APPROVED

Midtown Community School

Minutes

Regular Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday August 25, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Location
Park39, Meeting Room 2-I

Directors Present
A. DeWilde, B. Finocchario, J. Herman, L. Butler, S. Bond, S. Rios

Directors Absent
A. Bland, S. Moore

Guests Present
D. Miles, R. Brennan

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 Tuesday Aug 25, 2026 at 6:01 PM.

B. Roll Call Attendance

C. Review & Consideration of Proposed Agenda

Dr. Miles stated that the school's counsel has not had an opportunity to review the "Excessive Staff PTO & Tardiness" Policy; therefore, she is requesting to remove that item from the agenda.
J. Herman made a motion to approve the Agenda as revised.
S. Bond seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously 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.

Dr. Miles introduced a colleague, Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick, Ridgeway R-V District Superintendent, from her Superintendent certification class that will be sitting in tonight.

Ms. Rios then invited public comment; no comment was made.

III. Review & Consideration of Prior Meeting Minutes

A. July 23, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Board Minutes

B. Finocchario made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting [Virtual] on 07-23-26.
L. Butler seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Review & Consideration of Consent Agenda

Ms. 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. Herman made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.
A. DeWilde seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Board Report from Monthly School Events

A. Discussion

Dr. Miles previewed the school-wide events that are upcoming in September, including:

- First Friday, September 4th - this will be the first First Friday as Midtown Community School and students are excited to unveil new traditions, including songs!
- September 10th, 6pm, Back-to-School Night (which includes the Title I presentation, a curriculum overview, and an ice cream social).

VI. Board Committee Business & Report: Executive

A. Affirmation of Annual Executive Director Evaluation Completion

Mrs. DeWilde affirmed that the annual Executive Director evaluation process was complete, but did note that she and Dr. Miles are still working on setting 2026-2027 goals.

B. Update on 2026-2027 Board Policy Manual, Employee Handbook, & Family Handbook

Dr. Miles shared that, due to the intensive nature of the rebranding effort over the past few months, work is still ongoing in each of the three policy manuals before they are ready to present for approval. She expects completion at the September Board meeting.

C. Review & Consideration of "Enrollment for Out-of-District Employee Children" Policy

Dr. Miles shared with the Board that, prior to 2024, school districts (including charters) could not enroll out-of-district children, even if the parents were district employees. In 2024, the Missouri Legislature passed a law that allowed such enrollment, provided that the school board passed such a policy. Thus, she is requesting and recommending this policy be approved.

Mrs. DeWilde asked a clarifying question regarding lottery weights of out-of-district employee children; Mr. Brennan confirmed such students would be weighted as "Staff Children."

L. Butler made a motion to adopt the Policy as proposed.
B. Finocchario seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Review & Consideration of "Donations, Fundraisers, & Grants" Policy

Dr. Miles shared that this Policy would be a part of the Employee Handbook. In the past, there has been confusion and lack of clarity on how staff could utilize donations and fundraisers; this policy will provide guidance and an overview on how the school, and employees, will handle donations, fundraisers, and grants.

Dr. Miles gave a brief overview. Mrs. DeWilde asked a question about rolling funds over; Mr. Brennan and Dr. Miles answered with a philosophical distinction that the school will "fundraise for need, rather than for routine."
B. Finocchario made a motion to adopt the Policy as proposed.
L. Butler seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Review & Consideration of "Middle School Take-Home Technology" Policy

Dr. Miles presented this policy to be placed into the Family Handbook. This policy will allow 6th-8th grade students to take their Chromebook device home with them. The accountability will be built-in for families; families will be required to sign an agreement before devices can go home.

Dr. Miles also said that, looking ahead to next year, she is researching a technology fee implementation and is currently researching best practices.

Mrs. Bond noted that she would like applicable replacement costs listed out; Mrs. Rios agreed. Mrs. Lineberry noted that those damages are listed (and agreed to) during registration and Dr. Miles affirmed that would therefore be an easy addition to make to this policy.
S. Bond made a motion to approve the Policy as revised.
A. DeWilde seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Review & Consideration of "Parent/Guardian Organization" Policy

Dr. Miles presented this Policy to be included in both the Policy Manual as well as mirrored in the Family Handbook. The policy establishes guidelines for an official Parent-Guardian Organization and specifies the requirements for the PGO's own 501(c)3 status, bank account, own bylaws, record-keeping, and audit.

Ms. Rios asked if is this how most schools establish their PGO? Dr. Miles affirmed that almost every district has completely separate parent organizations as noted.

Mrs. Herman asked if there a staff liaison already identified? Dr. Miles confirmed so, but clarified the liaison is not an approver of PGO activity and support; the Building Principals are. Mrs. Herman understood and therefore recommended a regular standing meeting between the PGO representative and liaison, with an approver present. Dr. Miles agreed.

Dr. Miles also noted the PGO is specifically not a PTA requiring parents/guardians to "join," so there are no dues.
J. Herman made a motion to approve the Policy as clarified.
S. Bond seconded the motion.

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

G. Discussion on Chair-Elect Nomination

Mrs. Rios reminded the Board that she and Ms. Finocchario's terms are ending in March. Ms. Finocchario plans to roll off. Ms. Rios plans to stay on for another term as a Member, but not as Chair. Therefore, according to the bylaws, the Board needs to identify a Chair-Elect.

She stated that duties entail leading the Board Executive Committee and holding meetings with the Superintendent.

Mrs. Herman asked for additional detail on the time commitment and asked what a required timeline for the decision is. Ms. Rios answered, and said if there is a Member interested tonight, the Board could hold a vote; if not, the Board needs to appoint a Chair-Elect at the September Board meeting.

The Board did not have further questions or discussion and tabled the appointment to the September Regular Meeting.

VII. Board Committee Business & Report: Finance & Operations

A. Board Notification of New Credit Card Holder - E. Bideau

Per Policy, Dr. Miles notified the Board that the Elementary Principal, Mrs. Emma Bideau, will be issued a credit card.

B. Review & Consideration of Monthly Financials (July 2026), including Check Register

Mrs. Butler presented the August 2026 financials. The school is off to an early start to track to the budgeted 93 days of cash on hand. She reminded the Board that the final FY26 cash ended +$293k above budget, which provided a strong starting position for FY27. The budget still reflects a $15,150 WAM/WADA amount; typically, the monthly state payments start high, then settle throughout the fall. True to form, the two payments received thus far have come in high, but the school has not re-forecasted nor incorporated a higher amount yet. Mrs. Butler also noted the bank repayment will begin later this fall and the Finance Committee will work with EdOps to ensure clarity between operating and bond revenues/expenses.

Turning to the monthly financials, Mrs. Butler presented Page 11’s Balance Sheet, showing a current Cash Balance of $2.4m, and a projected year-end balance of $2.5m. She presented Page 9’s Income Statement, highlighting:

- Year-to-date revenue of $1.1m, against a budget of $473k.

- Year-to-date expenses of $975k, against a budget of $779k.
- Net Income of $124k, against a budget of (-$306k).
- Forecasted year-end revenue of $9.85m, against a budget of $9.53m.
- Forecasted year-end expenses of $9.66m, against a budget of $9.36m.
- Forecasted year-end Net Income of $193k against a budget of $174k.
- A projected 94 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.
Upon reviewing the Check Register, Ms. Bond noted there was a potential personal Conflict of Interest with a vendor.

After initial discussion, she would like to put an agenda item on the September Board meeting for further discussion.
A. DeWilde made a motion to approve the July Financials.
B. Finocchario seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

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

VIII. Old Business

A. Medicaid Reimbursement

Dr. Miles informed the Board that our vendor gave notice that they are unable to support reimbursement services if the Board is not willing to provide personal social security numbers. Hon. Bland and Dr. Miles are not at a point to provide a Board recommendation; they need to further connect with MCPSA.

Board discussion centered around complying with the request.

Dr. Miles will ask the vendor to resend the contract, and Dr. Miles will forward to Ms. Bond for review and discussion.

IX. New Business

A. Park39 Office & Meeting Room Update

Dr. Miles shared with the Board that Park39 has been sold to Academie Lafayette and all tenants, including Midtown, will need to vacate by September 30th.

She said the Board will thus need to identify an alternative in-person location for future meetings and affirm via vote.

She suggested the school building in either the Music or Art Rooms; the Board discussed.

B. Review & Consideration of Board Meeting Location

B. Finocchario made a motion to move the reminder of the in-person 2026-27 board meetings to the MCS building.
L. Butler seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

X. Superintendent's Report

A. Report on First Day of School

Dr. Miles reflected positively on the first day of school, expressing joy at welcoming students back, appreciation for teachers returning to the work they do best, and particular gratitude for the leadership of the two building principals. She also provided an initial overview of first-week enrollment and noted that a more detailed report would be presented at the September meeting once enrollment numbers have stabilized.

B. Report on 2026 Excellence in Education Awards

Dr. Miles proudly reported that Mrs. Lineberry won the Support Staff category at the Excellence in Education Awards, presented by SchoolSmart KC and the KC Royals Foundation.

The Board shared strong congratulations and encouragement with Mrs. Lineberry.

XI. 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 7:07 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 Midtown Community School Board may request assistance by contacting Dr. Danielle Miles at Danielle.Miles@midtowncommunityschool.org, or by phone at (816) 499-8000.