

APPROVED



Midtown Community School

Minutes

Regular Meeting

Board of Directors

Date and Time

Thursday November 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Location

The Offices at Park39
Meeting Room #Annex-A

Directors Present

A. Bland, A. DeWilde, J. Herman, J. MacDonald, L. Butler, S. Bond (remote)

Directors Absent

B. Finocchario, S. Rios

Guests Present

D. Miles, R. Brennan

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

A. DeWilde called a meeting of the board of directors of Midtown Community School to order on Thursday Nov 20, 2025 at 6:05 PM.

B.

Roll Call Attendance

C. Review & Consideration of Proposed Agenda

Dr. Miles requested the Board remove Agenda Item "IV: Student & Staff Recognition," and reschedule to December.

A. Bland made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended.

L. Butler seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

Mrs. DeWilde introduced herself, thanked the public, and provided an overview of the public comment process and guidelines. Mrs. DeWilde then invited public comment. Mr. Johnson (CWCKC parent; founding community) thanked the Board for the non-renewal affirmation vote tonight. He shared appreciation of the Board for the efforts they have taken to this point and commended them for their stewardship. Mr. Johnson also shared appreciation to the CWCS founding and continuing team and lastly, he shared appreciation to Mr. Brennan for his presence and steadiness throughout this 10-year relationship.

III. Review & Consideration of Prior Meeting Minutes

A. October 16, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Board Minutes

A. Bland made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting on 10-16-25.

J. Herman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Review & Consideration of Consent Agenda

A. Bland made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

L. Butler seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Board Report from Monthly School Events

A. Discussion

Dr. Miles reviewed the late October and November events and previewed upcoming December events. Mrs. Herman attended Truck or Treat and shared her positive experience. Dr. Miles also recognized Lead to Read and Campfire for impactful donations to the event.

Dr. Miles also shared that the PBL Showcase has been moved from December to January.

VI. Existing Business

A. Review & Consideration of a Non-Renewal Affirmation Notice to Citizens of the World Charter Schools

Mrs. DeWilde reported that CWCKC and CWCS discussed and agreed upon the distributed Settlement Letter. She asked the Board for questions and/or discussion; the Board did not have any.

Mrs. DeWilde then asked for a motion to approve the Non-Renewal Affirmation Notice, effective June 30, 2026.

L. Butler made a motion to approve.

A. Bland seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Herman Aye

S. Bond Aye

A. Bland Aye

B. Finocchiaro Absent

L. Butler Aye

S. Rios Absent

J. MacDonald Aye

A. DeWilde Aye

Mrs. DeWilde shared appreciation to the Board and school leadership for significant work, insight, and intentionality in this process.

VII. Executive Director's Report

A. Discussion of APR

Dr. Miles shared the school's APR (annual performance report) data with the Board.

She provided context of prior years' scores:

In 2023, the school scored as follows: Performance 56.9, Continuous Improvement 92.3, and Overall 70.0.

In 2024, Performance increased to 67.0, Continuous Improvement increased to 93.3, and Overall increased to 77.2.

For 2025, Performance decreased to 60.1 (above 2023), Continuous Improvement decreased to 86.6, and Overall decreased to 70.4 (again, above 2023).

Dr. Miles noted that, compared to peer charters, the school decreased year-to-year.

Looking deeper into the Performance scores, there are 3 sub-categories. In the "achievement" category, the school is solidly "approaching," which translates to the lower end of the scale. In the "Growth" category the school is mostly "On Track" or "On Target," which is consistent with data received throughout the year.

In the 3rd section, "Success-Ready," 50% of 8th graders needed to score "Proficient" on the MAP; only 26% did. That result is not surprising; the 2025 8th grade cohort was small, with a higher than average IEP population. That small sample significantly impacted the overall LEA scoring.

Looking deeper into the Continuous Improvement sub-categories, Dr. Miles reported that the overall Continuous Improvement received 30/30; the Climate Survey received 4/4, the KEA received 0/4 points (she is unsure why because teachers completed it and the school reported as such; she is researching with DESE), Attendance received 0/4 points (80% of students need to meet a minimum percentage to get points; the school is close, but not at threshold), and Operations received 6/6 points as usual.

Dr. Miles reported that her primary short-term implications are:

- Increase 8th grade MAP performance to >50% Proficient+Advanced.
- Increase all student attendance to at least 80%; dig deeper into race/ethnicity and Special Education subgroups.
- Increase the overall number of students scoring Proficient or Advanced on the MAP test. (She gave a target example of 20 students in 3rd-8th grades moving from Basic to Proficient meets this goal).

Dr. Miles also previewed a change she, and the Academic Excellence Committee, are considering for a charter goal: move from "percentage" to "MPI (Missouri Performance Index)."

Dr. Miles asked for questions; Mrs. Herman requested the data be shared directly (in addition to the presentation).

Mr. Bland asked what attendance interventions are in place. Dr. Miles highlighted work that Ms. Cox (Social Worker) is doing. Mr. Butler also shared that his data review has revealed a significant issue is late arrivals and early pickups - students aren't missing total days, but they are missing 1-2 hours each day. Mr. Bland requested a follow-up meeting with Dr. Miles and Mr. Butler about additional strategies he has had success with in his past work with truancy court.

B. 2026-2027 Enrollment Update

Mrs. Lineberry reviewed current-year enrollment and reported that the school recently opened a PK-3 class (at Operation Breakthrough) in addition to the existing PK-4 class. 1st & 7th grades continue to have open seats with very little applicants in the pipeline.

The City School Fair occurred on 11/10, with 2026-27 applications opening that day.

Mrs. Lineberry shared that attendance at the School Fair was down significantly (900 to 350).

Two weeks in, 2026-27 applications are close to historical trends, albeit slightly lower.

Mrs. Lineberry did note that Kindergarten is specifically starting lower than usual.

Mrs. Lineberry shared her excitement for the coming months of enrollment season!

VIII. Board Committee Business & Report: Executive

A. Committee Report

Dr. Miles reported that the Executive Committee discussed the CWCS settlement as well as initial rebranding timelines.

B. Conflict of Interest Forms

Mr. Brennan reminded the Board to sign their annual Conflict of Interest forms.

IX. Board Committee Business & Report: Academic Excellence

A. Committee Report

Dr. Miles reported the Committee meeting is scheduled for 12/4; the Committee will review assessment results and discuss upcoming charter goals.

X. Board Committee Business & Report: Finance & Operations

A. Review & Consideration of Monthly Financials (October 2025), including Check Register

Mrs. Butler reported that, based on October financials, the school remains in a strong financial position. The school's year-end cash projection is \$1.48m, which represents 62 days of cash on hand. The cash forecast decreased by \$139k since last month, driven primarily by expense growth. Additionally, while the Basic Formula funding forecast decreased by \$50k due to a reduction in CWW, this was largely offset by a \$62k increase in Transportation and High Needs funding. The total expense forecast, however, increased by \$152k to incorporate updated vendor forecasts (especially in substitute expenses and food costs).

Turning to the monthly financials, Mrs. Butler presented Page 13's Balance Sheet, showing a current Cash Balance of over \$2.4m, and a projected year-end balance of \$1.98m.

She presented Page 11's Income Statement, highlighting:

- Year-to-date revenue of over \$2.86m, against a budget of \$2.45m.
- Year-to-date expenses of \$2.53m, against a budget of \$2.83m.
- Net Income of \$329k, against a budget of (-\$376k).
- Forecasted year-end revenue of \$8.64m, against a budget of \$8.58m.
- Forecasted year-end expenses of \$8.73m, against a budget of \$8.49m.
- Forecasted year-end Net Income of (-\$85k) against a budget of \$92k.
- A projected 62 days of cash on hand position.

Mrs. Butler also noted that the budgeted CWCS payment is included in the above numbers at \$500k; that expense will now decrease down to \$300k.

The Board had discussion on FRL lagging and funding impacts. Dr. Miles gave an overview of the team's outreach plan to shore up the response rate.

Lastly, Mrs. Butler stated that the Finance Committee did not note anything as out of order on

the Check Register or Accounts Payable.

J. Herman made a motion to approve the October financials.

A. Bland seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

XI. Board Committee Business & Report: Brand Identity

A. Discussion on Rebranding Timeline

Dr. Miles reported that the school has engaged Magnetize, a Missouri-based marketing agency to lead the rebranding efforts. She shared there is an overall task force as well as individual focus groups that are scheduled to occur in the next month.

She and Magnetize's goal is to have a name finalist suggestion by February, with further brand markers (values, color, logo, mascot, student descriptors, etc.) by April 2nd.

Overall, everything new will be ready to go before the school goes before the State Board's renewal meeting. She did note that when the school goes before MCPSC for their initial hearing, the school will still be Citizens.

Mrs. Herman asked how aware the community is about the rebrand? Dr. Miles replied that the school sent communication in Spring 2024 to gauge initial interest and she is currently sending communication about non-renewal; that communication focus will now change to rebranding.

B.

Charter Renewal Deadlines

Dr. Miles reviewed the timeline for renewal submission with the Board, which includes:

- Feb. 2, 2026: Final documents are due to MCPSC
- Feb 23, 2026: Final submission due to MCPSC
- Feb 19, 2026: 2-hour public hearing date, which will take place prior (5:30p-7:30p) to the regular February board meeting (7:30p).

XII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Brennan

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY Pursuant to the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* and the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990*, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in a meeting or function of the Citizens of the World Kansas City Board may request assistance by contacting Dr. Danielle Miles at Danielle.Miles@cwckansascity.org, or by phone at (816) 499-8000.