



**Board of Directors, Meeting Notes**  
**November 15, 2016**

Location: 11 East Ave, Suite 600 • Chicago, IL 60603  
Time: 3:30PM -5:30 PM

I. Introduction

- a. Board Members: Laura Thonn, David Chizewer, Violet Clark, Daniel Anello, Tom Nieman and Katie Gottfred
- b. Visitors: Scott Frauenheim (DS), Joni Pearlman (CEP), Garland Thomas-McDavid (CEP), Stacey Shells (ReGen), Erin Lanoue (CSUSA), David Blinderman, Elissa Klein (ReGen), David Sundstrom (DS)
- c. CICS Staff: Elizabeth Shaw, Mike Bower, Meghan Schmidt, Natalie Neris, Jennifer Rocha, Rana Khan, Kathleen Clarke

II. Public Comment (3:35-3:45):

- David Chizewer introduced David Blinderman, who is interested in the education reform with an interest to join the CICS board.

III. Voting Items (3:45-3:55)

- Prior meeting minutes approval:  
A motion was made to approve board meeting minutes from June 24, 2016 and August 16, 2016. Motion Made by Violet Clark and seconded by Katie Gottfred. Approved by all.
- Updated signing authority for back account:  
A motion was made to add Elizabeth Shaw and Daniel Anello remove Gerald Jenkins. Motion made by David Chizewer and seconded by Violet Clark. Approved by all.
- Treasurer:  
A motion was made to elect Laura Thonn as Treasurer. Motion made by David Chizewer and seconded by Tom Nieman. Approved by all.

IV. Staff Update (3:55-5:15)

- Enrollment update (Mike Bower):
  - Enrollment numbers reviewed and a discussion around the increase of applications for 2017-2018.

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- School Action Plan screener results:
  - All campuses are screened and are reviewed based on three things: academics performance, financial performance and enrollment.
  - Academic Screener: All schools are compared and are reviewed based on the neighborhood that it serves.
  - Financial Screener: Reviewed based on a campus having two or more years of consecutive financial deficit or if CICS has concerns on an ongoing basis.
- Update on renewal:
  - CICS is up for renewal and the application was submitted on September 14, 2016.
  - All facility visits and inspections have been completed.
  - Academics visits were conducted at ChicagoQuest, Prairie and Washington Park and CICS received positive feedback.
  - CICS plans to attend November 21<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing and the Board Vote on December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- CEO early findings:
  - Elizabeth Shaw reviews her 100 Day Plan and discusses early findings.
  - The beginning of the plan was to develop an early perspective of the CICS network, each campus and each SMO and also start to building external relationships.
  - Support the network, SMO, campus work and transition to fully absorb the CEO responsibilities. Review of initial findings for strengths/weaknesses and opportunities/threats.
  - Board comments: Discussion school performance, fundraising and donation.
- CICS priorities for the year:
  - Work with SMOs to make immediate improvements in learning and achievement across the network to get all schools to level 1 and 1+.
  - Develop a five-year vision and strategy for CICS.
  - Based on vision and strategy, realign our structure to achieve our organizational outcomes and optimize efficiency.
  - Make targeted changes in communication, routines, culture, and collaboration across the network.
  - Revise accountability and quality review process to include vision for school and operator quality, enable innovation and demand high performance.
  - Develop a pipeline of new potential operators, including talented entrepreneurs who are not currently operating schools.
  - Ensure highest quality available operators are running schools in 2017-18 and 2018-19.

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- Overview of strategy process:
  - Support CICS to refine and implement a new organizational strategy.
  - Engage stakeholders on CICS organizational strategy.
  - Design a smart, efficient organizational structure for CICS aligned to organizational strategy.
  - Communicate with key audiences about strategy and structure.
  - Strengthen roles, responsibilities, and organizational structure as dictated by the plan.
  
- Budget Implications
  - Review of Board approved budget.
  - Deficit due to the BOD approved decrease in the CICS Facilities fee this year of \$1.5M. Fee reduced to help deploy more funds to the campuses.
  - 2016-2017 cash implication of \$400K in surplus. Deficit only on the accrual 510C.
  - Possible increases form TIF funding and Hold Harmless.
  - CPS still needs “meaningful” pension reform.
  - Increase in cost for strategy work - \$200K.
  - A motion was made by David Chizewer to approve a \$200K increase in expenses from the previous budget to pay for strategy work for CICS. Motion seconded by Daniel Anello. All but Katie Gottfred approved. Katie Gottfred abstained, motion approved.

V. New Business (5:15-5:30)

- No new business.

VI. Adjourn (5:30)

- Laura Thonn made a motion to adjourn meeting and seconded by David Chizewer. Approved by all.