



January 26, 2022

Florida Department of Education
Attn: Laura Mazyck
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1044
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Ms. Mazyck:

I am writing to inform you that Step Up For Students, Inc. (Document Number N00000001090, established February 18, 2000 and FEIN 59-3649371), which is currently an approved Scholarship Funding Organization for the 2021-2022 school year and has applied for such for the 2022-2023 school year, has changed its name to Step Up For Students-Florida, Inc., effective January 10, 2022.

The organization's mission remains the same but the purpose of the name change is to emphasize our role as a Scholarship Funding Organization in the State of Florida. The Board of Directors, leadership and principal address of the organization remain the same.

We have also created a new supporting non-profit corporation that has assumed the name Step Up For Students, Inc. The purpose of that organization is to support Step Up For Students-Florida, Inc. and any other state organizations we may create to serve students in those other states. The Board of Directors and Officers of Step Up For Students, Inc. are the same as those for Step Up For Students-Florida, Inc.

Please let me know if you have any questions on the above changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph E. Pfountz".

Joseph E. Pfountz
Chief Financial Officer

www.StepUpForStudents.org

1901 Ulmerton Road, Suite 180 • Clearwater, FL 33762
4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400 • Jacksonville, FL 32256

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Florida Department of State
Division of Corporations
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ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT
of the
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
of
STEP UP FOR STUDENTS, INC.
DOCUMENT NUMBER: N00000001090

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Pursuant to the provision of Sections 617.1006 and 617, 1007, Florida Statutes, Step Up For Students, Inc., a Florida not for profit corporation (the "*Corporation*"), adopts the following Articles of Amendment and Restatement to amend and restate its Articles of Incorporation:

FIRST: The Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation (the "*Amended and Restated Articles*") are set forth in **EXHIBIT A**.

SECOND: The Amended and Restated Articles were adopted by unanimous consent of the Board of Directors of the of the Corporation on November 23, 2021. There are no members entitled to vote on the amendment and restatement.

THIRD: The Amended and Restated Articles shall be effective as of the date filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Florida.

FOURTH: Pursuant to Article I of the Amended and Restated Articles of the Corporation, the name of the Corporation shall now be Step Up For Students – Florida, Inc.

Signed effective as the 23 day of November, 2021.

STEP UP FOR STUDENTS, INC.,
 a Florida not for profit corporation

By: _____
 Joseph Pfountz, as Treasurer

DocuSigned by:
Joseph E Pfountz
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EXHIBIT A

**ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT
of the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION of STEP UP
FOR STUDENTS - FLORIDA, INC. (A NOT-FOR-
PROFIT CORPORATION)**

FILED
2022 JAN 10 AM 9:24
CLERK OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The name of this corporation is Step Up For Students - Florida, Inc. (the "*Corporation*").

**ARTICLE II
PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS**

The principal office and the mailing address of the Corporation shall be located at 4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400, Jacksonville, Florida 32256.

**ARTICLE III
PURPOSES**

The Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively as a corporation not-for-profit and for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "*Code*"), and the Treasury Regulations issued thereunder, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law. More specifically to empower parents to pursue and engage in the most appropriate learning options for their children, with an emphasis on families who lack the financial resources to access these options. By pursuing this mission, we help public education fulfill the promise of equal opportunity.

**ARTICLE IV
POWERS**

The Corporation shall have the general power to do all lawful acts, as conferred upon corporations not-for-profit by Section 617.0302, Florida Statutes, including all those things necessary or expedient to carry out the purposes and responsibilities of the Corporation.

Notwithstanding the generality of the foregoing, the powers of the Corporation shall be subject to the following limitations and restrictions:

- (a) The Corporation shall have no power to do any act inconsistent with the provisions of Sections 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Code, or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Laws and the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by (i) a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax

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under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, or (ii) a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Code, or any other corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

(b) No part of the income, profit or assets of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, directly or indirectly, its directors, officers, or other private persons; provided however, that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III of these Articles of Incorporation; and

(c) No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE V MEMBERS

This Corporation shall have one (1) member, Step Up For Students, Inc., a Florida not for profit corporation (the "*Member*"), and the conditions of membership shall be as set forth in the Corporation's Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(a) All corporate powers shall be exercised under the authority of, and the affairs of the Corporation shall be managed under the direction of the Board of Directors, except as otherwise provided by law or in these Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws of the Corporation.

(b) The Corporation shall have nine (9) directors as of the filing of these Articles of Incorporation. The number of directors may be increased or decreased from time to time according to the Bylaws, but shall never be no fewer than five (5) or no more than twelve (12).

(c) The Members of the Board of Directors, as applicable, shall have the power to elect additional or successor directors and shall have the power to remove any existing director as provided in the Bylaws.

(d) The names and addresses of the members of the Board of Directors are as follows:

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NAME	ADDRESS
John Kirtley	4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
Allison Hertog	4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
Curtis Stokes	4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
Paul Sherman	4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
Richard Outram	4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
Alfred "Al" Lawson, Jr.	4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
Terry Jove	4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
John Legg	4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400 Jacksonville, Florida 32256
Denisha Merriweather	4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400 Jacksonville, Florida 32256

**ARTICLE VII
OFFICERS**

(a) The officers of the Corporation shall be a President, a Treasurer and a Secretary, and such other officers as may be provided by the Bylaws.

(b) The officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Directors at their annual meeting or at such other times as provided in the Bylaws.

(c) The names of the officers of the Corporation are as follows:

Doug Tuthill	President
Joseph Pfountz	Treasurer
Anne White	Secretary
Gina Lynch	Chief Operating Officer
Lesley Searcy	Chief External Affairs Officer

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**ARTICLE VIII
INITIAL REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT**

The street address of the initial registered office of the Corporation is 4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400, Jacksonville, Florida 32256; the name of the initial registered agent of the Corporation at that address is Joseph Pfountz.

**ARTICLE IX
DURATION AND COMMENCEMENT**

The Corporation shall exist perpetually unless dissolved according to the provisions of the Amended and Restated Bylaws, or the laws of the State of Florida.

**ARTICLE X
BYLAWS**

(a) The Member may provide such Bylaws for the conduct of the business of the Corporation and the carrying out of its purposes as they may deem necessary from time to time, including, but not limited to, provisions for the quorum and voting requirements for meetings and activities of the Board of Directors; provided, however, that such Bylaws shall not conflict with any of the provisions of these Articles of Incorporation.

(b) The Bylaws may be amended, altered or rescinded by the Member.

**ARTICLE XI
AMENDMENTS**

Upon proper notice, these Articles of Incorporation may be amended, altered, changed or repealed by the Member. All power and authority conferred hereby upon officers and the Board of Directors of the Corporation are granted subject to the further amendment of these Articles of Incorporation.

**ARTICLE XII
CORPORATE LIQUIDATION AND DISSOLUTION**

No person, firm or corporation shall ever receive any dividends or profits from the undertaking of the Corporation, and upon dissolution, the assets of the Corporation, after all debts and liabilities are paid, shall be distributed at the direction of the Member:

(a) to one or more organizations qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, that have purposes similar to the charitable purposes of the Corporation;

(b) to the federal government or a state or local government, for public purposes similar to the charitable purposes of the Corporation consistent with Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

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or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, and in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida;

(c) upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction, to another organization to be used in such manner as in the judgment of the court will best accomplish the charitable purposes of this Corporation; or

(d) to some combination of the foregoing.

ARTICLE XIII LIMITATIONS ON CORPORATE POWER

Should the corporation at any time be considered a "*Private Foundation*" under Section 509(a) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, the following limitations will apply:

(a) The Corporation will distribute its income for each tax year at such time and in such manner so that it will not become subject to the tax on undistributed income imposed by Section 4942 of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law;

(b) The Corporation will not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Section 4941(d) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law;

(c) The Corporation will not retain any excess business holdings as defined in Section 4943(c) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law;

(d) The Corporation will not make any investments in a manner that would subject it to tax under Section 4944 of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law; and

(e) The Corporation will not make any taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d) of the Code, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

ARTICLE XIV INDEMNIFICATION

The Corporation shall indemnify the Member, officers, directors, employees and agents to the full extent permitted by the Florida Not-For-Profit Corporation Act, provided, however that no such indemnification shall be permitted if such indemnification would violate the purposes of the Corporation as specified in Article III of these Articles of Incorporation or would be inconsistent

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with the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) and Section 170(c)(2) of the Code, or corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Laws.

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**CERTIFICATE DESIGNATING PLACE OF BUSINESS
FOR THE SERVICE OF PROCESS WITHIN THIS STATE
NAMING AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED**

Pursuant to Chapter 48.091, Florida Statutes, the following is submitted, in compliance with the Act:

That Step Up For Students - Florida, Inc., desiring to incorporate under the laws of the State of Florida, has named Joseph Pfountz, located at 4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 400, Jacksonville, Florida 32256, as its agent to accept service of process within this State.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY REGISTERED AGENT:

Having been named to accept service of process for the Corporation at the place designated in this Certificate, I hereby accept to act in this capacity and agree to comply with the provision of the Act relative to keeping open such office.

Date: 11/23/2021, 2021

DocuSigned by:
Joseph E Pfountz
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Joseph Pfountz

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2022 JAN 10 AM 9:24
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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