



PUBLIC NOTICE
Regular Meeting of the
Board of Directors of Citizens of the World Kansas City

Location: Westport Plexpod, Meeting Room #2-1
300 E. 39th St.
Kansas City, MO 64111

Date: Thursday, November 16th, 2023, 6:00pm

Proposed Agenda

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
Mrs. Lydia Butler
Mrs. Angela DeWilde (6:07pm)
Ms. Brandi Finocchario
Dr. Asia Foster
Dr. Sarah Hicks
Ms. Selina Rios

Absent:

Mr. Roosevelt Lyons
Mr. Jim MacDonald

Ms. Finocchario 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 *[Board Action]*

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

Hon. Bland moved to approve the agenda as presented and Ms. Rios provided a second to the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

4. Public Comments

Ms. Finocchario introduced herself, thanked the public, 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 October 19th, 2023 regular meeting of the Board
- b. School Dashboard
- c. Strategic Plan Dashboard
- d. Board & Committee Calendar
- e. Staffing Report
- f. Events Calendar

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

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

6. Board Training *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Miles reminded the Board that during the October Board meeting, the Board watched a video relating to equity. She shared an article titled "Unequal Opportunities in Education" to further continue that equity conversation. Dr. Miles invited conversation and input on additional resources the Board would like her to gather.

Mrs. DeWilde joined at 6:04pm.

Ms. Finocchario led Board reflective conversation.

7. Board Committee Business & Reports

- a. **Facilities Committee** *[Information/Discussion]*
 - i. LevelField Presentation

Dr. Miles welcomed Mr. Endom and Mr. Rossley (LevelField). Mr. Endom & Mr. Rossley reminded the Board that the Broadway facility has an additional 2 years on the lease. There are two primary drawbacks the school is experiencing with this facility:

- 1) Enrollment capacity of approximately 400 students.
- 2) The site does not boast space to support additional/supplemental programming, especially at the middle school level.

Mr. Rossley presented three short-term facility options:

- 1) Remain at Broadway *as-is* for remaining two years of existing lease
- 2) Remain at Broadway *with modular classrooms* for 1-2 years of existing lease
- 3) Remain at Broadway *as-is* for remaining two years of existing lease and *possibly lease additional temporary space*.

For these short-term options, a decision is needed by late January 2024.

He then presented two long-term facility options:

- 1) Identify, acquire, and renovate as needed a *new permanent facility* for occupancy in Summer 2026.
- 2) *Purchase Broadway* and renovate/expand it to make it the school's permanent facility.

A decision is needed by June 2024 to allow for a two-year preparatory runway.

Mr. Rossley reported that the Committee is actively considering and exploring all five options, then asked for questions from the Board.

Mrs. DeWilde asked for enrollment projections.

Dr. Foster asked how modular classrooms would impact scheduling and daily routines. Dr. Miles; replied that the primary planning focus is currently on student safety (including behavior support), facility utility connections, and parking/playground impact.

Dr. Hicks asked if there are nearby lease options currently under consideration; Dr. Miles replied that LevelField's recent and thorough searching has not identified any current options.

b. Finance & Operations Committee (Mrs. Lydia Butler)

- i. Review & Consideration of Monthly Financials (October 2023), including Check Register [Board Action]

Mrs. Butler then presented the October Financial Report and stated that the Finance Committee did not note anything as out of order on the Check Register or Accounts Payable.

She presented page 5's Balance Sheet, showing a current Cash Balance of \$1.6m, with a projected year-end balance of \$2.5m.

Page 6's Income Statement showed:

- Year-to-date revenue of \$2.2m, against a budget of \$2.1m.
- Year-to-date expenses of \$2.45m, against a budget of \$2.2m.
- Net Income of (-\$230k), against a budget of (-\$134k.)
- Forecasted year-end revenue of \$7.6m, against a budget of \$7.4m.
- Forecasted year-end expenses of \$6.8m, against a budget of \$6.7m.
- Forecasted year-end Net Income of \$764k against a budget of \$795k.

She noted that this reflected a current 138 projected days of cash on hand position (-1 days from last month).

Dr. Hicks moved to approve the October Financial Report and Check Register as proposed and Dr. Hicks provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

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

i. Update on Charter Board Draft - Qualifications

Dr. Hicks reported that the Executive Committee is beginning to plan for the next "Charter School Board Draft," in summer 2024. The Committee reviewed a board skills matrix and identified the following priorities:

High:

- Experience in Human Resources
- Access to strong Civic network
- Strengths in Financial Resources
- Visionary

Moderate:

- Education (PK to Higher Education) – since Hicks/Foster will be rotating off in 25
- Real estate/developer

Dr. Miles confirmed she is going to ask the Draft team for two selections.

Hon. Bland affirmed his experience with BLAQUE and encouraged the school to continue with this Board Draft process.

ii. Update on Board & Committee Calendar

Dr. Miles also highlighted that the Board Packet contains an updated version of the Board and Committee calendar with standing meetings at the top and a simplified version of Board tasks in the second tier. She asked for feedback on additional items to include.

d. **Brand Identity Committee** (Ms. Angela DeWilde) *[Information/Discussion]*

i. Update on Committee Discussion

Mrs. DeWilde reported that the Committee met and held additional discussion. The Committee had nothing further to report.

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

Ms. Rios reported that the Committee did not meet this month and therefore does not have anything to report.

8. Executive Director's Report (Dr. Danielle Miles) *[Information/Discussion]*

i. 2024-2025 Enrollment Update (Mrs. Katy Lineberry)

Mrs. Lineberry provided a snapshot of the school's current enrollment, highlighting a net increase of 28 students enrolling since Day 1 and significantly reduced numbers (compared to prior years) for mid-year withdrawals. Further, reasons for those withdrawals have primarily been due to relocation and after care; very few dissatisfaction.

Mrs. Lineberry also reported that the School Fair occurred this past Saturday. From that, she has seen an increase of interest in Kindergarten, but has not yet seen that translate into actual applications. She attributes that to a new Director of SchoolAppKC (and their marketing push to the fair instead of the application opening) as well as more "I've heard about you and I'm excited" word of mouth.

She also shared that she has sent a survey to current families regarding their willingness to assist with recruitment effort methods (social media posts, yard signs, online reviews).

Dr. Miles encouraged Mrs. Lineberry and told the Board Mrs. Lineberry has also done a great job putting together the Student Ambassadors program.

Hon. Bland asked what schools are similar to Citizens. Dr. Miles replied that, geographically, Académie Lafayette and Foreign Language are nearby, Gordon Parks is on Linwood, Allen Village is in Midtown, and both Faxon Elementary and Lincoln are within 2 miles. Demographically, Citizens is unique with a broadly racially diverse environment, balanced by a ~60%ish Free/Reduced Lunch rate. A significant challenge is that white students generally enter the school (regardless of grade) with a higher academic level, so being able to quickly close that gap to be able to provide equitable instruction/learning is paramount.

Hon. Bland also asked if the projections are designed so that the 6th and 8th grade populations (numbers) are different? Dr. Miles said, yes, the 8th grade class is smaller due to attrition. The school loses a fair number of students from 5th to 6th going to Lincoln, and from 6th to 7th going to Paseo). Further, this year's 7th grade cohort is just big.

Lastly, Mrs. Lineberry reminded the Board that the school will start re-enrollment in February and leadership will closely watch retention.

9. Closed Session

Pursuant to § 610.021 (1) and (2) RSMo, the Board Committee will enter into closed session to discuss matters related to (1) Legal actions, and (2) Leasing, purchase, or sale of real estate.

a. Roll Call Vote to Enter *[Board Action]*

Mr. Finocchario invited Dr. Miles, Mr. Brennan, and Mr. Durphy (counsel) to Closed Session.

Ms. Finocchario moved to enter Closed Session and Dr. Hicks provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved via roll call, as follows:

Hon. Ardie Bland	Aye
Mrs. Lydia Butler	Aye
Mrs. Angela DeWilde	Aye
Ms. Brandi Finocchario	Aye
Dr. Asia Foster	Aye
Dr. Sarah Hicks	Aye
Ms. Selina Rios	Aye

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

Ms. Finocchario welcomed members of the public back into Open Session and reported that discussion related to (1) Legal actions and attorney communication, and (2) Leasing, purchase, or sale of real estate. No action was taken that requires reporting.

11. Adjourn *[Board Action]*

Ms. Rios moved to adjourn and Ms. Butler provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

[/rb]