

**Matchbook Learning**  
**November 15, 2021 Board Meeting**

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

**Time:** 5:00pm

**Board in Attendance**

Sajan George - Board Chair  
 Ali King  
 Maureen Donohue Krauss  
 Mike Cosack  
 Jenny Davis Poon  
 Bill Taft  
 Dr. Kurt Nelson  
 John Polk  
 Kayla Moody-Grant

**Non Board Members Attending**

Dr. Amy Swann, Matchbook Learning CEO & Head of Schools  
 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
John Polk	Present
Ali King	Present
Maureen Donahue Krauss	Present
Mike Cosack	Present
Jenny Davis Poon	Present
Bill Taft	Present
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Present
Kayla Moody-Grant	Present

**Vote to Approve linked [September Board](#) & [Special Called October](#) Board Minutes.**

Vote to Approve September and October (special) Board Meeting Minutes	
Sajan George	Approve
John Polk	Approve
Ali King	Second
Maureen Donahue Krauss	Approve
Mike Cosack	Approve
Jenny Davis Poon	Approve
Bill Taft	Approve
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Motion

Kayla Moody-Grant	Approve
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**Motion to approve September Board Meeting Minutes and October Special Called Meeting minutes carries.**

**5:35 pm - COVID Updates**

Eric McGuire will update the board on our current status based on the most recent information from the health department. At this point we are fully masked and have had more staff and student cases in comparison to last year but are still operating well in person with the case transmissions being traced from outside of the school. We also have a new nurse practitioner, Alli McCarley, FNP-C.

**5:40 pm - FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT.**

Our current cash position is \$2,203,842 with \$703,842 as cash on hand and \$1,500,000 in our Future Needs Fund. Based on our finance committee goals and the goals OEI has for us, we are currently in a strong financial position.

An additional note is that we are currently under budget on our salaries and wages. This is because we are currently not fully staffed with the additional teachers and staff members budgeted with our ESSER funds and we budgeted additional in case benefits made a large jump. We are working on getting those hires in to decrease the sizes of small groups and have building substitutes. Currently, we have 4 people starting later this month and others that we are interviewing. We also have a social work position that will be posted and ideally hired by the end of next month.

**Vote to approve the linked [Current Financial Position](#).**

Vote to approve current financials	
Sajan George	Approve
John Polk	Approve
Ali King	Motion
Maureen Donahue Krauss	Approve
Mike Cosack	Approve
Jenny Davis Poon	Approve
Bill Taft	Approve
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Approve
Kayla Moody-Grant	Second

**Motion to approve current financial position carries.**

Additional financial related items for board briefing: Per pupil funding by school in Indianapolis (data linked [here](#)) shows that Matchbook Learning is the lowest funded school. This is a combination of exclusion from IPS referendum dollars and incorrect calculation of our complexity index funding from the IPS passthrough. The IPS board of commissioners is set to vote on a proposal this week to fund \$500 per in-district student out of referendum dollars. This would be a total budget increase for us of approximately \$326,000 annually. However, our per pupil will still be the lowest due to the incorrect calculation of our complexity funding from the IPS passthrough. IPS has calculated our school as .4208 with a justification of 271 students with SNAP, 0 TANF, and 0 Foster students. Based on our records, pulled from the state

direct certification, and dropping duplicates, our numbers came out to 361 SNAP, 0 TANF, and 2 Foster (from 10/1/2020). This would have us calculated at a rate of .5636. This amounts to underfunding Matchbook Learning \$505.37 per pupil, which would be \$329,501.24 annually. Based on conversations with IDOE, IPS is responsible for maintaining these calculations at the district level. While IPS contends that they are operating with the information provided directly from IDOE. IPS has not responded back to our email stating that we are being underfunded based on our contract.

### **5:55 pm COMMUNITY UPDATE**

The Community Committee met and we are working on support for our annual Thanksgiving dinner. Additionally, we are developing a fundraising link that Board members will be able to share throughout your networks to help us raise funds for things like building and expansion, sports (high school athletics will be costly to start), literacy, STEM, college tours, food pantry & family services, mental health, and classroom supplies. A link for this will be sent to you prior to the next meeting so please watch your email.

Coming up is also our big community first semester **Celebration of Learning, December 15, 2021 from 6:00pm-7:30pm.**

We brought back the *Diversity of Thought Project* to do training with our staff again this year and to do a follow up Diversity and Equity Audit for us to see how we are doing as compared to last year. The major takeaways from the results showed:

- Does this school build/value a diverse staff?
  - 85% yes, 4% no, 11% unsure
  - 27% increase in positive (yes) responses
- Do you feel like you can be your authentic self with your colleagues? With your students?
  - 85% yes, 12% no, 3% unsure
  - 5% increase in positive (yes) responses
- **Major Areas of Improvements (Qualitative & Quantitative Data Summary)**
  - Staff and leadership have made diversity and inclusion a major focus
  - Staff seem to better understand and utilize restorative circles
  - Staff seem to feel more connected and better able to be themselves
  - Huge desire to learn and improve from everyone

An additional note is that our Culturally Responsive Team as a committee voted to change its name and is now our Educators for Equity (E4E) committee.

### **6:00 pm ACADEMIC UPDATE**

83% of parents participated in our Parent in Touch Day academic conferences surpassing our goal for the year. We also currently have the highest attendance rate in the city at 93%.

Instructional Rounds are going well with academic and nonacademic members of leadership as well as two teachers per round. If any Board member would like to join us for Instructional Rounds, please reach out and Dr. Swann will send an invite for the next month. For a description of the what, why, and how procedures/protocols we utilize for instructional rounds, please see the linked [Instructional Rounds](#) document. (Note that due to COVID each classroom is observed for 10 minutes vs the traditional 20 minutes.)

From the last 3 rounds we discovered:

#### **Our Observed Strengths:**

1. **Students are ready to learn!**

2. **Platform Engagement** -- students remaining engaged on the academic platforms during personalized time; students were not surfing random sites.
3. **Questioning strategies, turn and talks, and other engagement strategies are being utilized.**

**Our Areas to Work On:**

1. **Procedures for students to find resources on their own.** When students are working independently and don't know how to do something, they should have been taught what resources to utilize so that they don't have down time in their learning process.
2. **Engagement vs. Compliance.** When closely observing we have more students being compliant than actually engaging. We are working with the teachers on strategies to increase engagement over compliance.

The results of our Instructional Rounds will be shared with the faculty in our December PD, presented by the teachers that participated along with strategies to support the areas we need to work on.

Our beginning of the year academic data can be found linked here on our [Academic Dashboard](#). As you can see our 3-8 testing grades Beginning of the Year data shows that we are starting the year in ELA where the state assessments from last school year had us on proficiency (12.2%). The Board goal on proficiency is 21% in ELA. In math we are starting the year 3-8 predicted above where we were last year on the state assessment for proficiency (11.7%). The Board goal on proficiency in math is 17%. We believe from our formative assessments and observations that our January mid year Performance Series assessments will show growth and increased proficiency from our starting points towards our goals for the year.

Also of note is that Indiana has now gone away from the A-F system of scoring schools. The state Board is currently working on finalizing what a dashboard for schools might look like that they will pass on to legislatures for the January session. Those categories are:

**ACADEMIC MASTERY**

**CAREER & POSTSECONDARY READINESS: CREDENTIALS & EXPERIENCES**

**COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION**

**WORK ETHIC**

**CIVIC, FINANCIAL, & DIGITAL LITERACY**

Once this is finalized, as a Board we need to look at our goals and see what we might revamp to align to the new state goals for 2022-23.

### **6:10 pm OPERATIONS UPDATE**

Linked is the [Board's Goal Tracking Dashboard for 2021-22](#).

This fall we competed in elementary and middle school age athletics. We had over 80 children participating on all 6 teams.

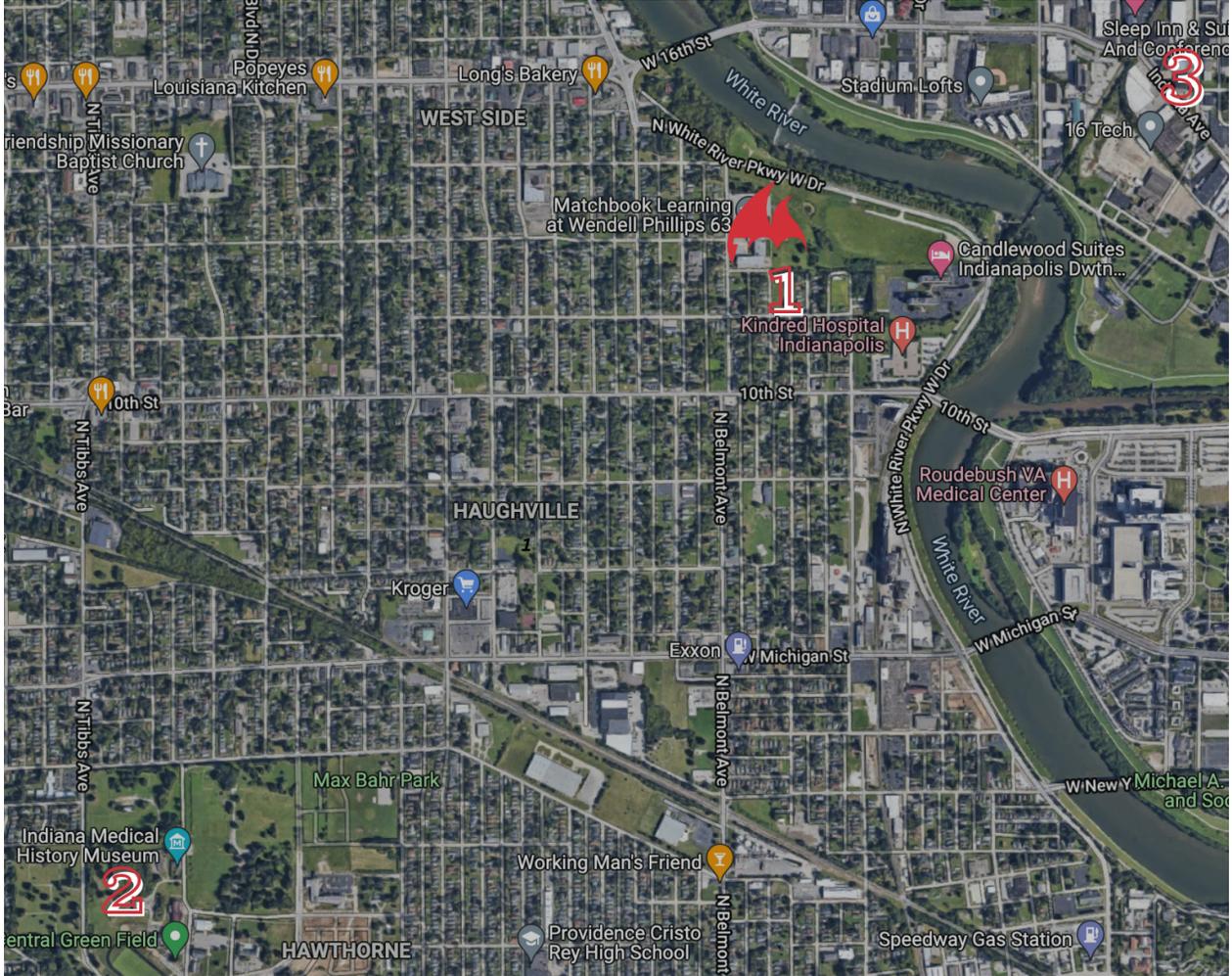
- **Middle school girls volleyball** won 2 games this year. Since we have been here the middle school girls volleyball team has never won a game until this year. Ms. Taylor did an excellent job with the athletes.
- **Elementary girls volleyball** had an excellent season only losing one match and **won the conference championship**. They were coached by Ms. Johnson.
- **Middle School Cross Country** had an excellent season. We had 2 runners consistently in the top 5 in each meet. We finished **2nd as a team in the conference**. Coached by Mr. Cobb
- **Elementary Cross Country** competed at a high level all year and **won the conference championship with 4 of our runners finishing in the top 5 at the conference meet**. Coached by Mr. Cobb
- **Middle school and elementary football were unbeaten all year and both teams won the conference**. Football coaches were Mr. Wells, Mr. H and Mr. Clark for middle school. Elementary was coached by Mr. Dawson and Mr. Miller

Overall a great fall sports season allowing our children to compete.

### **Building/Land Updates:**

[Matchbook College, Career and Technical Institute presentation](#)

- Our offer on the land beside the Haughville Library was not accepted but we also learned that the zoning doesn't currently allow for a school. If the zone was to change, this may become a possibility again.
- **The current 3 possibilities are:**
  - Option 1: Indy Parks land adjacent to 63 (low probability because of questions on ownership and the city's current plans for the space but highest fit in terms of proximity, amenities with the planned athletic fields, etc)
  - Option 2: Central State (mid probability, next best fit in terms of proximity, space, and amenities)
  - Option 3: Industrial buildings next to 16 Tech (highest probability, lowest in terms of space/amenities as we'd need to repurpose the buildings)



**7:00 PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

7:05 pm Adjourn.

Vote to Adjourn	
Sajan George	Motion
John Polk	Approve
Ali King	Approve
Maureen Donahue Krauss	Second
Mike Cosack	Approve
Jenny Davis Poon	Approve
Bill Taft	Approve
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Approve

Kayla Moody-Grant	Approve
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**Motion to adjourn meeting carries.**