



## Board of Directors, Meeting Notes

October 23, 2018

Location: CICS Ralph Ellison - 1817 W. 80<sup>th</sup> Street • Chicago, IL 60620

Time: 4:00 PM–6:00 PM

- I. Introduction (4:00-4:05)
  - a. Board Members: Laura Thonn, David Blinderman, Violet Clark, Aylon Samouha,
  - b. Brian Novelline and Elizabeth Shaw. Kate Gottfred via phone.
  - c. Visitors: Kenyatta Starks, Stephen McClain, Empowered Community Schools; Stephen Crosier, ChicagoRise; Erin Lanoue, Distinctive Schools; Lahari Goud, Ulric Shannon, Terrence Donte' Abdurrahim, Civitas Education Partners; and Yana Kunichff, Chalkbeat.
  - d. CICS Staff: Kathleen Clarke, Darrious Hilmon, Neil Shah, Jerry Lambrinatos, Meghan Schmidt, Dave Gershenson, Luis Sanchez, Jennifer Rocha, Christine Leung, and Paul Boye.
  
- II. Public Comment (4:05- 4:15)
  - a. Public comment from four (4) Civitas Education Partners staff members. Letters were submitted. Approximately 40 Civitas Education Partners were present.
  
- III. Approval of previous meeting minutes (4:15- 4:20)
  - a. A motion was made by David Blinderman to approve board meeting minutes from June 19, 2018. Motion was seconded, and Board Minutes were approved.
  
- IV. Facilities Update (4:20-4:30) Kathleen Clarke
  - a. CICS capital projects–Summer 2018–52 projects over 13 CICS campuses–\$4,238,380.
  - b. Main summer projects–CICS Longwood Auditorium and CICS Northtown community room.
  - c. Upcoming project–new windows for CICS Northtown.
  
- V. Innovation Spotlight (4:30-4:40) Lahari Goud
  - a. Civitas Community Impact Experience (CCIE) for CICS ChicagoQuest students.
  - b. CCIE is an off-campus, year-long project based, community-integrated learning experience with Chicago as a classroom.
  - c. Two (2) projects-Social Entrepreneurship Ventures and Building an Escape Room.
  - d. Ms. Goud invited volunteers to participate.



- VI. CEO Report (4:40- 4:50) Elizabeth Shaw
  - a. FY 19 Strategies reviewed (Excellent Schools, Accountability, Incubation and Innovation and Vibrant Communities and Recast to Portfolio Excellence, Incubation and Innovation and Enabling Conditions.
  - b. Development—\$873K Walton Family Foundation grant award. Pursuing local and national foundations.
  - c. Incubation and Innovation 2.0 has started with new team members who will continue building the Innovation pipeline and strengthen the Education Entrepreneur Fellows.
  
- VII. Enrollment Report (4:50-4:55) Darrious Hilmon
  - a. CICS enrollment-8285 students. The CICS YOY enrollment is down 188 students.
  - b. Discussion / questions centered on grade level, building capacity, conducting exit surveys and new GoCPS high school application process.
  - c. Discussion emphasized the importance of communicating the CICS story with our value proposition.
  
- VIII. Finance (4:55- 5:05) Neil Shaw
  - a. Presented revised SY 19 budget.
  - b. A motion to approve the revised budget was made by Laura Thonn. Motion was seconded, and budget was approved.
  
- IX. Board Development (5:05-5:30) Lucy Castillo
  - a. Board Development presentation by Charter Board Partners. Topics included, but not limited to: CICS Board retreat survey, candidate recruitment, Board member matrix, CICS Board member agreements, possible student and parent Board members and revamping CICS Board committees.
  - b. Recruit CICS Board members to support growth and possible expansion.
  
- X. Growth Strategy (5:30-5:55) Christine Leung
  - a. Continued focus on Incubation and Innovation.
  - b. Discussion focused on CICS leadership clarifying “growth” for CICS. Leadership team has “interrogated their assumptions” and have shifted pillars into three (3) areas: Increase Quality, Creating New and Influencing Others.
  - c. Possible expansion includes: four (4) micro inventions and SY 21 opening two (2) new schools—Diverse-by-Design and an Alternative School.
  
- XI. Voting Items:
  - a. June Board meeting minutes were approved.
  - b. Revised SY 19 CICS budget was approved.
  
- XII. Adjourn (6:00)



- a. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Laura Thonn and seconded by Brian Novelline. Approved by all.