



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING of the Board of Directors of SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS, A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL, WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC MEETING ON AUGUST 13, 2025 BEGINNING AT 4:30 P.M. VIA ZOOM. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND.

JOIN ZOOM WEBINAR:

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/j/85928804607](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85928804607) OR VIA PHONE +16694449171 +16699009128
WEBINAR ID: 859 2880 4607

ATTACHED HERETO IS AN AGENDA OF ALL ITEMS SCHEDULED TO BE CONSIDERED. UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON MAY 1) TAKE AGENDA ITEMS OUT OF ORDER, 2) COMBINE TWO OR MORE ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION, OR 3) REMOVE AN ITEM FROM THE AGENDA OR DELAY DISCUSSION RELATING TO AN ITEM.

REASONABLE EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO ASSIST AND ACCOMMODATE PHYSICALLY DISABLED PERSONS DESIRING TO ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING. ANY PERSONS REQUIRING ASSISTANCE MAY CONTACT DENA THOMPSON AT (702) 431-6260 OR DENA.THOMPSON@ACADEMICANV.COM TWO BUSINESS DAYS IN ADVANCE SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS MAY BE CONVENIENTLY MADE.

DENA THOMPSON IS THE CONTACT PERSON FOR THE MEETING AGENDA, SUPPORT MATERIALS, AND MINUTES. THE MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL AT DENA.THOMPSON@ACADEMICANV.COM, BY VISITING THE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE AT [HTTPS://SOMERSETACADEMYOFLASVEGAS.COM/](https://somersetacademyoflasvegas.com/), OR AT 6630 SURREY ST., LAS VEGAS, NV 89119 FOR COPIES OF THE MEETING AUDIO, PLEASE EMAIL DENA.THOMPSON@ACADEMICANV.COM.

PUBLIC COMMENT MAY BE LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF THREE MINUTES AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRPERSON.



We prepare students to excel in academics and attain knowledge through life-long learning by dedicating ourselves to providing Equitable, high-quality education for all students. We promote a culture that maximizes student achievement and fosters the development of accountable 21st Century learners in a safe and enriching environment.

Board of Directors

JOHN BENTHAM – Board Chair

LENORA BREDSGUARD – Board Vice Chair

TRAVIS MIZER – Board Secretary

MATT HURLEY – Board Treasurer

SARAH MCCLELLAN – Board Member

RENEE FAIRLESS – Board Member

MATT MORRIS – Board Member

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUGUST 13, 2025

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

(NO ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON A MATTER RAISED DURING THIS AGENDA ITEM UNLESS IT IS INCLUDED AS AN ACTION ITEM ON THE CURRENT AGENDA, IN WHICH CASE ACTION MAY BE TAKEN DURING THE APPROPRIATE AGENDA ITEM, OR UNTIL IT HAS BEEN SPECIFICALLY ADDED TO A FUTURE AGENDA AS AN ITEM FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.)



3. ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 21, 2025 BOARD MEETING (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)
- b. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE ALLOCATION FOR TEACHER RAISES BASED ON ASSEMBLY BILL 398 (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

4. BOARD MEMBER CLOSING COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY) *(AN OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS TO SHARE CLOSING REMARKS, EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO SCHOOL LEADERS, SUGGEST FUTURE DISCUSSION TOPICS, OR REQUEST FOLLOW-UP ON SCHOOL-RELATED MATTERS AND EVENTS.)*

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY) *(A TIME FOR ACADEMICA AND OTHER DESIGNATED INDIVIDUALS TO SHARE GENERAL UPDATES, REMINDERS, OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS WITH THE BOARD AND SCHOOL LEADERSHIP.)*

6. PUBLIC COMMENT *(NO ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY MATTER RAISED DURING THIS AGENDA ITEM UNTIL IT HAS BEEN SPECIFICALLY INCLUDED ON A FUTURE AGENDA AS AN ITEM FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)*

7. ADJOURN MEETING

THIS NOTICE AND AGENDA HAS BEEN POSTED ON OR BEFORE 9 A.M. ON THE THIRD WORKING DAY BEFORE THE MEETING AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- 1) SOMERSET ALIANTE CAMPUS – 6475 VALLEY DR., NORTH LAS VEGAS, NV 89084
- 2) SOMERSET LONE MOUNTAIN CAMPUS – 4491 N. RAINBOW BLVD., LAS VEGAS, NV 89108
- 3) SOMERSET LOSEE CAMPUS – 4650 LOSEE ROAD, NORTH LAS VEGAS, NV 89081
- 4) SOMERSET NORTH LAS VEGAS CAMPUS – 385 W. CENTENNIAL PKWY, NORTH LAS VEGAS, NV 89084
- 5) SOMERSET SKY POINTE CAMPUS – 7038 SKY POINTE DR., LAS VEGAS, NV 89131
- 6) SOMERSET SKYE CANYON CAMPUS – 8151 N. SHAUMBER ROAD, LAS VEGAS, NV 89166
- 7) SOMERSET STEPHANIE CAMPUS – 50 N. STEPHANIE ST., HENDERSON, NV 89074
- 8) [HTTPS://SOMERSETACADEMYOFLASVEGAS.COM/](https://somersetacademyoflasvegas.com/)
- 9) [HTTPS://NOTICE.NV.GOV/](https://notice.nv.gov/)

SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS
SUPPORT SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: **AUGUST 13, 2025**
AGENDA ITEM: **PUBLIC COMMENT STATEMENT**

SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENT STATEMENT

☒ **ACTION**
☐ **CONSENT AGENDA**
☐ **INFORMATION**

CONTRIBUTOR(S): **JOHN BENTHAM/DENA THOMPSON**

PROPOSED WORDING FOR MOTION/ACTION:

TO MAKE A PUBLIC COMMENT, JOIN THE ZOOM WEBINAR, ID NUMBER 859 2880 4607, OR CALL 1-669-444-9171 OR 1-669-900-9128 AND USE THE "RAISE HAND" FUNCTION.

ESTIMATED LENGTH OF TIME FOR CONSIDERATION (IN MINUTES): **3-5 MINUTES**

BACKGROUND:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEVADA OPEN MEETING LAW THIS INFORMATION MUST BE READY BEFORE THE FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD IN FULLY VIRTUAL MEETINGS.

ATTACHMENTS:
NONE

SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS
SUPPORT SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: **AUGUST 13, 2025**

AGENDA ITEM: **3a – APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 21, 2025 BOARD MEETING**

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

☒ ACTION

☐ CONSENT AGENDA

☐ INFORMATION

PRESENTER(S): **BOARD/DENA THOMPSON**

PROPOSED WORDING FOR MOTION/ACTION:

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 21, 2025 BOARD MINUTES.

ESTIMATED LENGTH OF TIME FOR CONSIDERATION (IN MINUTES): **1-2 MINUTES**

BACKGROUND:

MINUTES FROM THE JULY 21, 2025 BOARD MEETING SHOULD BE REVIEWED BY THE BOARD FOR POSSIBLE APPROVAL.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. JULY 21, 2025 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS
JULY 21, 2025

The Board of Directors of Somerset Academy of Las Vegas held a public meeting on July 21, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m. by Board Chair John Bentham. The following Board members were in attendance: John Bentham, LeNora Bredsguard, Matt Hurley, and Matt Morris.

Board Members Travis Mizer, Sarah McClellan, and Renee Fairless were not in attendance.

Also present were the following principals: Jessica Scobell, Lee Esplin, Cesar Tiu, Kate Lackey, Mindi Palomeque, Shannon Manning, and David Fossett. Tiffany Lewis, the Somerset State and Federal Programs director and Academica representatives Gary McClain, Ryan Reeves, Paul Ballou, Marla Devitt, and Dena Thompson were also in attendance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Dena Thompson read the public comment access instructions, as required under Open Meeting Law for virtual meetings.

There was no public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 19, 2025 BOARD MEETING AND THE MAY 21, 2025 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**
- b. APPROVAL OF THE REVISED STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOKS**
- c. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM THE FOLLOWING:**
 - **EXN SPECIAL EDUCATION (IDEA, PART B)**
 - **McKINNEY -VENTO**
 - **SPECIAL EDUCATION (IDEA, PART B)**
 - **STATE CTE ALLOCATION**
 - **TITLE I, PART A**
 - **TITLE III IMMIGRANT**
 - **TITLE IV, PART A**

MEMBER BREDSGUARD MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS STATED. MEMBER MORRIS SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE SUBMISSION OF A LETTER OF INTENT TO THE STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY FOR RENEWAL OF SOMERSET ACADEMY'S CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT

Mr. Gary McClain reported that Somerset Academy's charter would be up for renewal in summer 2026, with the process beginning by submitting a letter of intent, starting a year-long review. The SPCSA would determine the renewal term based on the school's performance and would likely provide an answer by January. Member Bentham inquired whether the renewal letter should request a specific term length. Mr. McClain clarified that the term length was determined by the SPCSA based on the school's performance and success, rather than being requested by the school.

MEMBER MORRIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF THE LETTER OF INTENT TO THE STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY FOR RENEWAL OF SOMERSET ACADEMY'S CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT. MEMBER BREDSGUARD SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ADDITION OF A PRE-K PROGRAM AT THE STEPHANIE CAMPUS

Principal David Fossett presented a proposal to add a Pre-K program at the Stephanie campus. He reported that Somerset representatives toured Mater Academy's Pre-K program about six months ago at the invitation of the SPCSA, which indicated that additional funding would be available. Although Somerset expressed interest, the SPCSA moved quickly with the application process and approved Somerset's participation approximately two weeks ago.

Principal Fossett stated that a classroom had been designated for the program, which would serve 20 children beginning October 1st, allowing time for preparation. Despite the delayed start, the school would receive the full grant amount of \$8,200 per student. The classroom was near bathrooms and kindergarten rooms but would eventually require its own bathroom at an estimated cost of \$70,000, potentially funded through a future competitive grant. He noted that while funding was grant-based rather than part of the operating budget, Mater Academy's similar program had consistently been renewed for about ten years.

Principal Fossett explained that families must meet income requirements and children must be potty-trained, with verification from a physician. Accepted students would automatically roll up to kindergarten the following year.

Member Morris expressed support, noting the clear need for Pre-K programs given the failure of recent universal Pre-K legislation in Carson City. Board members discussed possible expansion if demand increased. Principal Mindi Palomeque stated that the North Las Vegas campus had been approved for 60 Pre-K seats but lacked space, noting that those funds could be redirected to campuses with capacity.

MEMBER MORRIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF A PRE-K PROGRAM AT THE STEPHANIE CAMPUS. MEMBER HURLEY SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. ACCEPTANCE OF NEVADA READY STATE PRE-K GRANT FUNDING

Mr. McClain stated that, following approval of the Pre-K program, the Board could now accept the Nevada Ready State Pre-K grant funding in the amount of \$162,540.

MEMBER BREDSGUARD MOVED TO ACCEPT THE NEVADA READY STATE PRE-K GRANT FUNDING. MEMBER HURLEY SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

d. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE EMO EVALUATION FOR ACADEMICA NEVADA

Mr. McClain reviewed the EMO evaluation for Academica Nevada, which received high overall ratings, with approximately 98% of responses in the top two categories, exceeding the 95% goal. Areas for improvement included facility services, accounting services, and teacher recruitment/licensure. Mr. McClain reported that staffing changes had impacted facility services, but a new hire would now support the six northern campuses. Accounting concerns in accounts payable and payroll stemmed from a new payroll system implemented 18 months ago, while recruitment challenges were due to staffing turnover and lengthy fingerprinting processes, which should improve with electronic fingerprinting and new personnel.

Mr. Ryan Reeves added that the EMO evaluation was an annual requirement of the SPCSA and their contract, and that Academica had addressed past survey feedback through staffing and service adjustments. The survey, once limited to principals, now included board members, registrars, and office managers. Chair Bentham emphasized the evaluation's importance during SPCSA reviews.

MEMBER HURLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE EMO EVALUATION FOR ACADEMICA NEVADA AS PRESENTED. MEMBER BREDSGUARD SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. MEMBER COMMENT

Member Bentham noted that this would be the last meeting before the start of the school year and wished everyone well with the opening of school.

Mr. McClain announced that a telephonic meeting would be required between August 11-15 to approve the allocation of teacher raises from legislative funding. After discussion of scheduling challenges during the back-to-school period, it was decided to schedule the meeting for 4:30 p.m. on either Wednesday or Thursday of that week.

Mr. McClain also provided an update on construction at the Sky Point campus, noting that despite some weather delays, the building was closed in, and they were still aiming for completion by August 1st before students return.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

7. ADJOURN MEETING

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12: 34 P.M.

Approved on:

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

DRAFT

SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS
SUPPORT SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: **AUGUST 13, 2025**

AGENDA ITEM: **3b – REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE ALLOCATION FOR TEACHER RAISES BASED ON ASSEMBLY BILL 398**

SUBJECT: ALLOCATION FOR TEACHER RAISES

☒ ACTION

☐ CONSENT AGENDA

☐ INFORMATION

PRESENTER(S): **BOARD/DENA THOMPSON**

PROPOSED WORDING FOR MOTION/ACTION:

MOVE TO APPROVE THE ALLOCATION FOR TEACHER RAISES BASED ON ASSEMBLY BILL 398, AS PRESENTED.

ESTIMATED LENGTH OF TIME FOR CONSIDERATION (IN MINUTES): **5-7 MINUTES**

BACKGROUND:

ASSEMBLY BILL 398 REQUIRES CHARTER HOLDERS TO ALLOCATE STATE-PROVIDED FUNDS TO INCREASE COMPENSATION FOR TEACHERS AND EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS. THE CHARTER HOLDER MUST COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE **AB398 TEACHER RAISE ALLOCATION WORKSHEET**. THE BOARD IS BEING ASKED REVIEW AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED ALLOCATION PLAN.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. SB 398 TEACHER RAISE ALLOCATION



3427 Goni Rd, Suite 103 Carson City, NV 89706

Charter Holder AB398 Allocation Summary

Charter contract holder:	Somerset Academy of Las Vegas
Number of campuses:	7
LEA:	SPCSA

Award amount per FTE across all charter schools under the SPCSA:	\$3,314.82
Total eligible staff FTEs based on October 1, 2024 staff census across all charter holder campuses:	780.08
Total AB398 award to charter holder:	\$2,585,824.89
Total AB398 utilization by charter holder (total of all campus tabs, cannot be greater than award total):	\$2,585,817.56

Allocation methodology narrative:

Employees received raises awarded based on position and performance evaluations during the FY25 school year. Additionally, targeted salary ad

Conditions and Requirements:

Pursuant to AB398 Sec.8.7.1 approved during the 2025 Legislative Session, "...allocation to the State Public Charter School Authority to provide money to charter schools for salary increases for teachers and education support professionals...", and, "....money appropriated by subsection 1 must be used to supplement and not supplant or cause to be reduced any other source of funding for the support of charter schools or for the salary and compensation of teachers or education support professionals employed by any charter school."

Funds awarded to each charter holder may only be used for salary increases instituted after the implementation of AB398 in the 2025-26 school year. Funds may also be used for PERS benefits directly associated with said salary increases. However, funds may NOT be used for benefit rate increases or salary increases issued prior to awarding of funds in the 2025-26 school year.

Charter holder agrees to account for funds separately in accordance with SPCSA and NDE approved accounting methodology, including designated funds and account codes. Schools who don't allocate and account for funds appropriately will not be eligible for funds in 2026-27.

By signing this form, the charter holder acknowledges and agrees to the terms and conditions as outlined by the LEA and pursuant to AB398 in the 2025 legislative session:

School Leader:		
	(print)	(sign)
Board of directors chair:		
	(print)	(sign)
SPCSA Director:		
	(print)	(sign)