



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

Location: Westport Plexpod, Meeting Room #2-I
300 E. 39th St.
Kansas City, MO 64111

Online Link (Audio Only):
meet.google.com/aia-znus-mgy
(252) 628-9173 | PIN: 178 892 761#

Date: Thursday, January 19th, 2023, 6:00pm

Proposed Minutes

1. Call to Order

Ms. Finocchario called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Ms. Finocchario welcomed the members of the public in attendance and gave an overview of the meeting order.

2. Roll Call by Board Chair

Ms. Finocchario called roll as follows:

Present:

Hon. Ardie Bland (via video)
Ms. Brandi Finocchario (via video)
Dr. Asia Foster
Mr. Jim MacDonald (via video)
Mr. Luke Norris (via video)
Ms. Selina Rios (via video, 6:02pm)

Absent:

Dr. Sarah Hicks
Mr. Jeff Phillips

Ms. Finocchario determined that with 5 of 8 (later 6 of 8) Board Members present, a quorum is established for purposes of holding the meeting and voting.

3. Review & Consideration of Proposed Agenda *[Board Action]*

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

Mr. MacDonald moved to approve the agenda as modified and Dr. Foster provided a second to the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

4. Public Comments

Ms. Rios joined at 6:02pm.

Ms. Finocchario introduced herself, thanked the public on the call, and provided an overview of the public comment process and guidelines. Ms. Finocchario then invited public comment; no public comment was made.

5. Consent Agenda *[Board Action]*

- a. Review & Consideration of minutes from the December 15th, 2022 regular meeting of the Board
- b. School Dashboard
- c. Strategic Plan Dashboard
- d. Board & Committee Calendar
- e. Staffing Report
- f. Review & Consideration of Rescheduling the March 2023 Regular Board Meeting from March 23 to March 16.

Ms. Finocchario presented the Consent Agenda and asked the Board if any member wanted to remove an item from the Consent Agenda in order to further discuss and/or solely vote on that item; no member did.

Hon. Bland moved to approve the Consent Agenda as proposed and Dr. Foster provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

6. New Business *[Board Action]*

- a. Review & Consideration of Charter Renewal Amendment: Enrollment Projection

Dr. Miles proposed Amendment #2 to the school's 2021 Charter Renewal, an update to projected enrollment. With the decision for K-8 grades to remain at Broadway for the 2023-24 school year, the charter needed to reflect an updated enrollment projection.

Hon. Bland moved to approve Amendment as proposed and Mr. MacDonald provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

7. Board Committee Business & Reports

- a. **Finance & Operations Committee** (Mr. Jeff Phillips)
 - i. Finance Committee Report *[Information/Discussion]*

In Mr. Phillips' absence, Mr. Brennan presented the Finance & Operations Committee Report. He recounted that the Committee discussed two items: a potential Employee Retention Credit filing and the regular monthly financials.

1. Employee Retention Credit Filing

Mr. Brennan reported that the Committee discussed an opportunity to submit for an Employee Retention Credit under the CARES Act. CWCS is working with a tax credit attorney in California and confirmed CWCLA was eligible for a fairly significant credit; they passed along the contact information to Dr. Miles and Mr. Brennan. They met with the California attorney who did a preliminary review and believed the school would be eligible as well. MCPSA was not aware of the opportunity, but in talking with KPM (the school's Auditor), they have an ERC team that could handle the filing as well. After discussion, the Committee agreed to engage KPM for the filing and that work will begin in mid-February. The Committee will continue to update the Board.

ii. Review & Consideration of Monthly Financials (December 2022), including Check Register [Board Action]

In reviewing the monthly financials, Mr. Brennan noted that December marks the end of the first half of FY23. The school is in better financial position than anticipated, largely due to funding equity (higher WADA) and the 'hold harmless' provision (higher ADA) which have combined to increase total State revenue.

As a reminder, this increase in revenue allowed the Board to approve employee mid-year raises effective January 2023 and defer the use of \$400K in ESSER III funds into FY24. Additionally, the Board approved an investment of \$160K in facilities work at Broadway to prepare for the FY24 school year. These changes have been incorporated into the December financials. Overall, while these changes have decreased the year-end revenue projection since November, the school still finds itself ahead of the original budget by \$611k.

Page 4's Key Performance Indicators show a projected 88 Days of Cash on Hand at year-end, above the 60-day goal.

Page 5's Balance Sheet shows a current Cash balance of \$866k, with a projected year-end balance of \$1.6m.

Page 6's Income Statement shows:

- Year-to-date revenue of \$3.2m, against a budget of \$3m
- Year-to-date expenses of \$3.2m, against a budget of \$3.2m.
- Forecasted year-end revenue of \$7.5m, against a budget of \$6.5m. This is after moving \$400k of ESSER funding to FY24.
- Forecasted year-end expenses of \$6.8m, against a budget of \$6.5m. This is also after factoring in salary increases and facilities work.
- Forecasted year-end Net Income of \$750k against a budget of \$140k.

Page 7's line items do not show anything unexpected.

Page 8's grant update is virtually unchanged from November. One new piece of information is that the school received good news on the pending Combat application, but it will more than likely come through for FY24. This means the school will now have about \$70k remaining to fund-raise with a little more than 5 months to receive funds. The Committee will closely monitor over the coming months and report accordingly, but wanted to flag if any Member had grant opportunities to investigate, please let Dr. Miles know.

Lastly, Mr. Brennan reported that the school had an HVAC failure over Winter Break. The Operations Team worked with the HVAC contractor over the past few weeks to identify the problem and it appears we will need replacement of two coils. This project will be in the \$50-60k range and is not reflected on these financials. The Committee will work to incorporate and hopefully offset somewhere.

Nothing was noted as out of order on the Check Register or Accounts Payable.

Dr. Foster moved to approve December Financial Report and Check Register as proposed and Hon. Bland provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

b. **Educational Equity Committee** (Ms. Selina Rios) *[Information/Discussion]*

i. Review of 2022-23 Winter NWEA Assessment Data

Ms. Rios asked Dr. Miles to present the Winter 2022 NWEA data and reminded the Board that the assessment was given to students in December.

Dr. Miles reminded the Board that NWEA assesses proficiency, but more importantly, growth from earlier in the fall.

In Math (which she reported was not the key academic focus of this school year), 24% of students scored Proficient/Advanced; she expects that to grow throughout the year.

In ELA, which is the key academic focus of this school year, Dr. Miles reported seeing gains moving from Below Basic to Basic, and Basic to Proficient. While 33% of students scored Proficient/Advanced, she specifically highlighted 5th grade, which is seeing significant quadrant movement. Additionally, 8th grade is scoring well (64% Proficient/Advanced) but is a small group of students.

Looking at the data for growth, year-over-year gains were made in both subjects. The percentage of students who met their projected growth targets in Math grew from 39% (2021-22) to 43%, and from 37% to 46% in ELA. The school's goal is 50% and there is still time to hit that goal, although the school has already met the charter goal for this year.

In Math, 30% of all students are On or Above the national average, with 2nd Grade leading at 52%. Growth-wise, 6th and 8th grade made the greatest increases, with 58% and 73% respectively. The school has a high number of students coming to Citizens at low achievement level, so while they made great growth gains, it did not bump them into the next quartile category. Dr. Miles does expect to see that soon though.

In ELA, 39% of students are On or Above the national average, with 8th grade (64%), 5th grade (48%) and 2nd grade (48%) leading the way. Growth was 46% overall hitting their target, and again only reflected fall to winter; the school goal is 50% fall to spring, so that growth is still coming too. 7th grade (68%) and 6th grade (50%) led the way.

Breaking the data down by demographic breakdown, students of color are still not performing as well as White students in either subject. Again, growth gains are seen at an individual level, but not jumping quartiles yet.

In Math growth, Black/African-American students are almost performing as well as White students; Hispanic/Latino students are outperforming both groups. Mixed Race students are not performing as well, and school staff will dive further into that.

In ELA growth, the data shows the same trend – Black/African-American students and White students are performing at a similar rate.

Looking at further subcategories, Free/Reduced Lunch is performing similar to all students, while IEP and ELL students are performing a little behind. However, from a growth perspective, 40 % of IEP students hit their target and 67% of ELL hit their targets – both significantly better than last year. Dr. Miles believes that the ELL data is due to a gap in instruction – the school has increased rigor and changed curriculum and now need to give additional instruction and support to students in that area.

Dr. Bland asked what percentage of students are new this year? Dr. Miles responded about 30% are new and further stated that a more in-depth report on NWEA:Enrollment Length correlation will be presented next month.

c. **Executive Committee** (Ms. Brandi Finocchario) *[Information/Discussion]*

- i. Discussion on partnering with Kent Peterson (The Strategic Organization) for Board Training and Development

Ms. Finocchario reported that the Committee discussed partnering with Mr. Kent Peterson for Board training and development. Ms. Finocchario and Dr. Miles will meet with Mr. Peterson in the near future to begin planning and discuss structure.

- ii. Discussion on Peer Charter Schools

Dr. Miles shared for awareness that MCPSC issued a notice of revocation to Genesis Charter, effective 6/30. A Public Hearing is pending, as well as a formal decision from the Commission.

She additionally shared that Hogan Prep received a second letter of concern regarding their academics, with potential additional action following.

With the additional school closures from KCPS, the Kansas City educational landscape is changing. Dr. Foster asked if there is a plan to engage these families? Dr. Miles responded that, after the hearing and if a decision is finalized, then yes; the school will partner with ShowMe KC Schools and begin individually engaging families and students.

- iii. Discussion on upcoming Board Member Term Expirations

Ms. Finocchario reminded the Board that three Members have terms expiring at the end of March: Mr. Norris, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. MacDonald. Mr. Norris is term limited and ineligible for immediate reappointment and Mr. Phillips is now ineligible for reappointment due to non-Missouri residency.

Dr. Miles said the Board would need to present potential Board members in February so they can be voted on in March. Dr. Miles and Mr. Brennan are networking at the school level and Mr. Norris and Mr. Phillips are networking at the Board level. Dr. Miles specifically asked for leads to

be given to her in the next two weeks, with a specific ideal focus on real estate/architecture/construction.

- d. **Facilities Committee** (Dr. Danielle Miles) *[Information/Discussion]*
i. Discussion on additional site location

Dr. Miles reported that the Committee met with MultiStudio at the 3421 property. Discussion was held about potential renovation. Mr. Norris will engage in further conversation next week with Centric to get a cost estimate, then acquisition options may be discussed.

As-is, 3421 would give the school two additional classrooms and additional space for parking and playground.

8. **Executive Director's Report** (Dr. Danielle Miles) *[Information/Discussion]*
a. Student Recruitment Update (Ms. Katy Lineberry)

Mrs. Lineberry reported that 2022-23 enrollment is holding steady since November - almost all withdrawing students have left due to a family move out of district.

The school is two months into the lottery application period, which closes on March 1st. December was a slow month as expected, but it is picking up again with 20 applications submitted in the last week and four signups increasing. She has scheduled the following upcoming recruitment events:

- School Saturday on January 28th, 10 am to 12 pm - we would love for board members to stop by!
- Operation Breakthrough Kindergarten Roundup on February 7th
- PreK School Fair on February 8th

Current student re-enrollment also begins February 1st and Mrs. Lineberry is executing an all-school outreach plan for the month.

9. **Adjourn** *[Board Action]*

Dr. Foster moved to adjourn and Ms. Rios provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 pm.

[/rb]