



**Board of Directors, Meeting Notes**

**August 22, 2017**

Location: 11 East Ave, Suite 600 • Chicago, IL 60603

Time: 4:00PM -6:00 PM

- I. Introduction
  - a. Board Members: Laura Thonn, David Chizewer, Violet Clark, Tom Nieman, David Blinderman, Kate Gottfred (conference call), Alberta Johnson, Brian Novelline and Daniel Anello
  - b. Visitors: Scott Frauenheim (DS), Jen Ferrari, (DS), LeeAndra Khan (CEP), Mike Roady (DS), Erin Lanoue (CSUSA)
  - c. CICS Staff: Elizabeth Shaw, Mike Bower, Kathleen Clarke, Meghan Schmidt and Rhonda Kochlefl, Jerry Lambrinatos
- II. Public Comment
  - a. No Public.
- III. Approval of previous meeting minutes
  - a. A motion was made to approve board meeting minutes from June 20, 2017. Motion made by David Chizewer and seconded by Violet Clark. Approved by all.
- IV. Voting Items
  - a. Adopting the strategy Blueprint and goals
    - A motion was made to approve the Strategy Blueprint and Goals and board meeting minutes from June 20, 2017. Motion made by David Chizewer and seconded by Daniel Anello. Approved by all.
- V. Staff Updates:
  - a. Kickoff
    - Over 900 CICS teachers, staff, SMO leaders, 6 members of the CICS Board of Directors and CPS Special guests attended.
  - b. School Launch
    - All campuses are not in session with the except ReGeneration who has a scattered start day.
  - c. Enrollment Updates
    - Overall increase in 4-year graduation rate.
    - CICS Bucktown and CICS Longwood Elementary school show growth increase.
    - Attendance drop across the network.
    - NWEA growth drop
  - d. Summer Capital Projects
    - \$2M of work completed in 11 weeks.
    - CICS Bucktown flooring replacement and tuckpointing.
    - CICS Irving Park fire alarm replacement and playground resurfacing.
    - CICS Longwood partial roof replacement.

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- The launch of new food service program is underway.
- e. Enrollment
  - On track for better enrollment from last year.
  - There are still many moving pieces and parts (summer transition, first day of school, CPS first day of school, etc.).
  - Count day is October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- f. Funding
  - CPs budgets reflected SB1 passing
    - 5% increase in per pupil funding.
    - Title fund decreasing.
    - Sped & Facilities funding remaining flat.
    - CICS continues to budget conservatively.
    - 2% CPS cut.
- g. Bond refinancing
  - \$44M outstanding for 20 years at 5%.
  - CICS is seeking to refinance its current debt and issue new money to finance various capital expenditures at campuses.
  - CICS is rapidly moving forward with a tax-exempt bond issuance.
- VI. Strategy Update
  - a. CICS is on track with the Strategy Implementation
    - Set a powerful and unified vision of excellent schools.
    - Align system, accountability and resources to achieve excellence.
    - Incubate, innovate, and transition as needed.
    - Create a vibrant oasis for Chicago education entrepreneurs to thrive, collaborate, and share service.
- VII. Board Development/External Affairs
  - a. 90-day prospect list
    - A better Chicago application submitted.
    - Charter School Growth Fund, working with Distinctive Schools on its application.
    - Michael and Susan Dell Foundation is in discussion on network funding.
    - PwC, potential prospect for the incubation process.
    - NSVF, Transcend grant.
  - b. Recruiting
    - Chief Engagement Officer
    - Development Director
  - c. Board Recruiting
    - Board planning including skills assessment
    - Dream team board prospect list and associated strategy
    - CONTINUE WITH RHONDAS SLIDES



VIII. New Business

a. The Next Evolution of CICS

- Set a powerful and unified vision of excellent schools.
- Strengthen network system, accountability and resources.
- Recruit visionary leaders and incubate innovative new models.
- Create an oasis for education entrepreneurs.

b. Rethinking Education

- Education funding remains a challenge: The state of IL invests 20% less in education than the national average relying on local funding which results in significant inequities.
- U.S. performance on PISA (a triennial international survey of 15-year-old students) has declined in each subject area over the past 6 years.

IX. Executive Session

- a. A motion was made to move to executive session regarding a contract related matter. Motion made by Laura Thonn and seconded by Daniel Anello. Approved by all.

I. Adjourn

- a. Laura Thonn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Blinderman seconded the motion. All approved. CICS board adjourns.