



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

Location: The Offices at Park 39 (formerly Westport Plexpod), Meeting Room #2-I
300 E. 39th St.
Kansas City, MO 64111

Date: Thursday, March 21st, 2024, 6:00pm

Proposed Minutes

1. Call to Order

Dr. Hicks called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Hicks welcomed the members of the public in attendance and gave an overview of the meeting order.

2. Roll Call by Board Chair

Dr. Hicks called roll as follows:

Present (all via video):

Hon. Ardie Bland
Mrs. Angela DeWilde
Dr. Sarah Hicks
Mr. Roosevelt Lyons (6:06 pm)
Mr. Jim MacDonald
Ms. Selina Rios

Absent:

Mrs. Lydia Butler
Ms. Brandi Finocchario
Dr. Asia Foster

Dr. Hicks determined that with 5 of 9 (later 6 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.

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

4. Public Comments

Dr. Hicks introduced herself, thanked the public, and provided an overview of the public comment process and guidelines. Dr. Hicks then invited public comment; no public comment was made.

5. Consent Agenda *[Board Action]*

- a. Review & Consideration of minutes from the February 15th, 2024 regular meeting of the Board
- b. School Dashboard
- c. Strategic Plan Dashboard
- d. Board & Committee Calendar
- e. Staffing Report
- f. Events Calendar

Dr. Hicks 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.

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

6. Annual Site Visit Report (Missouri Charter Public School Commission) *[Information/Discussion]*

A representative from the Missouri Charter Public School Commission was not present to present the Annual Site Visit Report; therefore, this agenda item will be tabled until the April meeting.

7. Board Committee Business & Reports

- a. **Executive Committee** (Ms. Brandi Finocchario)
 - i. Reminder to complete Missouri Ethics Commission *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Hicks reminded the Board to complete the annual Missouri Ethics Commission online response; this is a required response for Board members and is due by May 1st.

- ii. Update on Charter Board Draft *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Miles confirmed that the draft is scheduled for April 6th at 6:00pm. Ms. Finocchario, Hon. Bland, and Dr. Hicks will attend.

Mrs. DeWilde, Dr. Foster, and Hon. Bland when to the meet-and-greet and shared their thoughts on preferred candidates; the Board also provided input.

Mr. Lyons arrived at 6:06pm.

iii. Board Member Term Renewals *[Board Actions]*

Dr. Hicks gave an overview of the Board member term renewal process and reminded the Board that three Board members have terms expiring on March 31st: Ms. Finocchario, Mr. Lyons, and Ms. Rios. All three Board members have expressed a desire to renew their terms.

1. Review & Consideration of Renewing Ms. Brandi Finocchario for a second 3-year term, expiring March 2027

Ms. Rios moved to renew a 3-year term, expiring March 31, 2027, for Ms. Finocchario; Mr. MacDonald provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

2. Review & Consideration of Renewing Mr. Roosevelt Lyons for a complete 3-year term, expiring March 2027

Ms. Rios moved to renew a 3-year term, expiring March 31, 2027, for Mr. Lyons; Mrs. DeWilde provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

3. Review & Consideration of Renewing Ms. Selina Rios for a second 3-year term, expiring March 2027

Hon. Bland moved to renew a 3-year term, expiring March 31, 2027, for Ms. Rios; Mrs. DeWilde provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

iv. Board Officer Appointments *[Board Actions]*

1. Review & Consideration of appointing the Board Chair, expiring March 31, 2025.

Dr. Hicks reported that during the Executive Committee meeting, Ms. Finocchario shared that she would be pleased to serve another year as Board Chair, but changing professional obligations would prohibit her from continuing as Chair past this next year. Therefore, the Committee also needs to elect a Board Chair, with the intent of appointing the Chair-Elect as Chair in March 2025.

Mrs. DeWilde moved to reappoint Ms. Finocchario as the Board Chair and Hon. Bland provided a second to the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

2. Review & Consideration of appointing the Board Chair-Elect, expiring March 31, 2025.

Hon. Bland nominated Ms. Rios. Dr. Hicks shared that the Executive Committee discussed both Ms. Rios and Mrs. DeWilde for the appointment. Mrs. DeWilde declined the consideration; Ms. Rios accepted.

Hon. Bland motion to appoint Ms. Rios as the Board Chair-Elect stands and Mr. Lyons provided a second to the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

3. Review & Consideration of appointing the Board Vice-Chair, expiring March 31, 2025.

Hon. Bland moved to reappoint Dr. Hicks as the Board Vice-Chair and Ms. Rios provided a second to the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

4. Review & Consideration of appointing the Board Secretary, expiring March 31, 2025.

Mr. Lyons moved to appoint Hon. Bland as the Board Secretary and Ms. Rios provided a second to the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

5. Review & Consideration of appointing the Board Treasurer, expiring March 31, 2025.

Ms. Rios moved to reappoint Mrs. Butler as the Board Treasurer and Hon. Bland provided a second to the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

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

- i. Review & Consideration of Monthly Financials (February 2024), including Check Register [Board Action]

Mr. Brennan presented the February Financial Report and highlighted page 6's Balance Sheet, showing a current Cash Balance just over \$1.9m, with a projected year-end balance of \$2.5m.

He shared Page 7's Income Statement, highlighting:

- Year-to-date revenue of \$4.7m, against a budget of \$4.8m.
- Year-to-date expenses of \$4.6m, against a budget of \$4.4m.
- Net Income of \$118k, against a budget of \$340k.
- 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 \$712k against a budget of \$795k.
- A projected 134 days of cash on hand position, a decrease of seven days from last month.

On the revenue side, the forecast is still ahead of the full-year budget but decreased slightly from January to February. Increases in revenue came from unbudgeted interest income and higher-than-budgeted SpEd high needs reimbursements. Food service revenue/expenses were adjusted as well as the year-end forecast for grants/donations was reduced by \$100k given the school does not currently have line of sight to close this gap.

On the expense side, small overages continue (and will plan to continue) in staff-related costs, occupancy service, direct student expenses, and transportation. Mr. Brennan also specifically noted the school's cash reserve is intentionally being built up to cover next fiscal year's planned deficit spending.

FY25 budget planning is underway. The team has completed a revenue forecast and have a rough cut of staffing expenses done. Work continues on line-item vendors and forecasts and the team hopes to have a draft budget at the April Finance Committee with plans for Board affirmation in May.

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

Ms. DeWilde moved to approve the February Financial Report and Check Register as proposed and Ms. Rios provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

ii. Review & Consideration of FY24-26 Auditor *[Board Action]*

Mr. Brennan reminded the Board that KPM has provided audit services to the school since 2016. At MCPSC's recommendation, the school posted a RFP for audit services and received two responses. Of those, the Finance Committee recommended renewing services with KPM.

M. Rios moved to approve the auditor selection of KPM as proposed and Mr. MacDonald provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

c. **Facilities Committee** *[Information/Discussion]*

i. Update on Facilities Search

Dr. Miles deferred the Committee update and discussion to Closed Session.

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

i. Update on Committee Discussion

Mrs. DeWilde reminded the Board that, at the last board meeting, the Board voted to extend a Notice of Non-Renewal to Citizens of the World Charter Schools. That Notice was delivered and received and there have been a few discussions between the parties in the interim. Those discussions primarily set expectations for the "good faith negotiation" period of at least 30 days (with the understanding and intent that they will go longer). The next steps are to continue meeting, put ideas forward, and begin dialoging on issues.

The Committee continues to meet with discussion ongoing at those meetings; she welcomed any and all Board members to join those meetings. Mrs. DeWilde will continue to provide monthly updates to the Board.

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

Dr. Miles reported that the Committee did not meet in March and thus does not have anything to report.

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

a. Update on Math Instructional Team

Dr. Miles shared that she is in process of creating teams to set vision and agree on non-negotiables for each content area (Math/ELA). She has convened the Math Instructional Team, comprised of: herself, Dr. Hicks, Ms. Schoen, Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Roland, Mr. Tendick, Mr. Albarelli, Shea James (regional professional development center), and support provided by Instruction Partners.

The team has met three times. First, to develop a common understanding of vision and core beliefs for math instruction. Secondly, to discuss beliefs and conditions for math instruction for school

leaders, teachers, and students. And thirdly to refine those beliefs and conditions for math instructions for school leaders, teachers and students.

The team's next step is to create walk-throughs with members for the math instructional team to establish baseline data based on that vision, core beliefs, and conditions.

Dr. Hicks affirmed the work taking place and shared excitement for the impact it will have on the students.

Dr. Miles affirmed that the team will also intentionally work through equity here too.

Lastly, Dr. Miles shared that convening an ELA Team is on the horizon.

b. Update on Royals Literacy Initiative

Dr. Miles shared that Citizens is one of four charter schools and five KCPS schools that participated in the Royals Literacy Initiative that was launched this past week. There was a classroom library installed outside in the outdoor classroom and books will be delivered next month.

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

Mrs. Lineberry reported that the school is on track to end this school year net +30 students than Day 1 in August, a strong year. Additionally, early retention data is strong with the returning student percentage touching 89% earlier this week.

She reminded the Board that the Enrollment Lottery for new students was held on March 7th and offers have been sent. She has seen a steady stream of acceptances and school tour requests since.

9. Closed Session

Pursuant to § 610.021(1) RSMo, the Board Committee 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.

Dr. Miles 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. Angela DeWilde	Aye
Dr. Sarah Hicks	Aye
Mr. Roosevelt Lyons	Aye
Mr. Jim McDonald	Aye
Ms. Selina Rios	Aye

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

Dr. Hicks welcomed members of the public back into Open Session and reported that discussion related to (1) Legal actions as well as (2) Real Estate. No action was taken that requires reporting.

11. Adjourn *[Board Action]*

Ms. Rios moved to adjourn and Hon. Bland provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

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