

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS**  
**JULY 12, 2024**

The Board of Directors of Somerset Academy of Las Vegas held a public meeting on July 12, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom.

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Board Chair Travis Mizer. The following Board members were in attendance: Travis Mizer, John Bentham, Matt Hurley, Sarah McClellan, and Renee Fairless.

Board Members LeNora Bredsguard and Matt Morris were not in attendance.

Also present were the following principals: Lee Esplin, Jessica Scobell, Shannon Manning, and Cesar Tiu. Academica representatives Gary McClain and Ryan Reeves attended the meeting.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

**a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 20, 2024 BOARD MEETING**

**b. APPROVAL OF THE SOMERSET ANNUAL TEST SECURITY PLAN**

**MEMBER BENTHAM MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED. MEMBER MCCLELLAN SECONDED THE MOTION, AND THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE.**

**4. ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**a. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CONTRACTOR FOR SKYE CANYON, SKY POINTE, AND ALIANTE ADDITIONS**

Mr. Gary McClain addressed the Board and stated that on July 10, 2024, three bidders delivered bids for the campus additions. The lowest bidder quoted \$4.6 million with subsequent bids being quoted at \$5 million and \$5.9 million. Mr. McClain stated that the three additions were combined into one proposal to receive the best price per square foot. DC Builders was the lowest qualified bidder at a price of \$600 per square foot. Mr. McClain noted they were obligated to accept the lowest responsive bid if they chose to move forward with the additions.

Member McClellan asked whether the bid price was higher or lower than anticipated at the project's start. Mr. McClain explained that in November 2023, he estimated the project would cost \$3.4 million based on \$500 per square foot. Since then, the market price had increased to \$600 per square foot. Additionally, the Skye Canyon project had been modified to include more square footage, resulting in increased project costs.

Mr. McClain stated that approximately \$1 million in bond funds were available to help offset the cost increase. The bid of \$4.6 million would cover only the construction of the additions and not

the third-party QAA, which was estimated to be 10% of the cost. Member Bentham asked if Mr. McClain had seen any work that DC Builders had done. Mr. McClain replied that he had not worked with DC Builders before; however, they were well known in the local area and the Western United States, and he had no concern about their ability to complete the project.

Member Bentham noted that the project was estimated to take 200 days and asked how that would align with the principal's timeline. Mr. McClain replied that construction would be occurring with students on campus. Although the campus would be disrupted at times, student safety and the minimization of disruptions would be the focus. He noted that pushing the project would increase costs and disrupt the next school year, and that the current project timeline was only 30 days behind schedule.

Member McClellan abstained from the vote due to a personal relationship with one of the bidders.

**MEMBER FAIRLESS MOVED TO ACCEPT DC BUILDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOMERSET PROJECTS. MEMBER BENTHAM SECONDED THE MOTION, AND FOUR OF THE FIVE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE VOTED TO APPROVE, WITH MEMBER MCCLELLAN ABSTAINING.**

**b. REVIEW AND APPROVE SYSTEM-WIDE CONTENT FILTERING PLATFORM/HARDWARE REGARDING INTERNET ACCESS**

Mr. McClain stated that Onward recommended using a centralized filtering system to filter content for all schools. He explained that Board was being asked to approve two separate platforms. The first platform, ContentKeeper, was for system-wide filtering, which each campus would have autonomy over. The second platform was for classroom management, and its usage would be at the principal's discretion at each campus.

Mr. McClain noted that switching to Onward saved the school 70 cents per student per month, which would cover the cost of the new filtering platforms. Member McClellan asked if these platforms were replacing the current systems. Mr. McClain explained that GoGuardian, the current filtering system, would be replaced by Content Keeper. The classroom management system would be new, and its usage would be based on administration preferences.

**MEMBER MCCLELLAN MOVED TO APPROVE ONBOARDING FOR THE SYSTEM-WIDE CONTENT FILTERING PLATFORM. MEMBER HURLEY SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE.**

**5. LONG RANGE CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. McClain stated that the next scheduled board meeting was August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

**6. MEMBER COMMENT**

There was no member comment.

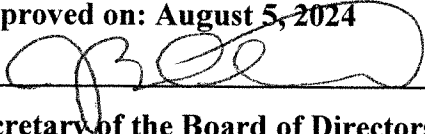
**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**8. ADJOURN MEETING**

**THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:16 A.M.**

**Approved on: August 5, 2024**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "B. E.", written over a horizontal line.

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