



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

**Location:** Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Online Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82794342191>

Passcode: gDSV3J

(253) 205-0468 | 126632

**Date:** Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 6:00pm

**Proposed Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Finocchario called the meeting to order at 6:03 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 (all via video):

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

Mr. Jim MacDonald (6:12 pm)

Absent:

Ms. Finocchario determined that with 8 of 9 (later 9 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]*

Dr. Miles requested to add to add a topic about scheduling the Missouri Charter Public School Commission's Annual Site Visit to the ED Report.

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

*Hon. Bland moved to approve the agenda as modified 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 December 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 item from the Consent Agenda in order to further discuss and/or solely vote on that item; no member did.

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

### **6. Board Committee Business & Reports**

#### **a. Facilities Committee** *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Miles shared that the school is still in a holding pattern while InSite continues their site search. In the meantime, LevelField is reducing their monthly retainer to reflect the decreased engagement work. Currently, LevelField is working with IFF to solidify expected future rent increases and she will give the Board additional updates as that gets finalized.

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

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

Mrs. Butler presented the December Financial Report and highlighted page 7's Balance Sheet, showing a current Cash Balance just under \$1.8m, with a projected year-end balance of just under \$2.6m.

She shared Page 8's Income Statement, highlighting:

- Year-to-date revenue of \$3.4m, against a budget of \$3.4m.
- Year-to-date expenses of \$3.4m, against a budget of \$3.3m.
- Net Income of (-\$28k), against a budget of \$75k.
- Forecasted year-end revenue of \$7.6m, against a budget of \$7.5m.
- Forecasted year-end expenses of \$6.8m, against a budget of \$6.7m.
- Forecasted year-end Net Income of \$754k against a budget of \$795k.

Mrs. Butler also noted that this reflects a current 137 projected days of cash on hand position, a decrease of two days from last month. Additionally, she reported that the school is now tracking to receive about \$100k less local grants than budgeted for the year.

Lastly, she stated that the Finance Committee did not note anything as out of order on the Check Register or Accounts Payable.

Mr. MacDonald joined at 6:12pm

*Mrs. Butler moved to approve the December Financial Report and Check Register as proposed and Mrs. DeWilde provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.*

c. **Executive Committee** (Ms. Brandi Finocchiaro)

i. Discussion of Executive Director Evaluation Timeline *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Hicks reminded the Board that the Committee will begin Dr. Miles' evaluation later in the Spring with the goal of presenting it to the full Board during the June meeting.

Dr. Miles asked the Board if it would be helpful to include those goals in the Board packet? The Board agreed and Dr. Hicks said she had an updated document and will share with Dr. Miles to include in the packet.

ii. Review & Consideration of Employee Referral Policy *[Board Action]*

Dr. Miles shared that the best referrals often come from existing employees and she would like to incentivize that. She is proposing employees would receive a \$1,000 incentive -- 50% when an applicant accepts an offer and 50% if the applicant is still employed on 9/15. The Leadership team would not be eligible to receive the incentive, and the incentive would only apply to the filling of certified positions (not support/leadership). The candidate would also have to declare the referral on their original employment application. Dr. Miles said the school has a bit of a financial cushion to support this incentive due to last year's collected resignation fees.

The Board also discussed identifying select positions (i.e. Math Teacher) as "difficult to fill" and increase the referral bonus, but tabled for now.

*Mr. Lyons moved to approve the Employee Referral Policy as proposed and Dr. Foster provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.*

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

Mrs. DeWilde shared the Committee did not meet this month and thus does not have a report.

- e. **Educational Equity Committee** (Ms. Selina Rios) *[Information/Discussion]*  
i. Presentation of Winter 2023 NWEA Data

Ms. Rios asked Dr. Miles to present a summary of the Winter 2023 NWEA assessment data.

Dr. Miles reminded the Board that the school's charter "Academic Goal #5" for 2023-24 holds that 55% of CWCKC students will meet both Math and ELA projected growth targets as measured by NWEA's MAP projection. Currently, 48% of students are meeting targets in ELA and 46% in Math; she did note that half the year still remains for continued growth.

Overall, students performed as follows:

- Math: 10% advanced, 17% proficient (27% A+P), 28% basic, 46% below basic
- ELA: 16% advanced, 17% proficient (33% A+P), 42% basic, 25% below basic

By grade level, 4<sup>th</sup> grade notably performed the best in Math (47% A+P), while 4<sup>th</sup> (42% A+P) and 8<sup>th</sup> (44% A+P) performed the best in ELA.

In Math, Kindergarten (54%) and 4<sup>th</sup> grade (48%) have the highest percentage of students performing on/above the national average, with the others between 18%-42%. In ELA, 8<sup>th</sup> grade (48%) and 4<sup>th</sup> grade (46%) have the highest percentage of students performing on/above the national average, with the other grades between 20%-41%.

Pivoting from achievement to growth, looking at Math, all grades had at least 50% of their students meet projected growth targets, with the exception of Kindergarten (48%) and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. In ELA, Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup> grade were under 50%, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> were above 50%, and 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> were quite a bit above 50% (6<sup>th</sup> grade with 76% and 8<sup>th</sup> grade with 81%).

Then looking at student subgroup (race/ethnicity) performance, Dr. Miles reminded the Board that the charter goal was <10% variance between groups. In actuality, White students continue to outperform non-White students in ELA (65% A+P), although less pronounced in Math (61% A+P). In growth data, the variance narrowed. In Math growth, 62% of White students met their targets while Hispanic/Latino (56%), Black/African-American (48%) and Mixed Race (46%) trailed just behind. In ELA growth, 54% of Hispanic/Latino students met their targets while White (53%), Black/African-American (50%), and Mixed Race (38%) also trailed.

Dr. Miles lastly presented a breakdown of additional student subgroup performance and growth.

In summary:

- Six grade levels met and/or exceeded the student growth target in Math.
- Five out of nine grade levels met and/or exceeded the student growth target in ELA.
- Hispanic and White students have met and/or exceeded the growth targets in Math.
- Hispanic, White, and Black students are approaching 55%.
- English Language Learners met and/or exceeded growth targets in ELA and Math.

Dr. Miles noted the following action steps:

- K-2 teachers to receive coaching in the next cycle.
- Development of a Math Instructional Committee to develop vision for instructional strategies, curriculum alignment to standards/assessments, and an outline for professional learning opportunities.

Dr. Miles also noted that the charter goals are end-of-year goals, not up-through-Winter goals, so there is still ground to gain!

ii. Review of 2023 MO Annual Performance Report Data

Dr. Miles presented the school's 2023 MSIP-6 Annual Performance Report (Year 2 of the MSIP-6 data track), as follows:

- Performance: 50.1/88 points (56.9%)
- Continuous Improvement: 48/52 points (92.3%)
- Overall: 98.1/140 points (70%)

She noted that "Performance" measures achievement and growth performance on state testing (Success Ready Students: Number of 8<sup>th</sup> graders who earned performance levels of Proficient or Advanced on ELA or Math) and "Continuous Improvement" measures Success Ready Students: Kindergarten Assessment, ICAP for 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and attendance.

Dr. Miles presented a further breakdown of the "Performance" rating, by English/Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science Status (all rated "Approaching"), and English/Language Arts (Above Average) and Mathematics (Average) Growth. Again, this is based on number of students who scored Proficient or Advanced on MAP. Last year, the school had 10 8<sup>th</sup> graders and those students did not perform well. Looking at this year's data, Dr. Miles anticipates growth here and she further expects similar results in performance and additional points in growth.

Dr. Miles presented a further breakdown of the "Continuous Improvement" rating, noting 100% points earned in Improvement Plan, Climate & Culture Survey, Kindergarten Entry Assessment, ICAP, and Required Documentation (Audit, ASBR, and MOSIS/Core Data Submissions), but 0% points earned in Attendance. Clearly Attendance is a target area – there is a specific group of low-attending students that are holding these points back.

Dr. Miles is waiting on confirmation that she can share peer school's comparison data and how Citizens compares.

Mrs. DeWilde asked how this data compares to previous years; Dr. Miles replied the data is very similar.

Mr. Lyons shared there is currently a bill moving through state legislature with a focus to change the focus of APR scores to student growth scores, specifically moving growth from 24% of the score to 50%.

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

i. Missouri Charter Public School Commission Visit

Dr. Miles confirmed that the Commission is doing their annual site visit in February and they would like to meet with the Board in a Working Session either before or after February's board meeting. She will work on scheduling and update the Board.

ii. Update on Blaque KC Meet & Greet

Dr. Miles reported that she attended a Blaque KC Meet % Greet last month to kick off this recruitment cycle; she needs a Board representative for future events. Hon Bland volunteered, but requested as much advance notice for meetings if possible. Ms. Rios and Dr. Foster volunteered as backups.

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

Dr. Miles reported that current year's enrollment continues to increase. The school saw a bit of churn over Winter Break, but are on track to net zero with students planning to start in the next week. She continues to be proud of the enrollment stability this year.

Looking ahead to next year's enrollment requests, the school has received a good number of Kindergarten requests and a solid sprinkling throughout other grade levels. The school is planning an Open House in March, just after lottery offers are extended, that Mrs. Lineberry is already advertising.

## 8. Closed Session

Pursuant to § 610.021(1) RSMo, the Board will enter into closed session to discuss matters related to (1) Legal actions

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

Ms. Finocchario invited Dr. Miles & Mr. Brennan 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
Mr. Jim McDonald	Aye
Ms. Brandi Finocchario	Aye
Dr. Asia Foster	Aye
Mr. Roosevelt Lyons	Aye
Ms. Selina Rios	Aye
Dr. Sarah Hicks	Aye

## 9. 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. No action was taken that requires reporting.

**10. Adjourn** *[Board Action]*

*Mr. MacDonald moved to adjourn and Ms. Rios provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining. The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 pm.*

[/rb]