



**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, October 24^h, 2024, 6:00pm

Proposed Minutes

1. Call to Order

Ms. Finocchario called the meeting to order at 6:04 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
Ms. Sophia Bond
Mrs. Lydia Butler
Mrs. Angela DeWilde
Ms. Brandi Finocchario
Dr. Asiya Foster
Mr. Jim MacDonald (6:19pm)
Ms. Selina Rios

Absent:

Mr. James Brown
Dr. Sarah Hicks
Mr. Roosevelt Lyons

Ms. Finocchario determined that with 8 of 11 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 Dr. Foster 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 September 26th, 2024 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.

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

6. Board Committee Business & Reports

- a. **Facilities Committee** (Dr. Danielle Miles) *[Information/Discussion]*
 - i. Presentation from LevelField Partners

Dr. Miles shared that LevelField actually does not have a full Board presentation for this meeting, but will plan to have a broad update in November. She did report that she scheduled Board Facilities Committee meetings for November and December for those Members that indicated an interest at the retreat; these will supplement the ongoing staff facilities committee meetings (Dr. Miles, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Smith).

- b. **Executive Committee** (Ms. Brandi Finocchario)
 - i. Leadership Structure Update *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Miles shared that due to personal circumstances of the Principal, she has moved back into the building and is functioning as a Head of School, involved in the day-to-day academic operations while he attends to his personal needs. She'll be focused on systems, curriculum/instruction, and adult needs; the Principal and Assistant Principal will focus on student issues and behaviors.

- ii. Review & Consideration of the 2024-2025 Employee Handbook *[Board Action]*

Dr. Miles walked through her proposed changes to the Employee Handbook.

Hon. Bland and Ms. Bond asked a few questions regarding Bereavement Leave, particularly the ability to grant additional time if services are not local; Dr. Miles agreed to research and bring back a further proposal.

Mr. MacDonald arrived at 6:19p.

- iii. Review & Consideration of the 2024-2025 Family Handbook *[Board Action]*

Dr. Miles walked through her proposed changes to the Family Handbook, stating that in a broad sense, she moved away from using this Handbook as “philosophical” and more to “how-to.”

Dr. Foster asked if the school ever has “professional volunteers?” Dr. Miles affirmed and also confirmed that the school requires background checks from them as well.

Mrs. Butler moved to approve the 2024-2025 Employee Handbook and 2024-2025 Family Handbook as proposed and Hon. Bland provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

- iv. Form Audit Review Committee, Schedule December 2024 Meeting *[Board Action]*

The Board nominated Mr. Brown & Ms. Finocchario to serve on the Audit Committee; Mr. Brennan will schedule the presentation meeting with them and KPM.

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

- i. Update on Committee Discussion

Mrs. DeWilde reminded the Board that the Brand Identity Committee was established August 2023. Mrs. DeWilde, Mr. Lyons, Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Bland, Ms. Bond are Members that serve on the Committee, with Dr. Miles and Mr. Brennan providing staff support. The Committee meets monthly to ensure oversight of and provide strategic direction reading CWCKC and CWCS, then ultimately will make recommendations for that relationship.

She gave an overview of CWCKC and CWCS partnership, as well as reminded the Board of the licensing agreement details (term, fees, and renewal/non procedure). She also reminded the Board of the steps taken toward non-renewal, including:

- Feb. 15, 2024: CWCKC Board unanimously voted to provide “Notice of Non-renewal:
- Feb. 20, 2024: CWCKC’s attorney sent “Notice of Non-renewal to CWCS which initiated the period of “good faith negotiation” of at least 30 days (which therefore concluded on March 20, 2024).
- Mar. 14, 2024: 1st Good Faith Negotiation meeting between CWCKC and CWCS, with legal counsel included, to discuss notice and next steps.
- Apr. 29, 2024: 2nd Good Faith Negotiation meeting between CWCKC and CWCS, with legal counsel included, to continue discussion. CWCKC asked CWCS to provide deliverables including basic criteria for being a CWC school and then we will schedule next meeting.

- Oct. 17, 2024: Email sent to CWCS from CWCKC counsel stating that CWCKC is still waiting on the deliverable promised in April.
- Oct. 22, 2024: Email received from Mrs. Furlong at CWCS with deliverable included.
- Upcoming: 3rd Good Faith Negotiation meeting.

Mrs. DeWilde noted that both good faith meetings included Board from CWCKC, CWCKC counsel, CWCS staff, and CWCS counsel. She also reported that the requested deliverable was "What does it mean to be a CWC school" and she received documents titled "Role of the Network" and "Articulation of the Learning Model." The Committee has not reviewed them, but will do so at their next (November) meeting, then report back to full board.

Dr. Foster asked if CWCS also provided a reason why it took so long for them to respond; Mr. Durphy (CWCKC counsel) replied, "They did not."

- b. **Educational Equity Committee** (Dr. Asiya Foster) *[Information/Discussion]*
- No October meeting/update

Dr. Foster reported the Committee did not meet and does not have a report.

- c. **Finance & Operations Committee** (Mrs. Lydia Butler)
- Review & Consideration of Monthly Financials (September 2024), including Check Register *[Board Action]*

Mrs. Butler presented the September Financial Report and highlighted page 6's Balance Sheet, showing a current Cash Balance over \$2.2m, with a projected year-end balance of just under \$2m.

She walked through Page 6's Income Statement, highlighting:

- Year-to-date revenue of \$1.7m, against a budget of \$1.3m.
- Year-to-date expenses of \$1.7m, against a budget of \$1.7m.
- Net Income of \$43k, against a budget of (-\$390k).
- Forecasted year-end revenue of \$6.7m, against a budget of \$6.3m.
- Forecasted year-end expenses of \$6.9m, against a budget of \$6.9m.
- Forecasted year-end Net Income of (-\$181k) against a budget of (-\$566k).
- A projected 105 days of cash on hand position, increasing from last month.

Mrs. Butler noted that on the revenue side, the school has adjusted the full-year forecast for the first time this fiscal year. Enrollment for FY25 is higher than budgeted, as well as the per-pupil (ADA) payment in the state funding formula is higher than budgeted. For now, we've adjusted ADA from the budgeted \$12,443 to \$12,850. DESE will continue to finalize this ADA amount over the coming 1-2 months and the school believes there is potential for additional upside. These two improvements combine to increase the school's full-year revenue outlook by \$362k. Expenses are trending in line with the budget (for the most part); therefore the Net Income outlook for the year has improved from (-\$566k) to (-\$181k).

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

Ms. Rios moved to approve the September Financial Report and August Check Register proposed and Dr. Foster provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.

7. Executive Director's Report (Dr. Danielle Miles)

- i. Update on KCPS Bond *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Miles reported that negotiations with KCPS are continuing. Collectively, all charters came to a stalemate, so negotiations are pivoting to direct meetings with the school (Dr. Miles/Ms. Bond) and KCPS (Dr. Collier) on October 31. MCPSA continues to provide frequent updates. KCPS is stating an MOU needs to be signed by Nov. 8, but the ballot language is not due until January.

- ii. Scheduling a Tentative Special Board Meeting – early November *[Board Action]*

Dr. Miles proposed tabling this Board action, but instead just having the Board on standby in case a Special Meeting is needed. The Board agreed and affirmed they would be ready for a Special Meeting.

- iii. Notice of Board Trainings provided by MCPSA *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Miles shared that MCPSA is putting on two trainings for the Board in the near future, including one on student achievement. There is a requirement to do Board trainings annually; she'll forward those notices to the Board.

8. 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, and Mr. Durphy (Shands, Elbert, Gianoulakis & Giljum, LLP) 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:

<i>Hon. Ardie Bland</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Sophia Bond</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mrs. Lydia Butler</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mrs. Angela DeWilde</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Brandi Finocchario</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Dr. Asiya Foster</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Jim MacDonald</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Selina Rios</i>	<i>Aye</i>

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 Discussion. No actions were taken that require reporting.

10. Adjourn *[Board Action]*

Mrs. Butler moved to adjourn and Ms. Bond provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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