



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
April 16, 2024**

Directors

Cesar Christian Crousillat, Board Chair *(Present)*

Shannie Sadesky, Vice-Chair *(Present)*

Idalia Suarez, Secretary *(Present)*

Maurene Sotero Balmaseda *(Absent)*

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

Yasmeen Hasan *(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 11:25am
- b. Established a Quorum
- c. Reading of Vision

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - *None*

3. **CONSENT AGENDA** - *All items listed with letter designations are considered routine and were enacted by one motion.*

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the February 5, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved and/or ratified the Out of Field, ESOL and/or Gifted Waiver Assignments for the 2023-2024 school year; further authorizing the Chief Operating Officer



MATER ACADEMY

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM

- 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 the Out of State and/or Country Field Trips:
- i. Mater Academy Middle/High School – Hialeah Gardens Music Program to Ohio
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify Resolutions by the Board Chair:
- i. Approved to submit the following charter school contract amendment requests for the 2024-2025 school year:
 1. Mater Academy Biscayne North Miami Elementary School (#2022) is requesting to increase allowable contract student capacity & change the school name.
 2. Mater Academy Biscayne North Miami Middle School (#5555) is requesting to increase allowable contract student capacity & change the school name.
 3. Mater Academy Biscayne North Miami High School (#5556) is requesting to increase allowable contract student capacity & change the school name.
 4. Mater Academy Bay High School (#7120) is requesting a 15-year contract term & to increase allowable contract student capacity, as a High Performing Charter School.
 5. Mater Brickell Academy Middle (#5412) is requesting to add an additional location.
 6. Mater Brickell Academy High (#5422) is requesting to add an additional location.
 7. Mater Brickell Academy Middle (#5412) is requesting to add additional / adjacent folios for allowable use.
 8. Mater Brickell Academy High (#5422) is requesting to add additional / adjacent folios for allowable use.
 9. Miami Tech at Mater Innovation Academy (#5417) is requesting to add an additional location.
 10. Mater Academy East Charter School (#3100) and Mater Academy East Preparatory (#7037) are requesting to consolidate and reduce grade levels as High Performing Charter Schools.
 11. Mater Academy of International Studies (#1017) and Mater International Preparatory (#6047) are requesting to modify the educational program of the schools.
 12. Requesting the ability to increase contract student capacity for all High Performing Charter Schools, as necessary.
- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Receive & File the Quarterly Financial Statements for the period ending December 31, 2023.
- g. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the Amended and Restated Child Care Program Services Agreement between Mater Academy, Inc., d/b/a Mater Academy Biscayne Elementary, Middle and High Schools and Brightstar Learning Center Academy, LLC.



MATER ACADEMY

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM

- i. Board Member Suarez requested additional information on this item later in the meeting; it was stated that the agreement needed to be better aligned with DCF requirements.
- h. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the FASB Engagement Letter Renewal with HLB Gravier.
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to Ratify the Management Company Subordination Agreement.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by C. Crousillat; second by Shannie Sadesky; motion passed unanimously

4. ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Report & Items by the President and Board Counsel (*Roberto Blanch & Joe Raia*)
 - i. Adding adjacent parcels to Mater Brickell, Robbie should report that owners are willing to lease 5 parcels to MAI for use by Mater Brickell while permanent development plans are being made for no cost; Mater is attempting to finalize tax exempt status;
 - 1. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to ratify the terms of the lease, as discussed.
Motion to approve by Shannie Sadesky; second by Idalia Suarez; motion passed unanimously
 - ii. Mater Grove Terrace project that approved by the board at \$488,000, but delays with the City resulted in price increase. After competitive bids and after review by Board Chair and CMT, project given to Camcon at price of \$536,340.
 - 1. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to ratify the increase in the project cost, as discussed.
Motion to approve by Yasmeeen Hasan; second by Shannie Sadesky; motion passed unanimously.
 - iii. PBA amendments for Brickell, Kiwanis and Miami Tech with new academic performance standards
 - iv. Mater Bay Academy appeal for the City's denial to expand; hoping to have a resolution within the next month.
 - v. Recognition of Betty Riera who has announced she will be stepping down from her leadership role at Mater Academy East.
 - vi. Successful in being awarded another CMO grant.
 - vii. Facility Report by Julio Robaina
 - viii. Texas update
 - ix. Construction update by Rolando Llanes
- b. Report & Items by the Chief Operating Officer (*Kim Guilarte-Gil*)
 - i. CMO Grant
 - ii. Special thanks to Betty Riera for her many years of successful service.



MATER ACADEMY

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM

- c. Academica Report
 - i. Legislative Report (*Julio Robaina*)
 - ii. Colegia Report (*Antonio Roca*)

- d. Financial Report
 - i. Working with Principals on budget meetings for the 24-25 school year; a special budget meeting will be held for the review and approval of these budgets in mid to late June.
 - ii. Legislative update on funding; now receiving local Capital Outlay funding for the first time.

- e. Mater Virtual Academy (Private School) (*Antonio Roca*)
 - i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize for Mater Virtual Academy to apply for Florida scholarship eligibility for private students.
Motion to approve by Idalia Suarez; second by Yasmeeen Hasan; motion passed unanimously
 - ii. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the appointment of Noelle Iglesias as principal of Mater Virtual Academy (private school).
Motion to approve by Idalia Suarez; second by Yasmeeen Hasan; motion passed unanimously

- f. School Projects
 - i. iMater Academy Elementary – Floor Replacement Project for an amount not to exceed \$389,000.
 - 1. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the iMater Academy Elementary Floor Replacement Project for an amount not to exceed \$390,000.
Motion to approve by Yasmeeen Hasan; second by C. Crousillat; motion passed unanimously

- g. Additional Items by the Board, Principals or Academica

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTIFICATIONS**

- a. Next Board Meeting: June 11th at 12pm

6. **ADJOURNED MEETING AT 12:03PM**



MATER ACADEMY

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM

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 June 11, 2024.

MATER ACADEMY, INC.

A Florida not-for-profit corporation