



MATER ACADEMY

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM

*The Mater Academy vision is to provide exemplary educational choices by offering an innovative college preparatory curriculum; empowering confident leaders of tomorrow.*

**Mater Academy, Inc.  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
September 5, 2023**

**Directors**

Cesar Christian Crousillat, Board Chair *(Absent)*

Shannie Sadesky, Vice-Chair *(Present)*

Idalia Suarez, Secretary *(Absent)*

Maurene Sotero Balmaseda *(Present)*

Maria Beatriz (“Betty”) Nuñez *(Present)*

Yasmeen Khan *(Present)*

Roberto Blanch, Esq., President *(Present)*

Kim Guilarte, Chief Operating Officer *(Present)*

Joseph L. Raia, Esq., Counsel for Mater Academy, Inc. *(Present)*

*In an effort to allow greater public participation and to best accommodate stakeholders, this meeting was held via communications media technology with physical access sites at each of the individual school campuses throughout Miami-Dade County.*

**Minutes**

1. **OPENING EXERCISES**

- a. Called to Order at 11:17am
- b. Establish a Quorum
- c. Reading of Vision

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- a. None

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the June 13, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Board Resolutions for Out of Field and/or ESOL Waiver Assignments for the 2023-2024 school year; further authorizing the Chief Operating Officer authority to review and make necessary changes and execute for submission (including any necessary additions).
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Individual Charter School Title I Budget Appropriation Details Forms for the 2023-2024 school year for the Title 1 distinguished schools; further authorizing the Chief Operating Officer authority and direction to review and make necessary changes and execute for submission (including any necessary revisions).
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to ratify the individual Mental Health Plans, as necessary.



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- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify Resolutions by the Board Chair:
  - i. Approved the available Title 1 Budget Appropriations Forms for the 2023-2024 school year for the individual schools, as necessary. The Board Chair further authorizes the Chief Operating Officer to execute them for submission.
  - ii. Approved to authorize Ms. Kim Guilarte (Chief Operating Officer) the ability to execute, on behalf of the Board of Directors, all academic / education items and deliverables due to the individual sponsors, including but not limited to Out of Field Waivers, Employee Contracts, School Improvement Plans, Title 1 Budgets, District / State Deliverables, etc...
  - iii. Approved the Internet Safety Policy. In accordance with the State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.0957, the Governing Board hereby adopts the following Internet Safety Policy (the "Policy") to ensure that students utilize school technological resources in a safe and productive manner. The Policy is designed to promote healthy technology practices as well as ensure our schools' compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Annual CIVICA Agreement for Architectural, Engineering and Facilities Support Consulting Services from 7/1/2023-7/1/2024; further approving release of payments when necessary.
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Plans; further authorizing the Chief Operating Officer the ability to execute for submission.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Board Chair & President to approve to submit the Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Reports for the period ending June 30, 2023.
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Board Chair & President the ability to authorize the submittal of any new charter school applications, as necessary.
- j. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to receive & file the Financial Statements for the quarter ending June 30, 2023.
- k. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Out of State and/or Country Field Trips:
  - i. iMater Middle/High – Greece in March 2024
  - ii. iMater High – Washington D.C. in November 2023
  - iii. iMater High – South Carolina in October 2023
  - iv. Mater Middle/High/Performing Arts
    - 1. Dallas, Texas in April-May 2024
    - 2. South Carolina in October 2023
    - 3. New Mexico in June 2024
    - 4. California in April 2024
    - 5. Michigan in May 2024
    - 6. Dublin and London in March 2024
    - 7. Italy in March 2024
    - 8. Washington D.C. in November 2023
    - 9. Georgia in February 2024
  - v. Mater Academy Bay High
    - 1. Washington D.C. in January 2024
    - 2. Italy in March 2024
    - 3. North Carolina, South Carolina & Georgia in November-December 2023
- l. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Mater Academy LEA Title I Application and Budget.
- m. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to ratify the Internet Safety Policy to comply with Fla. Admin. Code R. 6A-1.
- n. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the individual School Improvement Plans, as necessary.

*Motion to approve the consent agenda by Shannie Sadesky; second by Maureen Sotero Balmaseda; motion passed unanimously*



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4. **ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a. Report & Items by the President and Board Counsel (*Roberto Blanch & Joe Raia*)
  - i. Insurance updates
  - ii. Mater Bay insurance claim
  - iii. Facilities report and updates
  - iv. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to designate Betty Morris as the Principal of Mater Preparatory Academy (WL#3003). The Board further approved to designate Ms. Morris as the Parent Involvement Representative for the school.
  
- b. Report & Items by the Chief Operating Officer (*Kim Guilarte-Gil*)
  - i. Announcing Marcus Cuervo as the new Food Service Director
    1. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to direct the individual schools to provide Marcus Cuervo direct access to the file download manager for NSLP purposes.  
*Motion to approve by Betty Nunez; second by Maurene Sotero Balmaseda; motion passed unanimously*
  
- c. Financial Report
  - i. Budgets will be presented after the October FTE
  - ii. Finalizing the 22-23 Annual Audits
  
- d. Additional Items by the Board, Principals or Academica

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTIFICATIONS**

6. **ADJOURNED MEETING AT 11:35AM**

The undersigned hereby certifies that he/she is an Officer of MATER ACADEMY, INC., a not-for-profit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida, and that the above is a true and correct copy of the meeting minutes of the Board of Directors of said corporation.

The minutes were adopted by the Board of Directors at a meeting held on November 14, 2023.

MATER ACADEMY, INC.  
A Florida not-for-profit corporation