



Board of Directors, Meeting Notes

February 21, 2017

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 (conferenced in), Daniel Anello, Tom Nieman and Alberta Johnson (conferenced in). Alberta and Violet could not be in person for the meeting because of work related conflicts
- b. Visitors: Scott Frauenheim (DS), Joni Pearlman (CEP), Kira Chang (CEP), Dina Everage (CEP), Jamilah Mottley (CEP), David Blinderman (prosecutive board member)
- c. CICS Staff: Elizabeth Shaw, Mike Bower, Meghan Schmidt, Natalie Neris, Jennifer Rocha and Adrienne Leonard

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

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

- Arthur J. Reliford, Jr., Board Secretary has submitted his resignation to Laura Thonn.
- New board member: A motion was made to approve David Blinderman as a new board member. Motion made by David Chizewer and seconded by Daniel Anello. Approved by all. Violet Clark affirmed but cannot vote via phone.
- Meeting minutes: A motion was made to approve board meeting minutes from November 15, 2016. Motion made by Laura Thonn and seconded by David Chizewer. Approved by all.
- Bank signatory changes: A change was made to add David Chizewer and Elizabeth Shaw to the Morgan Stanley account. A motion was made to approve David Chizewer and Elizabeth Shaw as signatures on the account. Motion made by Tom Nieman and seconded by Daniel Anello. Approved by all.
- By-laws vote: Three changes have been made to the by-laws based on the findings from the renewal:
 - The range of board members was changed from 10-20 to 7-20.
 - Telephone- if a board member is calling in to a meeting he/she must state the reason why they are not able to attend and whether it is related to CICS. Violet Clark and Alberta Johnson are calling in because they are both out of town for work related reasons.

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- Conflict of Interest- if a conflict of interest is not explicitly stated and when it's found later, what is the process the board would go through.
- A motion was made to approve the new changes to the by-laws. Motion made by David Chizewer and seconded by Daniel Anello. Approved by all.

I. Staff Update (3:50-4:10)

- Renewal update: Elizabeth Shaw
 - CICS was approved for a five-year renewal on December 7, 2016
 - Renewal was contingent on certain conditions:
 - Immediate minor fixes – Bylaws, small facility issues, policy issues
 - Facility enhancements
 - Special Education and English Learner focus
 - Discipline focus
 - Other renewed charters have similar conditions
 - CICS submitted an application for amendment on February 13, 2017 to increase the five-year to a ten-year renewal term
- Mid-Year status: Mike Bower- Results are not predictive
 - CICS analyzed mid-year SQRP results for all schools to give a snapshot of where schools would stand if the school year ended now
 - This is a snapshot, not a prediction
 - CICS sent out results to all SMO's and campuses on February 10th, 2017.
 - Schools use data at a high level to focus on both academic and non-academic areas of improvement from a strategic standpoint
 - CICS staff met with the CICS Board Academic Accountability members to review results on February 13th, 2017
- Mid-Year status: Mike Bower- SQRP results are lower
 - Results mid-year are a little lower this year vs. last year. The trend behind this drop is:
 - Lower NWEA growth and attainment
 - Lower attendance
 - Schools took NWEA on average 3-4 instructional weeks earlier this year.
 - Winter NWEA has historically not been a predictor of Spring results.
 - Attendance has suffered because of earlier cold weather, CPS furlough days and the Cubs World Series victory and parade.
- CPS budget update
 - CPS has a current budget shortfall of \$215 million.

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- On January 6, CPS announced a potential \$300/per pupil cut on for the fourth quarter (~\$2.5M for the network).
 - Numbers are not final.
 - Legislative solutions in Springfield could fill the budget shortfall
 - CPS & Mayor's office looking for alternatives
 - In January, CICS and all charters received \$127/per pupil from TIF allocation.
 - CICS and SMOs are revisiting budgets and will present updates at March 14th Board Meeting.
 - Universal enrollment Update
 - CPS wants a single application/enrollment process for 9th grade for the 2018-2019 school year.
 - CICS has been on the working committee to figure out how this process will work.
 - CICS can opt in or out.
- II. Strategy Review (4:10-5:30)
- Project Progress: To date, the project team has focused on:
 - Understanding CICS status.
 - Reviewing practices of peer organizations.
 - Revising the vision, mission, theory of action and definition of excellence.
 - Engaging stakeholders for feedback and input.
 - Highlighted Findings:
 - A focus on innovation at scale is not currently addressed in Chicago.
 - Though CICS spends in the same range as other CMOs, notable difference highlight some opportunities.
 - Expanded development and fundraising capacity would allow CICS to better meet current needs and support new strategic priorities.
 - CICS can elevate its value proposition by increasing back office support that free up leaders to focus on students.
 - Board Discussion Question: Do we want to continue or deepen our org-wide commitment to innovation? What challenges and risks might we encounter with an innovation focus?
- III. Executive Session (5:15-5:30): A motion was made to move in to executive session. Motion made by Daniel Anello and seconded by David Chizewer. Approved by all.
- IV. Adjourn (5:30): A motion was made for the meeting to adjourn by Tom Nieman, seconded by Laura Thonn, approved by all.

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