

MINUTES
of the meeting of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS of SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS
June 8, 2021

Board of Directors of Somerset Academy of Las Vegas held a public meeting on June 8, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Board Chair John Bentham called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. In attendance were Board members LeNora Bredsguard, Sarah McClellan, John Bentham, Travis Mizer, and Cody Noble.

Members Will Harty and Renee Fairless were not in attendance.

Also present were Principal Lee Esplin, Principal Cesar Tiu, Principal Jessica Scobell, Principal Shannon Manning, Principal Kate Lackey, and Principal David Fossett; as well as Somerset Inc. representative Suzette Ruiz. Academica representatives Gary McClain, Matt Padron, Kendra Thornton, Jennifer Lindemon, and Marla Devitt were also in attendance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Review and Approval of Final Budget for the 2021/2022 School Year

Member Bentham noted that the State required the approval of the final budget; however, the budget would still be revised using the correct funding information from the legislative session. Mr. Matt Padron addressed the Board and stated that the budget was the same as the previously approved budget. The new funding formulas approved by the legislature was being reviewed. Academica would be meeting with the campus principals to finalize the budget. Member Bentham stated that the principal evaluations had just been completed; adding that principal raises had been discussed. He stated that, after final funding information had been received from the State, the principal raises would be determined.

Member McClellan asked if the funding amount had increased or decreased with the new funding formula. Mr. Padron explained that the formula included a “hold harmless” stipulation, which should allow the funding to remain at least even with last year’s rate. With the weighted funding formula, Somerset should receive the same funding, if not more, than last year. Mr. Gary McClain addressed the Board and stated that the actual funding amount would equal a decrease per pupil; adding that Mr. Trevor Goodsell was disputing the base rate on behalf of Somerset. Member McClellan asked if the

principal raises would be discussed at the next regular Board meeting. Member Bentham stated that the principal raises would be included in the budget that would be presented at that time.

Member McClellan moved to approve the budget, as presented. Member Bredsguard seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

b. Review and Approval of Renewing the Vended Meal Agreement with Better 4 You Meals

Mr. McClain stated the Board was being asked to approve the renewal of the agreement with Better 4 You Meals. Ms. Kendra Thornton addressed the Board and stated that the original contract, approved last year, included an option to renew for four additional one-year terms. The Somerset NSLP coordinators were in agreement with renewing the agreement. The end date of the contract would change to June 30, 2022 and would retain the fixed fee price \$2.99 for lunch and \$1.89 for breakfast. Member McClellan asked if the \$2.99 rate allowed Somerset to recoup expenses. Ms. Thornton stated that the government reimbursement rate changed every year. The rate for last year was \$3.55 and was expected to increase to the \$4 range. She noted that all students would be able to eat for free for the 2021/2022 school year.

Member Mizer moved to approve the renewal of the vended meal agreement, as presented. Member Nobel seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

c. Review and Approval of Addition of Federal Programs Section to the Financial Policies and Procedures

Mr. Padron stated that the section would be added to meet the SPCSA and CSP grant requirements. Mr. McClain stated that addition was needed to use the CSP funds.

Member McClellan moved to approve the addition of the Federal Programs section to the Financial Policies and Procedures manual. Member Bredsguard seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

d. 10th Anniversary Celebration

Member Bentham stated that the 10th anniversary celebration had been discussed during the strategic planning meeting. The discussion had included reserving Wet N Wild for a private event. The cost for a Saturday would be \$30,000. If 4000 people attended the breakeven point would be \$7.50 per person. If enough interest was generated Somerset could reserve a Saturday and a Sunday. The proposed date was September 25th and possibly the 26th. Member Bentham stated that the event could become a fundraiser for the Somerset Foundation. The capacity for each day would be 5000. The Board discussed the option for a second day after the initial interest was determined. An option for an afternoon ticket and ticket pricing were also discussed. Members Bentham and Noble suggested creating a committee to explore the possible scenarios. Principal Scobell stated that another concern to consider during the planning was the age limit for unsupervised children. Member Bentham stated that the committee should consider the Wet n Wild restrictions as they discussed the age limits.

Member Bentham further stated that the Board should also explore the possibility of holding a gala in the spring to wrap up the 10th anniversary celebration.

Member McClellan moved to move forward with the 10th Anniversary celebration for planning for the last weekend in September 2021. Member Bredsguard seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

Member Bentham stated that he would contact the principals for representatives from each campus to join the committee.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTIFICATIONS

There were no announcements

5. MEMBER COMMENT

There was no member comment.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

7. ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Approved on: August 3, 2021

LeNora N. Bredsguard

[LeNora N. Bredsguard \(Aug 4, 2021 11:48 PDT\)](#)

**Secretary of the Board of Directors
Somerset Academy of Las Vegas**