

APPROVED



**ONE CITY**  
SCHOOLS

## One City Schools

# Minutes

## One City Regular Board Meeting

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### **Date and Time**

Tuesday July 25, 2023 at 4:00 PM

### **Location**

One City Broadway, 1707 W. Broadway, Monona, WI 53713 (lower level)

Only One City Board members, staff and invited guests are allowed to participate in-person.

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Zoom link: <https://onecityschools.zoom.us/j/96414211790>

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### **Directors Present**

C. Gaines (remote), D. Aguayo (remote), G. Derzon (remote), G. Ladson-Billings (remote), J. Krupp, M. Hanson, N. Wray (remote), S. Klug (remote), S. Stroman (remote), T. Jaeckle, T. Pedracine (remote)

### **Directors Absent**

*None*

### **Guests Present**

G. Wiseman, L. Holiday (remote), M. Ruffin

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## **I. Opening Items**

### **A. Record Attendance**

### **B.**

### **Call the Meeting to Order**

N. Wray called a meeting of the board of directors of One City Schools to order on Tuesday Jul 25, 2023 at 4:00 PM.

### **C. Move to Closed Session**

J. Krupp made a motion to Move to closed session.

S. Klug seconded the motion.

The Board contemplated, and voted on, a MOTION to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes under Section 19.85(1) (f) and (g) for the purpose of conferring with the Board's legal counsel, who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by Board with respect to an employee complaint; and (e) and (f) for the purpose of discussing the financial history of donors and strategies for the investment of funds, which if discussed in public would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the individual donors.

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

### **D. Move to Open Session**

There being no action taken during the closed session of the Board, the Board voted to move into open session to address items remaining on the agenda.

### **E. Approve Minutes**

T. Jaeckle made a motion to approve the minutes from One City Regular Board Meeting on 06-27-23.

J. Krupp seconded the motion.

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

## **II. June 2023 Financial Statements Review and Approval**

### **A. Approve June 2023 Financial Statements**

J. Krupp made a motion to approve the June 2023 financial statements.

M. Hanson seconded the motion.

T. Jaeckle reported that One City Schools ended the year in the black. He provided a breakdown of expenses, and shared how changes to funding and our growth model will allow us to rely less on fundraising in the future.

The first charter payment will be made sometime after the 1st week of September. Board members agreed that it is a good idea to always have a line of credit available in between payments. K. Caire will reach out to Summit Credit Union.

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

## **III. Introduction of One City Schools' New Middle School Director**

#### **A. Welcome to Ayodeji Ogunniyi**

One City's new middle school director Ayodeji Ogunniyi (Ayo) spoke about his background, and what led him to One City.

Mr. Ogunniyi will lead our 5th through 8th grades, beginning with 5th through 7th during the 2023-24 school year and adding 8th grade in 2024-25. He will report to the CEO and will serve as a member of our Executive Team.

Mr. Ogunniyi is a distinguished educator who comes to One City from the Chicagoland area where he has spent more than 15 years as a teacher and administrator in education, primarily at the secondary level (grade 6 - 12). His life's work has been to re-imagine the outcomes of public education for underserved youth so they can live prosperous, generous and impactful lives as adults.

Mr. Ogunniyi has been meeting with families and getting to know our Scholars and team and is excited about the coming school year.

#### **IV. Department Updates**

##### **A. Advocacy, Enrollment and Staffing Updates**

L Holiday provided an overview of the work our lobbying team has done so far and shared some plans for their future work. L. Holiday confirmed that the new funding will provide \$11,385 per student in the 2023-24 school year. That amount will increase to \$11,729 in the 2024-25 school year.

N. Fees provided a brief staffing update. We have hired nearly to capacity.

Slides from Ms. Holiday's and Ms. Fee's presentations, along with a presentation from M. Ruffin around enrollment will be shared with Board members to review.

#### **V. Remarks by Board Chair, Dr. Noble Wray**

##### **A. Remarks by Chair Wray**

Chair Noble Wray is stepping down as Chair but will remain a member of the Board. His commitment to One City is not and never has waned.

N.Wray shared that there are four key things that the One City Board of Directors has embraced during his time as Chair:

- 1) Preschool parents decided they wanted us to create a school for their kids in higher grades. The Board focus was to grow the school by grades. We have grown, in spite of some growing pains.
- 2) Knowing that we needed a permanent home for our schools, we were very connected initially with the Cultural Center. Ultimately, we had to move away from that partnership,

due to a different focus and time line. Board members worked with staff to ensure the successful purchase of our elementary and secondary school campus.

3) The One City Board is not a typical School Board - in some ways, yes, but school boards don't help to raise or donate money. Our Board members do. They also attend community events and volunteer in various capacities at our schools.

4) Board members can be very proud of the fact that we persevered during the pandemic. One City remained open and serving our families when most schools did not.

N. Wray further stated that the Board has provided continuous feedback to the CEO.

This past year was one of the most difficult years of all. When CEO K. Caire said that we must engage in advocacy, Board members understood and supported this important work. Board members remained engaged and saw One City through this critical time, and are thrilled that we are in good shape now.

Chair Wray stated that serving as Chair of the One City Board in these early years of the school, helping to lay a strong foundation for future success, is one of the most challenging and most rewarding things he has ever done in his life.

Moving forward, some suggestions for the Board to look into include:

- Surveying members to learn the best meeting time.
- Some items could be moved to a consent agenda, which would save time for Board members to deliberate on the most important issues.
- Board members have engaged in evaluation of the CEO. We should conduct an evaluation of the Board periodically as well.
- Now that the funding formula is in place and our schools are more secure, the Board should work with staff to establish a fundraising target each year.
- Succession planning for all Board officers should be laid out. We must always keep parents on the Board.

Board members and staff thanked N. Wray for his work and his comments and staff shared that our in person Board meeting in September will be a celebration of N. Wray's work as Chair and the successful first month of school.

## **VI. 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 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
G. Wiseman

For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact staff secretary to the board, Gail Wiseman at (608) 514-6119 or [gwiseman@onecityschools.org](mailto:gwiseman@onecityschools.org).