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# VICC



## **Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation Board Meeting Highlights • October 11, 2019**

In actions at their October 11 meeting, the Board of Directors of the Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation

- Approved minutes of the June 13, 2019 VICC Board regular meeting.
- Approved all preliminary 2019/20 routes for transporting students to and from school. VICC expects to transport about 3,664 students using 183 buses and 112 taxis with an average one-way route duration of 57 minutes. This represents a decrease in both bus and taxi routes from 2018/19 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 2020 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 proposal from Oracle Corp. to provide database software license and support services for a one-year period beginning January 8, 2020 at a cost of \$8,825.04.
- Approved the extension of VICC's office lease for a one-year period beginning September 1, 2019 at a rate of \$17.83 per square foot, a 1.9% increase.
- Approved proposal from Option Computer Services to upgrade VICC's Intel Business Server, SQL Server and Backup & Disaster Recovery System at a total cost of \$30,315.17.
- Approved the annual audit of VICC's 2018/19 financial statements. While there were no concerns or issues noted in this report, the accounting firm of Kerber, Eck & Braeckel, LLP did note VICC's continued use of the cash basis of accounting during 2018/19. 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, 2019.
- Reviewed the summary of investments. As of September, 2019, \$10,261,466.51 was invested as follows: 82.41 percent in US Government Agencies - MOSIP Fund and 17.59 percent in collateralized repurchase agreements.
- Reviewed reports on VICC's financial position:
  - For the 2018/19 fiscal year, revenues totaled \$46,908,868.43 while 2018/19 final expenditures were \$47,613,359.72. When combined with a beginning of the year fund balance of \$3.9 million, the net effect of these variances resulted in a \$3.2 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 was the cost of education being about \$98,000 less than budget.
  - For 2019/20, \$3,701,439.83 in revenues were received during September, the third month of the 2019/20 fiscal year. Expenditures for that period were 2,661,100.04.
- Received a report on the professional development training provided as well as attended by VICC Staff during the 2018/19 school year.

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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.*

- Received a report on the status of applications to date. Districts were allocated 250 spaces for the 2019/20 school year with an emphasis on siblings. There were 241 actual placements. The number of applications received -- 784 -- declined from previous years due to targeted recruitment based on remaining availability after sibling applications had been received. Actual enrollment of city transfer students for 2019/20 is 3,694, as of September 25. In comparison, county to city (magnet) applications were limited to siblings and therefore were somewhat low compared prior years. For 2019/20 year-to date applications total 26, compared to 119 and 148 in 2018/19 and 2017/18, respectively. New acceptances to date of 21 for 2019/20 down from 57 in 2018/19, decreasing county enrollment to 138 from 162 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.

- Discussed the targeted spaces for 2020/21 which will be due by November 8, 2019. The total allocated spaces for 2020/21 is limited to 200.

- Discussed a schedule of tentative agenda items planned for each of the meetings scheduled for 2019/20.

- Received a report on the 2018/19 student attendance study. The overall average student transfer attendance rate decreased to 93.68% overall (down 0.09% from 93.77% last year). Otherwise, no significant new findings were identified compared to prior years' data. GPA and school district continued to be the two factors having the strongest correlation with attendance rates. Attendance rates remain highly consistent between years in almost every aspect. In light of MSIP 5's emphasis upon encouraging students to attend at least 90% of the school days, we have included information on the percent of students attending over 90% of the time with this data segregated by 90-95%, 95-97%, and over 97%. In 2018/19 about 84.21% of the VICC students achieved this goal with one district exceeding the DESE target of 90% of their VICC students above the 90% rate. At the request of the Parent Advisory Committee several years ago, a report was included for 2018/19 which displays the affect of out-of-school suspensions on district attendance rates.

- Continued discussion of strategic planning for VICC including mission and goals of VICC and how issues within St. Louis affect such plans.

- Future Meetings for 2019/20 are as follows:

- 8:30 a.m. Friday, January 10, 2020 at Education Plus Offices

- 8:30 a.m. Friday, April 17, 2020 at Education Plus Offices

- 10 a.m. **Thursday**, June 11, 2020 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.