



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

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

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

**Date:** Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 6:00pm

**Approved Minutes**

**1. [5:00 pm] Board Work Session with Missouri Charter Public School Commission**

The Board held a work session with the Missouri Charter Public School Commission as part of the Commission's annual on-site visit.

No actions were taken that require reporting.

**2. [6:00 pm] Call to Order**

Ms. Rios called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

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

**3. Roll Call by Board Chair**

Ms. Finocchario called roll as follows:

Present:

Hon. Ardie Bland  
Ms. Brandi Finocchario (7:03pm)  
Dr. Asia Foster (via video)  
Mr. Jim MacDonald  
Mr. Jeff Phillips (via video)  
Ms. Selina Rios (via video)

Absent:

Dr. Sarah Hicks  
Mr. Luke Norris

Ms. Rios 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.

#### **4. 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 Hon. Bland provided a second to the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.*

#### **5. Public Comments**

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

#### **6. Consent Agenda** *[Board Action]*

- a. Review & Consideration of minutes from the February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 regular meeting of the Board
- b. School Dashboard
- c. Strategic Plan Dashboard
- d. Board & Committee Calendar
- e. Staffing Report

Ms. Rios 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 Mr. Phillips provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.*

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

- a. **Finance & Operations Committee** (Mr. Jeff Phillips)
  - i. Review & Consideration of Monthly Financials (February 2023), including Check Register *[Board Action]*

Mr. Phillips presented the February Financial Report and stated that nothing was noted as out of order on the Check Register or Accounts Payable.

Page 5's Balance Sheet shows a current Cash balance of \$1.5m, with a projected year-end balance of \$1.6m.

Page 6's Income Statement shows:

- Year-to-date revenue of \$4.8m, against a budget of \$4.2m, with the difference continuing to be the hold harmless being in effect. Additionally gave credit to school leadership for an 89% YTD attendance (which is among the highest of peer schools).
- Year-to-date expenses of almost \$4.2m, against a budget of \$4.3m.
- Net Income of \$667k, against a budgeted loss of (-\$42k).
- Still forecasting year-end revenue of \$7.5m, against a budget of \$6.6m. Reminded \$400k ESSER-III funding to FY24.
- Forecasted year-end expenses of \$6.5m, against a budget of \$6.4m.

- Forecasted year-end Net Income of \$825k against a budget of \$143k.

Page 7's shows February's ending cash balance of \$1.5m is projected to be the lowest amount for the rest of the year.

Page 8's grant update is minimally changed from January and shows at least \$70k still to come in and be accounted for. School leadership believes there is visibility to \$50k of that amount, but Mr. Phillips noted a possible budget adjustment is needed in April to account for this.

Lastly, Mr. Phillips reported that Page 9 shows the school to have a projected year-end 93 days of cash on hand.

*Mr. Phillips moved to approve February Financial Report and Check Register as proposed and Mr. MacDonald provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.*

Mr. Phillips also informed the Board that there is a larger than budgeted HVAC repair (from the January incident) coming in the next month. He also reported that FY24's budget forecasting has begun; Dr. Miles, Mr. Brennan, and EdOps are jumping in.

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

i. Discussion of Modifying Student Achievement Goals

Ms. Rios reported that the Committee held discussion on modifying the specific student achievement goals outlined and agreed to in the charter. The Committee believes the goals as written are too vague and in need of clarity; discussion is being held to ensure updated goals are measurable and providing relevant information to school leadership and Commission accountability. They are planning to present final draft of the goals to the Board in May.

Ms. Rios also reminded the Board that there is a Board-level goal of 80% meeting attendance and collectively, the Board is not meeting that. Ms. Finocchario will share that data with individuals on the Board to increase accountability.

ii. Discussion of 2023-2024 Academic Calendar

The Committee also began discussion of the 23-24 Academic Calendar – specifically relating to scheduling Professional Development. There is consideration of either continuing 1-day/month or switching to an “early release” Wednesday cadence, pending childcare considerations.

iii. 2022 MAP Results

Ms. Rios proudly reported that the school was 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in ELA MAP scores for 2022 in the Kansas City area, with 33.7% Proficient & Advanced! This trails Academy Lafayette (63.4) and University Academy (34.0), but is ahead of KCPS (24.4) and the other 17 charters.

The school was 9<sup>th</sup> overall in Math MAP scores, with 21.7% Proficient & Advanced, ahead of KCPS (18.7) and 11 other charters.

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

- i. Reminder of Missouri Ethics Commission annual certification *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Miles reminded the Board to complete their online MEC certification.

- ii. Update on Peer Charter Schools *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Miles reported that Genesis Charter is appealing the Commission's revocation decision to the State Board. She will continue to watch the landscape and is looking for opportunities to provide support to Genesis families, students, and staff.

- iii. Discussion on Board Membership

1. Term Expirations & Recognition for Mr. Luke Norris & Mr. Jeff Phillips *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Miles acknowledged both Mr. Norris and Mr. Phillips, as this is their last regular meeting. She expressed appreciation and gratitude for their leadership and service and presented each with a plaque.

Mr. Brennan also shared appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Phillips.

2. Review & Consideration of Renewing Mr. Jim MacDonald for a third 3-year term, expiring March 2026 *[Board Action]*

Mr. MacDonald affirmed that he is willing to renew his Board membership for a third term.

*Dr. Foster moved to renew a 3-year term, expiring March 2026, for Mr. MacDonald and Hon. Bland provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.*

3. Board Candidate Presentation – Mrs. Lydia Butler, e2E, LLC.

Dr. Miles introduced Mrs. Butler and provided an overview of her background. Dr. Miles affirmed that Mrs. Butler has met with school and Board leadership and is mission- and value-aligned.

4. Board Candidate Presentation – Mrs. Angela DeWilde, Educational Consultant *[Information/Discussion]*

Dr. Miles introduced Mrs. DeWilde and provided an overview of her background. Dr. Miles affirmed that Mrs. DeWilde has met with school and Board leadership and is mission- and value-aligned.

5. Review & Consideration on Scheduling a Special Meeting on March 27, 2023 for:  
a. Appointment of new Board Members  
b. 2023-2024 Board Officer Elections

Dr. Miles asked the Board to schedule a Special Meeting on March 27, 2023 for appointment of new Board members and appointment of Board officers.

*Dr. Foster motioned to schedule a Special Board Meeting on March 27, 2023; Mr. MacDonald provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.*

**8. Facilities Committee** (Dr. Danielle Miles) *[Information/Discussion]*

i. Broadway Playground Grand Opening April 1, 2023

Dr. Miles joyfully reported that the playground will be installed this next week. She reminded the Board that this was the “obstacle course” option presented to the Board last fall. There will be a Grand Opening celebration on April 1<sup>st</sup> and the Board is invited.

The school is thrilled to have this installed. Mr. MacDonald praised the installation, saying it is a milestone years in the making.

Dr. Miles also shared that the team is also working on an outdoor middle school-specific space; she is hopeful to share news in the coming weeks.

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

a. Presentation from Student Services (Ms. Johanna Chambers)

Ms. Chambers introduced the Student Support Team (Counselors Mrs. Barron & Mr. Wahab, Behavior Coach Ms. Huggans, and Health Aide Ms. Grove). She provided an overview of the services that the team provides the school:

Food Assistance

- BackSnacks: 80 students
- Food Pantry: 25 families per month, plus 59 discreet families this year. Over 3,500 pounds of food distributed over 5 months.

Uniform Closet

McKinney Vento

- 14 McKinney Vento students: cab transportation, free aftercare and clubs, meals and other services as needed (such as community resource referrals and new uniforms)

Health Services

- Vaccination compliance
- Medication administration
- Monitoring students with chronic health needs
- Developed a head lice protocol
- Served approximately 1,800 “walk-in visits”

Counselor & Behavior Support

- “Signs of Suicide” presentations for 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade
- MOCSA presentations in all 18 classes
- Small Group student support
- 1:1 skills-based counseling
- TAP Room

## Partnerships

- Campfire: 2 small groups for 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grade girls
- Operation Breakthrough: School-aged partnership & 1:1 Therapy
- CAPA: 1:1 Therapy & weekly Second Steps groups for Kindergarteners
- School Smart: McKinney-Vento School Cooperative, School Pantry Cohort, & Mental Health Design Team

Mrs. Chambers also provided a "Culture Implementation Update:"

- Staff are regularly participating in Conscious Discipline rituals at staff meetings and on professional development days, some teams are using connection circles in team meetings
- Developed a scope and sequence for the 23-24 school year
- Met with Ridgeview Elementary in Liberty about their implementation and have a site visit on March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Seven staff (counselors, behavior coach, and four teachers) will attend the week-long Conscious Discipline Institute in June
- Planning for continued training in restorative practices this summer.

Mr. MacDonald asked about implementation schedule for Signs of Suicide; Ms. Chambers answered.

Dr. Foster – asked about the BackSnack waiting list. Ms. Chambers replied that BackSnacks caps the school's participation rate due to their capacity, not ours. Dr. Foster then asked if there is a supplemental or alternative program for those students? Ms. Chambers said she directs those students/families to the Food Pantry; she would love to have a standing food pantry, however it's a space issue with the limited space the Broadway building has.

Dr. Miles recognized and encouraged Ms. Chambers – she is overseeing all of those programs and doing it with excellence.

### b. Update on Summer School

Dr. Miles reminded the Board that Mrs. Betts has been hired as Summer School Director. Student-wise, the school is planning to have 1 section in each grade level, with the exception of a combined 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade section, and a potential additional combined 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade class. Teachers from the current faculty are being identified and eight are 8 tentatively lined up.

The school day is planned to have 90 minutes each of Math and Reading along with two electives (tactile games, rockets, theater, etc.). Additionally, there will be a field trip in each grade level per week.

### c. Update on Student Recruitment (Ms. Katy Lineberry)

Mrs. Lineberry reported that the lottery application closed on March 1 and lottery offers were extended on March 6. Many have since been accepted and she has done a ton of outreach.

4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade are closed with full re-enrollments. PK, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades are very close to being closed. Mrs. Lineberry gave an overview of the trends by grade level.

Dr. Foster asked what data is collected on families that do not re-enroll, and what is done with that data? Mrs. Lineberry responded that non-reenroll reasons are noted and complied. Dr. Foster asked

if formal exit surveys are administered; Mrs. Lineberry said no. Dr. Foster encouraged those to be administered.

Mr. MacDonald asked what middle school grade level projections look like and what is being planned; Dr. Miles and Mrs. Lineberry responded.

d. 2023 MCPSA Excellence in Education Awards

Dr. Miles proudly reported that seven staff members were nominated for the 2023 MCPSA Excellence in Education Awards and two staff members were selected as finalists: Mr. Blake Smith & Ms. Kerrie Schoen. She is excited and thrilled for those two. The winners will be announced in June.

**10. Closed Session**

Pursuant to § 610.021 (2) and (6) RSMo, the Board Committee will enter into closed session to discuss matters related to (2) Real Estate, and (6) Scholastic probation, expulsion, or graduation of identifiable individuals.

Ms. Rios invited Dr. Miles and Mr. Brennan into Closed Session.

*Dr. Foster moved to go into Closed Session and Mr. Phillips provided a second. A roll call vote was taken as follows:*

<i>Hon. Ardie Bland</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Dr. Asia Foster</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Jim MacDonald</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Jeff Phillips</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Selina Rios</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.*

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

Ms. Finocchario welcomed members of the public back into Open Session and noted that she was able to join the meeting during Closed Session, at 7:03pm. She also reported that discussion related to real estate and scholastic probation. One action was taken that requires reporting.

*During Closed Session, Ms. Rios motioned that the long-term suspension of student "LJ" be overturned so the student can enroll in another district; Dr. Foster provided a second and a roll-call vote was taken as follows:*

<i>Hon. Ardie Bland</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Finocchario</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Dr. Asia Foster</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Jim MacDonald</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Mr. Jeff Phillips</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Ms. Selina Rios</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.*

**12. Adjourn** *[Board Action]*

Mr. Phillips expressed gratitude for kind words shared earlier and gratefulness for the opportunity to serve. He is excited to continue working with the school in the future as a committee member.

*Mr. Phillips moved to adjourn and Dr. Foster provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.*

*[/rb]*