



**Special Meeting of the
Board of Directors of Citizens of the World Kansas City**

Date: Saturday, July 24th, 2021, 8:00AM

Proposed Minutes

1. Call to Order

Mr. MacDonald called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

Mr. MacDonald welcomed the members of the public in attendance and gave an overview of the meeting order.

2. Roll Call by Board Chair

Mr. MacDonald proceeded with roll call.

Present:

Ms. Brandi Finocchario
Mr. Jim MacDonald
Dr. Sarah Hicks (8:20 am)
Mr. Miguel Meneses
Mr. Luke Norris
Ms. Selina Rios
Mr. Derrick Nelson

Absent:

Mr. Jeff Phillips
Ms. Maria Salcedo

Mr. MacDonald determined that with 6 of 9 (later 7 of 9) Board Members present, a quorum is established for purposes of holding the meeting and voting.

3. Review & Consideration of Proposed Agenda

The Board did not have any comments regarding the proposed agenda.

Mr. Norris moved to approve the agenda as proposed and Mr. Meneses provided a second to the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

4. Public Comments

Mr. MacDonald introduced himself, thanked the public on the call, and provided an overview of the public comment process and guidelines. Mr. MacDonald then invited public comment. No public comment was made.

5. Board Retreat Date & Format Discussion

Mr. MacDonald reminded the Board that it has been practice to set aside time each year for the Board to reflect on strategic priorities and their role in guiding the organization. Traditionally the Board has held a retreat in lieu of a meeting in July and Mr. MacDonald proposed an early August in-person retreat at the school building.

Dr. Hicks joined 8:20 am.

Mr. MacDonald quickly surveyed the Board about preferences for in-person versus Zoom; in-person was the strong preference. He then surveyed the Board on scheduling. Discussion on personal availability was held, with a decision to pencil in August 28th from 8am-1pm. The Board then held discussion on tentative topics.

6. Return to School Update (Mr. Jon Hile)

Mr. Hile reported that the Reopening Committee has convened and met over the past month to provide recommendations to the Board. Ms. Finocchiaro, Mr. Nelson (Board Members), Mr. Hile, Ms. Friend, Mrs. Gripp, and Mr. Gonzalez (Citizens Staff), Ms. Massey, Ms. DeWilde, Ms. Banks, and Ms. Boyd (Citizens Parents) served on the Committee.

The Committee recommends the following:

- Universal masking (staff and students) continues, which is aligned with AAP Recommendations
- The school will continue to advocate for accurate vaccine information and vaccine access with staff, parents, and eligible students.
- Clarity that Citizens will, as a school, will continue to make covid decisions based on what is best for students. As such, the school will make a clear statement of encouragement and preference that all staff medically able receive vaccination and that all staff and parents are committed to following mitigation measures in place.
- An incentive for vaccinated staff (i.e. a \$250 gift card) for anyone fully vaccinated by September 1, 2021 and additional PTO coverage for vaccinated staff who have to miss work due to illness/quarantine due to covid.

Mr. MacDonald started the Board conversation with a word of thanks to everyone who served on the Committee and their thoughtful approach. He then asked for clarification on what continued vaccine advocacy looks like – will that be extended to just staff or to parents as well? Mr. Hile replied both; he would look to Ms. Friend to continue her weekly covid update message to staff and parents and have that message be a conduit of information to parents.

Mr. MacDonald asked how the school will we respond to parent inquiries regarding information about staff vaccinations? Mr. Hile affirmed that the Committee is discussing with legal counsel how best the school can answer that question to balance information vs privacy.

Mr. MacDonald asked if the masking policy is open-ended? Mr. Hile affirmed it could be adjusted based on information.

Mr. Norris asked if the "school opening gating criteria" is still in place? Mr. Hile replied that the school will need to modify it because DESE has removed the hybrid model as an option, so the school will need to update the criteria and options accordingly.

Mr. MacDonald asked Mr. Hile to confirm that the school is not planning to provide a virtual option this year? Mr. Hile confirmed that the school is not planning to at this time; leadership and staff focus is on starting the school year full-time in person, but he is certainly listening to parent feedback though.

Mr. MacDonald asked for the staff incentive, is there a litmus test for proof (i.e. showing vaccination cards)? Mr. Hile affirmed so, and said this was another area the Committee is working through with counsel.

Mr. MacDonald asked for clarity that we are extending the PTO portion of the "covid extended PTO" policy only to those staff vaccinated. Mr. Hile affirmed so.

Dr. Hicks shared that she is curious if a negative repercussion could be a lack of self-reporting and thus encouraging unvaccinated, exposed staff to still report to work. Mr. Hile replied that he would love to assume all staff would always put the well-being of students first, but there is an inherent trust in that. However, he believes the risk is outweighed by the encouragement of staff to be vaccinated.

Mr. Norris suggested a level of compromise (first 2 days covered perhaps); Mr. Hile agreed that he will look at it.

Mr. MacDonald asked if these recommendations are ready for Board action? Mr. Hile replied that this is just an update on current recommendations and he will bring these to the August meeting.

Mr. Hile then asked the Board if he could provide an update on student enrollment. He shared that the school has continued to see tremendous growth over the past month and now are projecting almost 30 students over budget. He is confident we will fill Kindergarten, the school is now supporting a waitlist at almost every other Elementary grade, and is above goal at the Middle School.

Mr. MacDonald asked if other schools are in this good of situation? Mr. Hile replied that he is hearing from other schools that most are not in a position of being at/above their enrollment goal.

7. Closed Session

Pursuant to § 610.021(2) & (13) RSMo, the Board of Directors of CWC Kansas City will enter into closed session to discuss matters related to contracts and individually identifiable personnel records.

Mr. MacDonald Invited Mr. Hile into Closed Session.

Mr. Nelson moved to go into Closed Session and Mr. Norris provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

8. Return from Closed Session; report on any action taken as required.

Mr. MacDonald welcomed members of the public back into Open Session and reported that discussion related to identifiable employees. One action was taken that require reporting, as follows:

Mr. Norris moved to appoint Dr. Thomas Vansaghi as Interim Executive Director. Mr. Nelson provided a second and a roll-call vote was taken:

- Mr. MacDonald Aye
- Ms. Finocchario Aye
- Mr. Nelson Aye
- Mr. Meneses Aye
- Mr. Norris Aye
- Dr. Hicks Aye
- Ms. Rios Aye

The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

9. Adjourn

Mr. Nelson moved to adjourn and Dr. Hicks provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining. The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 am.

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