

Matchbook Learning
January 18, 2021 Board Meeting

Location: Virtually at: <https://matchbooklearning.zoom.us/j/81371971260>

Time: 5:00pm

Board in Attendance

Sajan George - Board Chair - Phone
 Russell Menyhart - Phone
 Ali King - Phone
 Maureen Donohue Krauss - Phone
 Mike Cosack - Phone
 Jenny Davis Poon - Phone
 Starla Hart - Phone
 Bill Taft - Phone
 Dr. Kurt Nelson - Phone

Non Board Members Attending

Dr. Amy Swann, Matchbook Learning CEO & Head of School
 Don Stewart, Matchbook Learning Director of Finance
 Eric McGuire, Matchbook Learning Director of Personalization

5:00 pm: Welcome. Roll call for attendance must be done with recorded verbal responses noted in the minutes. Additionally, any Board votes must also be done via roll call and recorded.

Attendance Roll Call	
Sajan George	Present
Russell Menyhart	Present
Ali King	Present
Maureen Donahue Krauss	Present
Mike Cosack	Present
Jenny Davis Poon	Present
Starla Hart	Present
Bill Taft	Present
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Present

Vote to Approve linked [November Board Minutes](#).

Vote to Approve November Board Meeting Minutes	
Sajan George	Motion
Russell Menyhart	Yes
Ali King	Yes
Maureen Donahue Krauss	Yes
Mike Cosack	Second
Jenny Davis Poon	Yes
Starla Hart	Yes
Bill Taft	Yes
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Yes

Motion to approve November board minutes carries.

5:05 pm ACADEMIC UPDATE

Currently we are working on our mid-year Performance Series Assessments and will have an update for the board on our students' academic progress during the next board meeting.

As we look to the future and solving our enrollment capacity issues we can at the same time look to further our long term goals of securing viable pathways to good jobs for our students and community. [This linked document describes why the board is asked to consider expansion as well as how we might expand.](#) This document will also help the Board to discuss the following key questions:

1. Timing: Is now the right time to consider pursuing an expansion?
2. Vision: Is a Career & Technical Institute for high school grades the best way to move our vision forward and realize our dream of eliminating poverty for the children we serve?
3. Risk: Apart from philanthropy, how much should we commit financially in terms of both reserves and current and projected surplus from 63 towards this? What building option best serves our academic needs AND balances our financial risk appropriately?

Board discussion: Sajan George framed the mission and vision for the expansion as it relates to community needs and reality based on the need for additional capacity for enrollment in our K-8. The board chair framed the need to build consensus since the timeline for charter application for the spring of this year is tight to prepare for a Fall 2022 opening. Ali King noted the price per square foot meets comparable locations but would likely go below asking based on flooding and other issues. Maureen Donahue Krauss noted preference for building new on greenspace versus renovation and revisited additional partnerships for trades and technical certifications or apprenticeships for students. Bill Taft stated preference for reuse vs. build depending upon it meeting the right needs for the school. Specifically, is the size right or is it too much building? Starla Hart shared 16 Tech feasibility data with the focus on the following career areas: information technology, advanced manufacturing, and life sciences. Ali King added that this school model would not necessarily need to create the entire pathway, as many sectors with need are able to provide training specific to the company needs. Sajan George noted that there are resources and support from CIE and The Mind Trust as it relates to site feasibility and facility studies to have additional information prior to a final site decision. Ali King and Kurt Nelson both stated a positive impact of anchoring within the community in a structure for improvement for the community. Jenny Poon refocused back on the mission and vision questions prior to discussing the specifics for the site and building logistics. Additionally, Jenny Poon posed a question to clarify which (if any) of the pathways would also lead to postsecondary education and to ensure that the technical and college preparatory tracks are aligned and linked.

Bill Taft brought the question of the impact to the K-8 community school if we launch a high school. Specifically, to ensure that K-8 enrollment capacity needs are still met with this proposed solution of launching a unique high school model. Jenny Poon added a question to ensure the capacity of the partners given the economic impact of COVID-19.

Vote to proceed with due diligence and applications necessary to both meet and serve the demand for K-8 school while pursuing a growth strategy for a college, career and tech high school.	
Sajan George	Motion
Russell Menyhart	Yes
Ali King	Yes

Maureen Donahue Krauss	Second
Mike Cosack	Yes
Jenny Davis Poon	Yes
Starla Hart	Yes
Bill Taft	Yes
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Yes

Motion carries to proceed with due diligence and applications necessary to both meet and serve the demand for K-8 school while pursuing a growth strategy for a college, career and tech high school.

6:05 pm - COVID Updates

Eric McGuire will update the board on our current status based on the most recent information from the health department and our updated numbers.

6:15 pm - FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT.

Our current cash position is \$2,174,468 with \$1,424,468 as cash on hand and \$750,000 in our Future Needs Fund. Based on our finance committee goals, we are currently in a strong position for now and are looking towards a strong future.

Legislatures and researchers have predicted that while state school funds have not yet changed, the upcoming school year will see cuts and the predicted decreases in funding will continue through 2025. Additionally, according to Legislatures the win in the upcoming sessions will be if funding remains the same. Restructuring is likely necessary due to the financial cuts coming and the board will be updated on the financial cuts as soon as we are aware of the amounts.

Vote to approve the linked [Current Financial Position](#). Plus increase of future needs funds up to \$1,000,000.

Vote to approve current financial position and increase future needs fund to \$1,000,000.	
Sajan George	Yes
Russell Menyhart	Second
Ali King	Yes
Maureen Donahue Krauss	Yes
Mike Cosack	Motion
Jenny Davis Poon	Yes
Starla Hart	Yes
Bill Taft	Yes
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Yes

Motion to approve current financial position and increase future needs to \$1,000,000 carries.

6:20 pm COMMUNITY UPDATE

Exciting news from the community! IU, City Council, Indy Convergence and the Parks Department are coming together to look at doing more beautification and trails behind our school and they are finally moving on level a field for us out back! Eric McGuire can update us on this.

6:25 pm OPERATIONS UPDATE

Linked is the Board's [Goal Tracking Dashboard](#). As you can see from the dashboard we are either already in the green for most goals and those that are not met are yellow and on their way to being met. The one goal that might remain yellow this year is the attendance goal which is affected by the pandemic.

We have our [Reporting and Anti-Retaliation Policy](#) that was linked for the Board previously and has now been reviewed and edited by Russel Menyhart.

Vote to Approve Reporting and Anti Retaliation Policy.	
Sajan George	Yes
Russell Menyhart	Motion
Ali King	Yes
Maureen Donahue Krauss	Second
Mike Cosack	Yes
Jenny Davis Poon	Yes
Starla Hart	Yes
Bill Taft	Yes
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Yes

Motion to approve reporting and anti-retaliation policy carries.

6:28 pm PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Jeff Mayo noted that 8-10 of our eLearning Special Education students have demonstrated significant growth.

Sheila Corbin shared appreciation for the board comments and conversations around supporting K-8 while we consider expansion.

Dr. Amy Swann noted in public comment the appreciation for the staff who stepped up to make a seamless transition back to learning from winter break.

6:30 pm Adjourn.

Vote to Adjourn	
Sajan George	Motion
Russell Menyhart	Yes
Ali King	Yes

Maureen Donahue Krauss	Yes
Mike Cosack	Yes
Jenny Davis Poon	Second
Starla Hart	Yes
Bill Taft	Yes
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Yes

Motion to adjourn carries at 6:32 PM.