

**Somerset Academy of Texas
Board of Directors – Regular Meeting Minutes**

Date: October 21, 2025 • Time: 5:00PM • Location: Somerset Academy Lone Star / Zoom

Board Members Present

In person: Matthew Cox; Rebecka Holt Virtual: Todd German; Ana Mendez; David Concepcion;

Staff/Guests Present

Cory Oliver, Lilly Collins, Danny Diaz, Lisa Smith, Julie DeClouette, Emmanuel Manon, Florencio Zepeda, Bonnie Salas, Austin Morgenroth, Christine Guido, Abigail Batton, Jason Robaina

1. Call to Order and Quorum

Matt Cox called the meeting to order at 5:06PM CT. A quorum was present.

2. Public Comment

No public comment

3. Consent Agenda

Items considered and approved under one motion:

3.1 Approval of Board meeting minutes for August 19, 2025.

3.2 Establishment of Finance Committees.

Motion: Todd German moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second: Ana Mendez. Vote: All members voted in favor, none abstained. Motion passes.

4. Action Agenda Items

4.1 Board Resolution – Certification of Compliance with Texas Education Code §§11.005 and 28.0022. Certain Instructional Requirements and Prohibitions Policy 4.212 & 4.13

Presenter: Lisa Smith, Academica Southwest

Lisa Smith presented compliance information for Texas Education Code §§11.005 and 28.0022. Certified that the board that the policies were sent to Somerset Texas Employees and members of the public had an opportunity to make a public comment. No public comment was received. Board Policy 4.212 and 4.213 was reviewed by the board. Resolution directs the Superintendent to certify compliance with TEA.

Motion: Todd German moved to approve the resolution as presented. Second: Ana Mendez
Vote: All members voted in favor, none abstained. Motion passes.

4.2 89th Legislature – Presentation and Possible Action

Presenter: Florencio Zepeda, Academica Southwest.

Summary of key legislative impacts discussed. Advised of new policy allowing a physician to sign off on a student's extended absence in order for the student to continue their education and not have absences counted against them.

Motion (if any): Todd German moved to approve new form. Second: Ana Mendez
Vote: All members voted in favor, none abstained. Motion passes.

4.3 Resolution – Rename Campus 104: Somerset Academy Prep to Somerset Academy Oaks Prep

Presenter: Danny Diaz, Academica Southwest.

Danny Diaz advised that a name change for campus 104 is being requested to separate the lower and upper school for marketing purposes.

Motion: Ana Mendez moved to approve the campus name change and authorize submission of the non-expansion amendment to TEA. Second: Todd German
Vote: All members voted in favor, none abstained. Motion passes.

4.4 3% COLA increase for all employees outside of teacher/SPED case manager role

Presenter: Julie DeClouette, Academica Southwest.

Julie advised that after working with the school leaders and reviewing the budget, a 3% cost of living increase is being recommended for all non-instructional staff. The board had no questions and highly recommended that this would move forward with approval for the staff.

Motion: Todd German moved to approve a 3% COLA for all employees outside of teacher/SPED case manager roles. Seconded by Ana Mendez. Vote: All members voted in favor, none abstained. Motion passes.

4.5 SPED Case Manager Salary Schedule

Presenter: Julie DeClouette, Academica Southwest.

Julie advised that due to TIA payment schedule, a few employees have been considering going back into instructional duties. She advised that the district has 4 SPED Case Managers and in accordance with the budget and Superintendent approval is requesting a new salary schedule be created for the SPED Case Manager role.

Motion: Todd German moved to approve the SPED Case Manager salary schedule for 2025–26 as presented. Second: Ana Mendez
Vote: All members voted in favor, none abstained. Motion passes.

5. Presentation Agenda Items (No Action Taken)

5.1 FIRST Rating for the 2024–2025 School Year

TEA Charter FIRST results based on FY2024 data reported a score of 94 for Somerset Academies of Texas. Key indicators met included timely AFR submission, unmodified audit opinion, compliance with debt terms, sufficient liquidity and solvency metrics.

5.2 Facilities Update

Campus 104 is currently under construction and being built according to schedule. A topping ceremony is scheduled for December to include the community and current Somerset Oaks families.

5.3 Financial Update

Review of current financials as of 9.30.25, all functions are currently on target within 25% variable. No concerns to report.

5.4 Deputy Superintendent Update

Deputy Superintendent, Cory Oliver advised of campus highlights to include an increase in enrollment. Decreased withdrawals with the majority attributed to families moving. College and Career update with Seniors who took advantage of Free College Application Week.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:57pm CT.