

# MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF

## NORTHSTAR ACADEMIES, INC.

December 18, 2018

A meeting of the Board of Directors of NorthStar Academies, Inc. (formerly known as New Alternative Education High School of Palm Beach County, Inc.) ("Company"), a Florida not for-profit corporation, was held at Sunrise High School., 424 W Sunrise Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311 on December 18, 2018.

The following directors were present in person at the meeting: Charles D. Barnett, Ira Paul, Beth Adelman and Bill Aragon.

The following director was present via Zoom: Stephanie Sears

The following principals were present in person: Dr. Eunice Casey, Andrews High School, Martie Parker-Lovely, Sunrise High School, DeAnna Allen, Mavericks High of Palm Springs and Alejandro Madrigal, CG Bethel High School.

The following principal was present via Zoom: Daniel Walke, Chambers High School

Also present in person were: Thom Jackson, Jeanette Jimenez, Sophie Perez, Ralph Arza and Pamela McCoy.

Also present via Zoom were: John Holbrook, Michelle Schmitt, Laura Hayes, Shreya Amin and Luis Sullivan.

The meeting was called to order at 4:48PM.

A quorum was present.

Mr. Barnett chaired the meeting and Pamela McCoy, Board Liaison, recorded the minutes.

Mr. Barnett noted that the following items in the consent agenda: Minutes of the September 25, 2018 and October 20, 2018 meetings. Property Works' contract was added to the consent agenda. Hearing no request to remove any item from the consent agenda, all items were unanimously approved on motion by Mr. Paul and seconded by Ms. Adelman.

There was no public input.

The name change for Mavericks High of Palm Springs was briefly discussed. The approval of the new name of "Palm Beach Preparatory Academy" was motioned by Mr. Aragon and seconded by Mr. Paul. The vote carried unanimously.

Ratification of the auditors, Keefe McCullough was approved unanimously following a motion made by Ms. Adelman and a second by Mr. Aragon.

Dr. Casey, Mr. Madrigal, Mr. Walke, Ms. Allen and Ms. Lovely each provided their school reports, in accordance with the Board materials distributed prior to the Board meeting. Following a detailed discussion with respect to holiday donations, maintenance issues, FTE, attendance, enrollment efforts, feeder schools, testing, graduation rates and cohorts, the School Principal reports were accepted as submitted. The board also voted to approve AC repairs at Sunrise High School up to \$18,000. Mr. Paul motioned and Ms. Adelman seconded. The vote carried.

Ralph Arza provided a Charter School Alliance report. Mr. Arza said the new House and Senate are pro School Choice as well as the Governor and Secretary of Education. This is great news for Charter Schools. Mr. Arza also informed the board that Ms. Dante Fulton Collins is the new Director of Charter Schools at the Broward County School District.

Dr. J. provided the Organizational and Operations reports. Property Works received a list of issues at all of the schools. Dr. J. noted that the Principals have been very patient regarding repairs. Dr. J said that most schools are staffed with the exception of Palm Beach County which has 4 openings. Dr. J. informed the board that Felix has send out dates for Fiber Optics updates and is in need of letters of approval from the landlords.

The next item on the agenda was the approval required by the Broward County School District of the Principal/Teacher Evaluation Systems. Mr. Aragon motioned and Mr. Paul seconded. The vote carried.

The first item discussed under Financial Matters was the A+ Recognition Funds distribution. Mavericks High of Palm Springs, Andrews High, Sunrise High and Chambers High received these funds and submitted distribution spreadsheets that were approved by their SAC committees. Mr. Aragon motioned and Ms. Adelman seconded to approve the distributions as presented. The vote carried. The approval of the 18-19 Budgets for all of the schools and the Final Budget Amendment for Palm Beach County were motioned by Mr. Aragon and seconded by Ms. Adelman. The vote carried.

Michelle Schmitt delivered the Financial Reports. A detailed discussion ensued regarding actual vs run rates, mitigation, enrollment, FTE and Capital Outlay. Mr. Aragon motioned and Ms. Adelman seconded the approval the financial reports as presented. The vote carried.

Mr. Jackson reminded the board that they are looking for ways to become owners of the buildings and that he will come back to the board when prepared.


Mr. Jackson also informed the board that EdisonLearning is starting to brand NorthStar Academies as high performing schools in Florida. Mr. Jackson informed the board know that this year NorthStar Academies would like to submit six applications in Florida for new Charter Schools; one in Miami/Dade County, two in Palm Beach County, two in Hillsboro County and one in Pinellas County. Mr. Jackson said that all of the schools have allocations for over-aged Middle Schoolers. Mr. Jackson asked the board for approval to move forward with submitting the letters

of intent to the Districts. Mr. Aragon motioned and Ms. Adelman seconded. The vote carried. Mr. Jackson informed the board that the Governance Manual is in the process of being reviewed. The Florida citations are being double checked for accuracy. Once the updates are finalized, NorthStar will use the manual moving forward.

Mr. Jackson stated that when EdisonLearning took over, he realized that the Principals were not very involved in the financials. Mr. Jackson made it a point to include and train the Principals so they would understand the financial position of their school.

Mr. Jackson informed the board that EdisonLearning is searching for a new Senior Vice President Achievement Solutions and Corporate Strategy. They are interviewing two candidates and hope to announce the new person by the second week of January and have them in place by the end of January.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35PM.

By:   
Secretary