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# VICC



## Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation

### Board Meeting Highlights • September 17, 2017

In actions at their September 15 meeting, the Board of Directors of the Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation

- Approved minutes of the June 8, 2017 VICC Board regular and closed session meetings.
- Approved all preliminary 2017/18 routes for transporting students to and from school. VICC expects to transport about 4,330 students using 200 buses and 133 taxis with an average one-way route duration of 55 minutes. This represents a decrease in bus routes from 2016/17 and the same number of taxis due to the combined effect of decreased overall enrollment, combining certain elementary routes, placing students in higher capacity taxis and a number of out of area students who could not be placed in area.
- Approved submission of the 2018 MUSIC Renewal Questionnaire. VICC has purchased its property, liability and workers' compensation insurance through the self-insured MUSIC pool since 1999. Board approval of the completed Renewal Questionnaire is a requirement of the pool.
- Approved the annual audit of VICC's 2016/17 financial statements. While there were no concerns or issues noted in this report, the accounting firm of Schowalter & Jabouri, PC did note VICC's continued use of the cash basis of accounting during 2016/17. While the cash basis of accounting is not the method preferred by the accounting profession, many school districts use it because of its simplicity and predictability of school revenues and expenses. VICC converted to this system in 2004/05 as a way to help maximize district reimbursement amounts. No management issues were noted during the audit and there are no recommendations for improvement.
- Approved the filing of VICC's IRS Form 990 for the year ending June 30, 2017.
- Reviewed the summary of investments. As of August, 2017, \$12,606,967.78 was invested as follows: 22.43 percent in US Government Agencies - MOSIP Fund, 39.66 percent in FDIC Insured CD's and 37.91 percent in collateralized repurchase agreements.
- Reviewed reports on VICC's financial position:
  - For the 2016/17 fiscal year, revenues totaled \$48,040,821.38 while 2016/17 final expenditures were \$50,114,257.52. When combined with a beginning of the year fund balance of \$8.0 million, the net effect of these variances resulted in a \$5.9 million fund balance at year-end. This is important for VICC's long-range projections which count upon the availability of fund balances in later years to help maintain per pupil funding at certain minimum levels. Our primary expenditure savings were transportation contractors being about 371,500 less than budget.
  - For 2017/18, \$3,843,022.57 in revenues were received during August, the second month of the 2017/18 fiscal year. Expenditures for that period were 989,844.15.
- Received a report on the status of applications to date. While the interest level of city families in transferring to county school districts remains high based upon the number of applications received to date, the number of openings available (425) represents a decline from the last three years. There were 421 actual placements for 2017/18. The number of applications received -- 2,511 -- was comparable to the prior two years. Actual enrollment of city transfer students for 2017/18 is 4,256, as of September 5. In comparison, county to city (magnet) applications were similar to last year. For 2017/18 year-to date applications total 148, compared to 123 and 141 in 2016/17 and 2015/16, respectively. New acceptances to date of 84 for 2017/18 increased slightly from 45 in 2016/17, increasing county enrollment to 157, five more than last year. The SLPS has limited space available for county students in the programs in which they are interested. At this point, most magnet applications are for the gifted programs and there was considerable interest in the Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience.

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*Not an Official Record.*

*Minutes of the meeting are available for review at the VICC Office after approval by the Board.*

- Continued discussion of strategic planning for VICC. A separate meeting in spring, 2018 will be considered to have Dr. Jerome Morris, Professor of Urban Education with the University of Missouri's Public Policy Research Center present the results of his research which was coordinated by St. Louis Public Schools. This information will be helpful as future options for the structure of the program are studied.

- Provided preliminary information related to the number of spaces available by district for 2018/19. Estimated spaces for 2018/19 will be requested in early November, 2017, to allow VICC to develop a preliminary budget for 2018/19 by the February Board meeting.

- Discussed a schedule of tentative agenda items planned for each of the meetings scheduled for 2017/18.

- Future Meetings for 2017/18 are as follows:

- 8 a.m. Friday, November 17, 2017 at Education Plus Offices

- 9 a.m. Friday, February 23, 2018 at Education Plus Offices

- 8 a.m. Friday, April 13, 2018 at Education Plus Offices

- 10 a.m. **Thursday**, June 7, 2018 at the Urban League

The Education Plus meetings will be held at 1460 Craig Rd., St. Louis, MO 63141. The Urban League meeting will be held at 3701 Grandel Square. Agendas will be available by request at the VICC Office one week prior to the meeting. Interested parties are welcome to attend, and those who wish to address the board are requested to sign in prior to the start of the meeting.