APPROVED

Midtown Community School

Minutes

Regular Meeting (Virtual)

Board of Directors

Date and Time
Thursday January 22, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Location
Virtual via Zoom

Directors Present
A. Bland (remote), A. DeWilde (remote), B. Finocchario (remote), J. Herman (remote), J. MacDonald (remote), L. Butler (remote), S. Bond (remote), S. Rios (remote)

Directors Absent
None

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened
L. Butler

Guests Present
D. Miles (remote), R. Brennan (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

S. Rios called a meeting of the board of directors of Midtown Community School to order on Thursday Jan 22, 2026 at 6:03 PM.

B. Roll Call Attendance

C. Review & Consideration of Proposed Agenda

Dr. Miles requested the Board add a discussion item of "NCSC26 Conference" in the Executive Director's Report section.
A. DeWilde made a motion to approve agenda as modified.
J. MacDonald seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

Ms. Rios introduced herself, thanked the public, and provided an overview of the public comment process and guidelines. Ms. Rios then invited public comment; no comment was made.

III. Review & Consideration of Prior Meeting Minutes

A. December 18, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Board Minutes

A. Bland made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting (Virtual) on 12-18-25.
S. Bond seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Review & Consideration of Consent Agenda

Mrs. Rios presented the Consent Agenda and asked the Board if any member wanted to remove any item from the Consent Agenda in order to further discuss and/or solely vote on that item; no member did.

J. MacDonald made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.
J. Herman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

V. Board Report from Monthly School Events

A. Discussion

Dr. Miles previewed the school events coming up: Skate Party (Jan 29), PBL Showcase (Jan 30), and First Friday (Feb 6).

VI. New Business

A. Re-Approval of the 2025-2026 Special Education Compliance Plan

Dr. Miles reminded the Board that they approved the 2025-2026 Special Education Compliance Plan at the August 2025 meeting. However, DESE informed the school that DESE itself approved their plan on September 1, 2025, so they are requiring schools to have Board approval after this date; therefore, the Board needs to re-approve. Like always, she affirms and recommends the Board adopt compliance with the regular state plan.
A. DeWilde made a motion to re-approve the Special Education Compliance Plan.
A. Bland seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VII. Board Committee Business & Report: Executive

A. Review & Consideration of Crown Act Policy

Dr. Miles shared an overview of the proposed policy and said that the school already has protections around employee hairstyles; this policy now extends those protections to students.
A. Bland made a motion to approve the Policy as presented.
J. MacDonald seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.
L. Butler arrived at 6:14 PM.

VIII. Board Committee Business & Report: Brand Identity

A. Charter Renewal Deadlines

Dr. Miles reported that she sent the proposed renewal charter goals to MCPSC; Ms. McGeehon (Interim ED) provided brief feedback in that she encouraged the Board to remove the Financial Sustainability goal and also suggested the Attendance Goal should be a Board goal, not a Contract/Charter goal.

Otherwise, Dr. Miles affirmed she has the narrative sections pending to submit based on the school's mission/vision rebranding.

B. Discussion on Renewal Goals (Academic & Non-Academic)

Mrs. DeWilde presented the proposed Renewal Goals, which include:

1. Academic Goal 1: MAP Performance Index Growth
2. Academic Goal 2: NWEA MAP Growth

3. Academic Goal 3: Subgroup MAP Performance Index Growth
4. Attendance Goal: Student Attendance & Chronic Absenteeism Reduction
5. Family & Caregiver Engagement Goal: Student-Led Conferences
6. Financial Sustainability: Cash Reserve

She reiterated the proposal to remove the Financial Sustainability goal.

Mrs. DeWilde asked for discussion on removing or modifying the Student Attendance goal.

Dr. Miles also affirmed that the proposed Academic Goals align with MSIP-6 goals, so they should work in tandem.

C. Update on Rebranding

Dr. Miles reported that Magnetize (school rebrand consultant) presented a preliminary mission/vision to the rebranding task force. She felt they did a fantastic job holding focus groups and capturing the spirit and heartbeat of the school. She also shared they have a preliminary plan to share name options in early February.

She plans to share more detailed information with the Board at the February meeting.

D. Discussion on "Diverse by Design"

Dr. Miles reported that she met with Mr. Devine (MCPSA) and he does not see issues with the school continuing to affiliate with DCSC and publicly align as "Diverse by Design."

IX. Board Committee Business & Report: Finance & Operations

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

Mrs. Butler reported that the school's cash outlook improved by $312k since last month, driven by:

- +$293k: Increased State Basic Formula due to higher FRL count.
- +$100K: Increased grant funding.
- -($53k): Reduced Federal Food claim revenue based on trends.▪

This improvement now projects as a year-end cash position of $1.7m (71 days of cash on hand).

She also noted that expenses have shifted slightly to account for third-party billing for student support. Additionally, the budget process for the upcoming fiscal year is officially underway.

Turning to the monthly financials, Mrs. Butler presented Page 13's Balance Sheet, showing a current Cash Balance of over $2.5m, and a projected year-end balance of over $1.7m.

She presented Page 11's Income Statement, highlighting:

- Year-to-date revenue of over $4.3m, against a budget of $3.9m.
- Year-to-date expenses of $3.6m, against a budget of $4.2m.
- Net Income of $467k, against a budget of (-$340k).
- Forecasted year-end revenue of $8.69m, against a budget of $8.58m.
- Forecasted year-end expenses of $8.74m, against a budget of $8.49m.
- Forecasted year-end Net Income of (-$52k) against a budget of $92k.
- A projected 71 days of cash on hand position.

Lastly, Mrs. Butler stated that the Finance Committee did not note anything as out of order on the Check Register or Accounts Payable.

S. Rios made a motion to approve Finances (reword).
A. DeWilde seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

X. Executive Director's Report

A. 2026-2027 Enrollment Update

Mrs. Lineberry reported the team has continued to welcome new students for this year.

Re-Enrollment will open next Thursday for all current PK-7th graders and go through the end of February for guaranteed seats; school staff will use those numbers to see how many open seats the school will have available for the new student lottery.

Current Operation Breakthrough elementary students will be given information to either re-enroll with Citizens or enroll through the new partnership LEA school. This may influence retention numbers.

She gave an overview of planned re-enrollment communication and retention efforts (email/texts, flyers, raffle, personal outreaches, calls, and conference check-ins). Additionally, this year, the school will be requiring a new proof of residency, which may also impact the school's retention percentage.

Mrs. Lineberry gave an overview of the current applications (which are lower than usual/expected), but also presented and compared that to overall SchoolAppKC applications received, and she noted this is also their lowest number of applications received year-to-date.

She presented overall recruitment efforts, noting that efforts will be increased this year (in response to the low rate so far, but also for the increased seats due to the expansion project). There is a USPS mailer going out to 12,500 families this week, she is sending personal notecards to "warm leads," planning for a strong increase in social media advertising, and will host School Saturday next weekend.

Ms. Rios and Mr. MacDonald both commended Mrs. Lineberry for her work and for her presentation.

B. NCSC26

Dr. Miles confirmed that the National Charter School Conference (NCSC26) will be held June 24-26th in New Orleans. She highly encouraged the Board to attend and noted there is a Board track for presentations and networking. She asked the Board to let her know if they would like to attend.

XI. Closed Session

A. Roll Call Vote to Enter

Ms. Rios stated that, pursuant to § 610.021(1) RSMo, the Board will enter into closed session to discuss matters related to Legal Discussion.

Ms. Rios invited Dr. Miles and Mr. Brennan (Citizens staff) as well as Mr. Devine (MCPSA) to Closed Session.
S. Rios made a motion to Enter Closed Session.
A. DeWilde seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
S. Bond	Aye
L. Butler	Aye
A. Bland	Aye
S. Rios	Aye
J. Herman	Aye
A. DeWilde	Aye
B. Finocchario	Aye
J. MacDonald	Aye

XII. Return from Closed Session

A.

Report on any Action Taken as Required

Ms. Rios welcomed members of the public back into Open Session and reported that discussion related to (1) Legal Discussion. There were no actions taken that require reporting.
A. DeWilde made a motion to revert the February Regular Meeting to Virtual.
B. Finocchario seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

XIII. 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 8:19 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.