



## Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation Board Meeting Highlights • November 14, 2014

In actions at their November 14 meeting, the Board of Directors of the Voluntary Interdistrict Choice Corporation

- Approved the proposal from Schowalter & Jabouri to provide audit services for the three year period beginning with the 2014/15 fiscal year.
- Reviewed the summary of investments. As of September, 2014, \$18,798,898.71 was invested as follows: 100.00 percent in collateralized repurchase agreements.
- Reviewed reports on VICC's financial position. Through September, 2014, \$12,212,059.97 in revenues were received. Expenditures through September were \$4,297,022.56.
- 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 was similar to the previous three years but far short of the demand.. Based on district enrollment targets, 452 new spaces were available for 2014-2015. The number of applications received -- 3,438 -- was comparable to the prior two years. VICC had no trouble meeting district's original enrollment goals for 2014-2015, with 482 actual placements and lengthy waiting lists for most grade levels/areas. In fact, VICC received more eligible applications than available openings at every grade level for every attendance area in the city. Actual enrollment of city transfer students for 2014-2015 is 4,572, as of November 4. In comparison, county to city (magnet) applications were high again this year and similar to last year due to increased recruitment efforts. For 2014-2015 year-to date applications total 164, compared to 147 and 125 in 2013-2014 and 2012-2013, respectively. New acceptances to date for 2014-2015, are somewhat decreased, totaling 49 compared to 86 and 54 during the previous two years, keeping county enrollment at 131, similar to last year. The SLPS appears to have 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 also considerable interest in the new Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience.
- Received a report on the use child restraints being required when transporting students in grades K-2 in taxi cabs. The Transportation Subcommittee will meet to discuss this issue and present a recommendation to the Board at its next meeting.
- Board members discussed the target spaces for 2015/16. Each district indicated their current plans for accepting students for 2015/16. Some districts may not be able to provide specific target spaces until mid-spring. A draft timeline was presented to the Board to plan discussions of the possibility of a third extension of the program.
- Received a report on the 2013-2014 student attendance study. For the eleventh straight year, the overall average student transfer attendance rate continued a trend of annual increases and now stands at 94.25 percentage overall (up 0.27 percent from 93.98 percent last year.) In light of MSIP 5's emphasis upon encouraging students to attend 90% of the time, we added this information to the report last year. In 2013-2014 about 81.08% of the VICC students achieved this goal with three districts exceeding the DESE target of 90% of their VICC students above the 90% rate. Otherwise no significant new findings were identified compared to prior year's data. Grade point average and school district continue to be the two factors having the strongest correlation with attendance rates. Attendance rates are highly consistent between years in almost every aspect.

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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.*

- Future Meetings for 2014-2015 are as follows:
  - 10 a.m. Friday, February 20, 2015 at Education Plus
  - 10 a.m. Friday, April 17, 2015 at Education Plus
  - 10 a.m. **Thursday**, June 11, 2015 at the Urban League

The meeting marked Education Plus will be held at 1460 Craig Road. The Urban League meeting will be held at 3701 Grandel Square. Agendas will be available 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.