted all of the exciting news happening at their school. The Principals reported on current school enrollment, projected enrollment for the new school year and upcoming school activities

Dr. Casey provided an overview of the EdisonLearning Leadership Academy ("ELDA). Dr. Casey updated the Board on the Corrective Action Plan for NSA Pinellas.

Ms. Alvarez provided the Board with a personnel report and noted that Ms. Marie Curtis is the Interim Principal at Sunrise High School, with some terminations, resignations and new hires at some of our other schools. On a motion by Mr. Paul and a second by Ms. Adelman, the Board unanimously voted to approve the appointment of Ms. Curtis as the Interim-Principal at Sunrise High School.

Ms. Alvarez summarized the material changes to the SY2021-2022 NorthStar Employee Handbook Revision. On a motion by Ms. Adelman and a second by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously voted to approve the handbook as presented.

Ms. Michelle Schmitt presented the Board with the SY2021-2022 Principal Incentive Compensation Plan. This plan is centered on achievement, enrollment, attendance, cohort graduation rates, and quality assurance rating. Following a brief discussion by the Board with efficacy of the plan, Mr. Paul moved to approve the plan as presented. Ms. Adelman seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the board.

Ms. Schmitt provided the Board with a review of the revised budget ending June 30, 2021 for Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy as required by the district. On a motion by Ms. Adelman and a second by Mr. Paul, the Board unanimously voted to approve the SY2021 Budget for Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy.

Ms. Schmitt provided the Board with a review of the financials and updates for the following schools:

- 1. Chambers High School
- 2. C.G. Bethel High School
- 3. Sunrise High School
- 4. Andrews High School
- 5. Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy
- 6. NorthStar Academy of Pinellas
- 7. Main Street High School

On a motion by Mr. Paul and a second by Ms. Adelman, the Board unanimously voted to approve the financials for each of the above schools as presented.

With no further discussions, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm on a motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Ms. Adelman.

Title: Governing Board Chairman