# MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NORTHSTAR ACADEMIES, INC. November 15, 2022

A meeting of the Governing Board of NorthStar Academies, Inc. was held on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 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 were present via Zoom video conference: Board Chairman, Mr. Leonard Posey, Ms. Beth Adelman and Mr. Ira Paul.

Also present *via* Zoom video conference were Thom Jackson, President and Chief Executive Officer, EdisonLearning; Dr. Eunice Casey, Director of School Leadership & Support Services, EdisonLearning; Mendi Riggins, Sr. Executive Assistant, EdisonLearning; Susan DeAngelo, Talent Acquisition Specialist, EdisonLearning; Thomas Sternberg, Tripp Scott, LLP; Dr. Tony Arza, Arza and Associates; Dr. Sharard Walker, Principal, Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy; Daniel Walke, Principal, Chambers High School; Alejandro Madrigal, Principal, C.G. Bethel High School; Kerry Ann Brammer, Principal, Andrews High School, Dwayne Stewart, Principal, Main Street High School; Marie Curtis, Principal, Sunrise High School; Michelle Schmitt, Senior Controller, EdisonLearning; and Jennifer Anglin, Director of Career & Technical Education, EdisonLearning.

The meeting was called to order at 4:38 p.m. The meeting was chaired by the Board Chairman, Mr. Leonard Posey. 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.

A quorum was present.

There was no request for public comment.

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

- Board Meeting Minutes dated September 13, 2022,
- Ratification of interim actions by the Board Chairman

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 by the Board Chairman prior to the extent Board meeting

#### Andrews High School Documents:

- APR ESSER Supplemental Programming Assurance
- ESSER II Supplemental Programming Assurance
- ESSER Intensive Weekend Afterschool Academies Assurance
- Instructional Materials Assurances
- Targeted Math Grants and Stem Experiential Activities Assurance
- Updated School Calendar

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

- Notice of Audit Report
- Updated School Calendar
- Charter School Evaluation Dec Form
- Florida Recognition Funds

# **Chambers High School Documents:**

- Florida Recognition Funds
- Notice of Audit Report
- Updated School Calendar

### Main Street High School Documents:

• Updated School Calendar

### NSA of Pinellas County Charter Academy

• Form dr504cs: Ad Valorem Tax Exemption

# Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy Documents:

- Updated School Calendar
- APR Targeted Mathematics Grant and STEM Experiential Activities Charter Assurances
- ESSER II Supplemental FLDOE General Assurances
- ESSER III Instructional Material Program Specific Assurances for Charter Schools NorthStar Academy dba Palm Beach Prep – Draft Renewal Contract
- Florida Recognition Funds

### Sunrise High School Documents:

- APR ESSER Supplemental Programming Assurance
- ESSER II Supplemental Programming Assurance
- ESSER Intensive Weekend Afterschool Academies Assurance
- Instructional Materials Assurances
- Targeted Math Grants and Stem Experiential Activities Assurance
- Teacher Salary Increase Allocation 2022-23 Proposed Salary Distribution Plan
- Updated School Calendar
- Florida Recognition Funds

A legislative update was provided.

Mr. Sternberg provided the Board with a brief update on the NSA of Pinellas County Property Tax matter. He informed the Board that he has been communicating with the General Counsel for Pinellas County. It was suggested that NorthStar will need to file a suit to rectify this matter.

Mr. Sternberg also provided the Board with a brief overview of a roof issue at Sunrise High School. The company that installed the roof has not stood by their contract and now NorthStar Academies is prepared to take legal action should the company not respond in the appropriate amount of time. Mr. Stewart, principal of Main Street High School, Ms. Kerry-Ann Brammer, principal of Andrews High School and Ms. Marie Curtis, principal of Sunrise High School presented the performance priority plans for each of their schools. No vote was required.

Mr. Madrigal informed the Board of CG Bethel High School's collaboration with the North Miami Beach Police Department. Mr. Madrigal also informed the Board that on October 27, 2022 the school executed its lock down, school safety protocols as a result of an alleged bomb threat. Mr. Madrigal explained the Board that the school followed its safety protocols, that there was no harm to students, staff or administrators, and that the school returned to its regular operations upon receiving the appropriate clearances from federal, state and local authorities. Dr. Casey provided the Board with an overview of the updated crisis management plan, including the additional safety/security measures that have been put in place to ensure the safety of students and staff.

Dr. Casey informed the Board of the school evaluation findings. Main Street High School is in good standing and is currently on track for having a successful school year. Andrews High School is in good standing, however there is a need for consistency and intentionality in the area of direct instruction. Ms. Brammer is making the necessary adjustments to get the students and staff on track. Sunrise High School is on track for having a successful school year. CG Bethel has had a notable turnaround and is on track for having a successful school year. Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy continues to be strong in learning culture, however they do need to continue teacher development. Chambers continues have challenges with direct instruction and instructional leadership. The new Dean of Academics will help to improve these challenges.

Dr. Casey provided the Board with an update on the need for the revised school calendars due to Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. Dr. Casey also reported on any property damage that the schools sustained.

Ms. Anglin provided the Board with the 2022 FTE report. Andrews High School had a gain of 25 students. CG Bethel High School fell short by 6 students. Chambers High School fell short by 25 students. Main Street High School had a gain of 8 students. Palm Beach Preparatory Charter Academy had a gain of 76 students. Sunrise High School had a gain of 33 students.

Ms. DeAngelo provided the Board with the personnel report. No vote was required.

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

- 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. Sunrise High School

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

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

- 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. Sunrise High School

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

With no further discussions, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm on a motion by Ms. Adelman and seconded by Mr. Paul.

By: Leonard D Posey

Title: Governing Board Chairman