



**NEXT ACADEMY, INC.**  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**January 5, 2024**  
**5:00 PM**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Raishrie Torres at 5:00 PM.

**2. Roll Call**

Board Members Present:

- Raishrie Torres – President
- Nomar Astrain – Secretary
- Miguel Martinez – Treasurer/Director

Members Absent:

- None

Staff/Guests Present:

- Kristian Gellibert – Executive Director
- Kristen Gellibert – Chief Operating Officer

Quorum: Yes

**3. Public Comment**

No public comments were received.

**4. Approval of Prior Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 23, 2023.

Vote: Approved as presented

Result: PASSED

**5. Review of Application Feedback**

Mr. Gellibert presented feedback received on the most recent charter application. The discussion focused on the enrollment projections, which were considered overly ambitious compared to historical patterns. Research presented showed that many charter schools in the region open with significantly fewer than 100 students in year one, and only a small number surpass 500 students by year five. Board members expressed concerns about projecting higher numbers without clear evidence of demand. A motion was made by R. Torres to pause efforts until enrollment projections demonstrate stronger viability. The motion was seconded by N. Astrain and passed unanimously.



**6. Discussion on Regional Enrollment Trends**

The Board examined broader enrollment patterns across South Florida, noting ongoing declines in student populations. Mr. Gellibert shared research illustrating these downward trends and their impact on long-term planning for new schools. The discussion highlighted the importance of aligning applications with demographic realities and ensuring that financial plans account for lower starting enrollment.

**7. Exploration of Growth Areas**

Attention shifted to areas experiencing capacity issues and population growth. The Board discussed potential opportunities in communities demonstrating higher enrollment demand. Mr. Gellibert presented research identifying emerging neighborhoods and regions where overcrowding and limited school options may create a need for Next Academy. A motion was passed to continue researching these areas to determine feasibility. Motion seconded by N. Astrain. Result: PASSED unanimously.

**8. Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by N. Astrain. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

**9. Certification**

Prepared by:

Kristen Gellibert, Director of Operations

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by the Board on: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Secretary:

Nomar Astrain

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_