



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

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Shaquita Mills, Board Chair, at 5:00 PM.

2. Roll Call

Board Members Present:

- Shaquita Mills – Chair
- Nomar Astrain – Secretary
- Miguel Martinez – Treasurer

Members Absent:

- _____

Staff/Guests Present:

- Kristian Gellibert – Executive Director
- Kristen Gellibert – Director of Operations

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 June 10, 2024.

Vote: Approved as presented

Result: PASSED

5. Strategic Planning Session

The Board engaged in a discussion regarding the long-term vision of Next Academy. Key topics included refining the five-year growth plan, strengthening partnerships with community organizations, and ensuring that Next Academy remains a leader in innovative C-STEAM education. Board members emphasized continued alignment with the school's mission of fostering inquiry, collaboration, and character development.

6. Facilities and Operations Update



Mr. Gellibert provided an update on ongoing efforts to identify and secure a long-term facility for the school. Options discussed included leasing opportunities and potential partnerships with developers to ensure the campus can accommodate anticipated enrollment growth. Safety measures, technology infrastructure, and accessibility were identified as critical priorities for any selected site.

7. Academic Program Enhancements

Mrs. Gellibert presented proposed enhancements to the academic program, including expanded professional development for teachers, integration of additional digital learning tools, and development of cross-disciplinary projects tied to C-STEAM. The Board supported these initiatives and requested a detailed implementation timeline for review at the next meeting.

8. Financial Overview

Mr. Martinez reviewed the financial status of the school, confirming that budget projections remain on track. He recommended continued monitoring of enrollment trends and suggested establishing a reserve fund to provide added stability.

9. Action Items

- Develop a detailed implementation plan for proposed academic enhancements.
- Prepare a 2024 Board of Directors Executive Summary (attachment A)
- Continue due diligence on facility options and present findings at the next meeting.
- Prepare updated five-year strategic plan draft for Board review in Q1 2025.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

11. Certification

Prepared by:

Kristen Gellibert, Director of Operations

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approved by the Board on: _____

Board Secretary:

Nomar Astrain

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Attachment A

NEXT ACADEMY, INC.

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Executive Summary provides a high-level overview of the major decisions and milestones achieved by the Board of Directors of Next Academy, Inc. in 2024. The Board's work this year focused on governance, curriculum innovation, financial stability, and laying the groundwork for long-term success.

Key Highlights of 2024

- Strengthened charter application through revisions addressing enrollment, budget, and program clarity.
- Transition of leadership: Raishrie Torres stepped down as Chair for personal reasons, and Shaquita Mills was unanimously appointed as the new Chair, bringing extensive experience in charter school leadership, ESE, MTSS, RTI, and inclusive practices.
- Advanced curriculum development with a strong emphasis on C-STEAM integration, project-based learning, and equity for multilingual learners and students with special needs.
- Approved establishment of a Makers Space Lab to enhance student learning, funded through existing budget surplus.
- Established an official mailbox to improve governance, transparency, and recordkeeping.
- Launched strategic planning discussions to refine the five-year vision, expand partnerships, and evaluate future facility options.

The actions taken by the Board of Directors in 2024 demonstrate a commitment to excellence, equity, and innovation. With strong leadership, financial foresight, and dedication to C-STEAM education, Next Academy is well-positioned to thrive in the years ahead.