



**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, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 6:00pm

**Proposed Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Finocchario called the meeting to order at 6:07 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:

Ms. Brandi Finocchario (via video)  
Dr. Asia Foster (via video)  
Mr. Jim MacDonald (via video)  
Mr. Jeff Phillips (via video)  
Ms. Selina Rios (via video)

Absent:

Hon. Ardie Bland  
Dr. Sarah Hicks  
Mr. Luke Norris

Ms. Finocchario determined that with 5 of 8 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.

*Mr. Phillips 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 January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 regular meeting of the Board
- b. School Dashboard
- c. Strategic Plan Dashboard
- d. Board & Committee Calendar
- e. Staffing Report
- f. Resolution to Approve the Renewal of the Country Club Bank Line of Credit

Ms. Finocchario 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.

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

### 6. Board Committee Business & Reports

- a. **Finance & Operations Committee** (Mr. Jeff Phillips)
  - i. Finance Committee Report *[Information/Discussion]*

1. Review & Consideration of Monthly Financials (January 2023), including Check Register *[Board Action]*

Mr. Phillips presented the January 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 \$1.3m, with a projected year-end balance of \$1.6m.

Page 6's Income Statement shows:

- Year-to-date revenue of \$4m, against a budget of \$3.6m
- Year-to-date expenses of almost \$3.7m, against a budget of over \$3.7m.
- Net Income of \$400k, against a budgeted loss of (-\$143k).
- Forecasted year-end revenue of \$7.5m, against a budget of \$6.6m.
- Forecasted year-end expenses of \$6.8m, against a budget of \$6.4m.
- Forecasted year-end Net Income of \$800k against a budget of \$140k.

Page 7's shows January's ending cash balance is projected to be the lowest amount for the rest of the year.

Page 8's grant update is minimally changed from December and shows at least \$70k still to come in and be accounted for. Mr. Phillips noted a possible needed budget adjustment in March/April to account for this.

Lastly, Mr. Phillips reported that Page 9 shows the school to have a projected year-end 91 days of cash on hand

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

2. Review & Consideration of FY22 Form 990 [Board Action]

Mr. Phillips presented FY22 990, gave an overview, and asked for Board approval.

*Dr. Foster moved to approve Form 990 as proposed and Mr. MacDonald provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining.*

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

Mr. Rios reported that the Educational Equity Committee has specifically focused their work on evaluating the academic goals written in the charter, especially as they related to being both inclusive and reflective of the great work and growth that is being done. She shared that the Committee expects to bring a proposal to modify the charter goals in the next few months.

i. Data Analysis Presentation of 3+ Year Enrollment Length on NWEA Assessment Data

Ms. Rios introduced Dr. Miles for a presentation on the correlation between enrollment length and NWEA assessment results.

Dr. Miles reminded the Board that earlier assessment presentations had yielded questions and inquiries from the Board and the Board had requested assessment data on students that have been enrolled at Citizens for 3+ years as compared to those less than 3 years.

Looking at overall combined (Math+ELA) performance, 37% of students enrolled for three or more years are proficient/advanced, compared to 23% of students enrolled for less than three years. Additionally, students enrolled for three or more years outperformed in every quartile.

This performance was further confirmed within each subject matter. In Math, 37% of students enrolled for three or more years are proficient/advanced, compared to 23% of students enrolled for less than three years. And, more pronounced, in ELA, 46% of students enrolled for three or more years are proficient/advanced, compared to 29% of students enrolled for less than three years.

Looking to projected proficiency on the MAP assessment, there is a +16% difference in proficient/advanced in students enrolled for three or more years in Math and a +18% difference

in ELA. Additionally, there is a -15% difference in below basic in Math and a -11% difference in ELA.

Looking at the percentage of students who met their projected growth target, there was a +7% difference in Math and no difference in ELA.

In evaluating how performance breaks down according to ethnicity, in Math, there are no significant differences due to enrollment length except in students with Two or More Races. In this case, these students are performing +15% advanced, +11% proficient/advanced, and -31% below basic.

However, ELA shows a significant correlation:

- Black/African-American students are -21% below basic, +10% proficient/advanced.
- Hispanic students are -11% basic, +10% proficient/advanced.
- Two or More Race students are -21% basic, +22% proficient/advanced, and +19% advanced.
- White students are -25% basic/below basic, +22% advanced.

Looking at the percentage of students who met their projected growth target in Math, students are performing about the same across ethnicity/race, with the highest difference being White students (+7% according to enrollment length distinction). This tells Dr. Miles that teachers are reaching all students in those categories. In ELA, this trend shifts to a (-17%) growth in Hispanic/Latino, which tells Dr. Miles that those students are making greater initial gains, then flattening to match peers.

Looking at other student sub-groups (IEP, ELL, FRL), there is no significant correlation to math achievement, but there is a -11% below basic and +16% advanced shift in FRL. Meeting growth targets is consistent across both subjects.

Conclusions:

- The school needs to specifically focus on Math, especially with students of color. This will be a primary focus in Summer School as well as the 2023-2024 school year, which will include hiring a new Math Interventionist position.
- For ELA, continue to focus heavily on K & 1 to ensure they have the skills they need to read and continue to lean into what is clearly working over the long-term.
- Dr. Miles specifically called out 60% of 2<sup>nd</sup> graders advanced/proficient in ELA. The data clearly shows students the school has consistently enrolled for three years in-person are performing well in their focus subject.
- The school needs to continue to focus Professional Development and keep low staff turnover (which appears to be the case).

## ii. Discussion of Modifying Student Achievement Goals

Ms. Rios discussed that the school's Charter specifically calls out academic goals to continue as a school. When Dr. Miles is reporting to MCPSC and DESE, one of the things that has been difficult has been providing relevant data to the questions listed in the charter (i.e. what exactly the goals are trying to measure – what data can be provided); the goals are not clearly defined.

For instance, Goal #3 states the school will “work intentionally to close...groupings...within 5 years...to result in a MAP variance no more than 5%.” This benchmark does not specify which groups the school is comparing. The Board held discussion on potential draft revisions.

Ms. Rios noted the alignment between conversation and data: whether our Black/African-American students have been enrolled for more or less than three years, they are still performing at a comparatively lower rate. The Board needs to re-center thinking around what the school can do to provide supports to the Black/African-American student population. She shared encouragement about enrolled-for-more-than-three-years student performance overall, but it still does show the need for additional support.

Mr. Phillips agreed on the need to revise the goal, but worried that the draft language may not result in statistically relevant data. He suggested looking at data impact in parallel.

Dr. Miles said she would hopefully have a better version to approve next month, then she will talk with MCPSC to determine revision steps.

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

i. Reminder of Missouri Ethics Commission annual certification

Ms. Finocchario reminded the Board to complete their online MEC certification.

ii. Update on Peer Charter Schools

Dr. Miles reported that MCPSC did vote last night to revoke Genesis' charter, effective 6/30/2023. While Genesis can still appeal to the State Board of Education, she is looking into how to partner and support transitions for their families, students, and staff.

iii. Discussion on Board Member Nominations

Ms. Finocchario gave an update on new Board member nominations. Dr. Miles reported it looks like the Board has two “highly likely” potentials.

1. Discussion on Scheduling a Special Meeting in March

Ms. Finocchario suggested shifting the Special Meeting to March 27 at 7:00p. The plan would be to present new members at the Regular March meeting, then appoint them at the Special Meeting.

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

i. Update on additional site locations

Dr. Miles reported that she, Mr. Morris, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Brennan, and Mr. Shomari Benton met last week to discuss facility options.

She provided an update on 3421 Broadway: the school would have to do significant renovations and the team would not feel comfortable committing that much capital to a building we did not control long-term. After discussion, the owner has now shifted and offered to sell the lot and building to the school. The Committee is further evaluating, including investigating a potential formal appraisal.

School staff received an assessment on the exterior of the 3435 Broadway building and are waiting further investigation from our landlord. The team is also looking into a full building assessment, which could impact the long-term viability of our current building.

Lastly, the team is investigating another very plausible option for 2024-2025 and will hopefully have more to report very soon.

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

a. Annual Commission Site Visit Planning

Dr. Miles reminded the Board that MCPSC will hold their annual on-site visit next month. This visit includes a Board Working Session just prior to the March meeting, and therefore asked for all Board members to be present in-person next month.

b. Summer School Update

Dr. Miles reported that she hired a Summer School Director and further staffing work is ongoing. Student-wise, we have almost a full classroom per grade level and she expects those all to fill as re-enrollment continues.

c. Student Recruitment Update (Ms. Katy Lineberry)

Mrs. Lineberry reported that current student re-enrollment started February 1<sup>st</sup> and to date, 40% of students have completed re-enrollment already! She will start personal outreach and follow-up next week.

Additionally, in advance of the new student lottery on March 6<sup>th</sup>, she is focusing on numerous in-person outreach events (Pre-K school fair, Operation Breakthrough). She is starting to see trends, including an increased interest in the higher grade levels and a decreased number of applications at the Kindergarten level. School leadership is meeting with our ShowMeKC Schools partners to investigate and adjust if necessary.

**8. Adjourn** *[Board Action]*

*Mr. Phillips moved to adjourn and Mr. MacDonald provided a second. The motion was unanimously approved with none abstaining. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.*

*[/rb]*