



Matchbook Learning July 21, 2025 Board Meeting



Location: The Match High School - 1401 Indiana Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46202

Or Zoom: <https://matchbooklearning.zoom.us/j/87057184092>

Time: 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Board in Attendance

Sajan George
Ali King
Mike Cosack
Jenny Davis Poon
Bill Taft
Dr. Kurt Nelson

Non Board Members Attending

James Hill, The Match Principal
Nathan Tuttle, Matchbook Learning Principal
Don Stewart, Matchbook Learning Chief Operating Officer
Taundra Miles-Cranor, The Match Director of CTE
Caitlin Hicks, Education One Director of Compliance
Emma Kersey, Office of Education Innovation Team
Candace Jones, The New Teacher Project
Shelby Thornburg, Marion County Prosecutor's Office

I. 5:00 PM: Welcome

A. Roll Call

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
Ali King	Present
Mike Cosack	Present
Jenny Davis Poon	Present
Bill Taft	Present
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Present

II. 5:05 PM: Mission & Vision

[Copy of Matchbook Mission Vision.pdf](#)

A. Vision: Every child known, loved & flourishing.

B. Mission: We personalize learning, within a restorative community, fostering resilience and excellence while preparing students for real-world opportunities.

III. 5:10 PM: Approval of Consent Agenda

A. June 16, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

[June 16, 2025 Board Minutes.pdf](#)

B. Finance Committee Report - Current Financials

[Recommended Final Change Orders.pdf](#)

- CIES is currently in the process of closing its books.
- Ameresco Change Orders – The memo included in the packet reflects the final numbers from the contractor.

- \$400,000 was originally set aside for overages; approximately \$133,000 will be returned to the General Budget.
- Additions include acoustics in the commons area and sidewalks along both sides of Rembrandt Street.
- The east–west sidewalks and crosswalks will not be completed, as they will be funded through a matching grant from the City of Indianapolis.
- Special thanks to Councilman Ossili.

C. Building and Operations Report

No Report

D. Community Committee Report

[Community Meeting - June 25, 2025.pdf](#)

E. Academic Committee Reports

1. Matchbook Learning K-8

[July 2025 Academic Committee Report \(1\).pdf](#)

- Current enrollment: 686 (short of target); expecting to increase Kindergarten enrollment.
- Retention rate: 77%.
- Tuttle has been contacting families regarding unexpected withdrawals.
- Both schools are fully staffed and licensure rates have increased in K–8.
- Nathan noted that staffing has been stable for a month, with licensure improving from 48% last year to 90% this year.
- Three unlicensed general education teachers are currently enrolled in a licensure program.

2. The Match High School

[Academic Update July 2025_ The Match High School and Career Center.pdf](#)

- The High School is also fully staffed and building partnerships to maintain strong enrollment, with a focus on retaining high-performing students and transitioning them to the high school.
- An enrollment planning meeting was held with the Director of Enrollment; Enroll Indy lists 133 students (131 officially enrolled) against a budget target of 115.
- Efforts include joint marketing, creating enrollment teams, and using a blueprint from The Mind Trust—meeting feedback from Don was very positive, with plans to involve parents.
- A dedicated high school marketing position is needed.
- The new website looks great overall but has some browser and technical issues. Too early to fully assess; will continue to monitor.

Vote to Approve the Consent Agenda	
Sajan George	Motion
Ali King	Second
Mike Cosack	Approve
Jenny Davis Poon	Approve
Bill Taft	Approve
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Approve

The motion to approve the Consent Agenda carries.

IV. 5:20 PM: Authorizers

A. Trine

1. Board Presentation for The Match
[1. Match 2025 July Board Presentation.pdf](#)
2. Performance Dashboard
[Performance Dashboard](#)

B. OEI

V. 5:25 PM: Introduction of Candace Jones and Shelby Thornburg as potential board members. Discussion and vote on appointment to the board.

A. Candace Jones

[Candace Jones LinkedIn](#)

- Background: From Birmingham, AL; University of Alabama graduate (2010); 15 years in Indianapolis.
- Current Role: Program Manager, Indianapolis Teaching Fellows.
- Passions & Skills: Focused on teacher retention; brings understanding of new teacher concerns and administrative challenges.
- Board Contributions: Aims to support teacher retention and bridge understanding between teachers and administration.
- Learning Goals: Gain deeper insight into administrative needs, challenges, and concerns.

B. Shelby Thornburg

[Resume Shelby Thornburg.pdf](#)

- Background: Central Indiana native; Trine University alum.
- Current Role: Supervisor of Major Felonies, Marion County Prosecutor's Office.
- Passions & Skills: Believes in early investment in children to prevent later justice system involvement; can provide insight on public defender resources not widely known.
- Board Contributions: Offers perspective on community resources and criminal justice prevention.
- Learning Goals: Understand what families want from education and the community.

Vote to Appoint Candace Jones as a Board Member	
Sajan George	Motion
Ali King	Second
Mike Cosack	Approve
Jenny Davis Poon	Approve
Bill Taft	Approve
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Approve

The motion to appoint Candace Jones as a board member **carries**.

Vote to Appoint Shelby Thornburg as a Board Member	
Sajan George	Motion
Ali King	Second
Mike Cosack	Approve
Jenny Davis Poon	Approve
Bill Taft	Approve
Dr. Kurt Nelson	Approve

The motion to appoint Shelby Thornburg as a board member **carries**.

VI. 5:30 PM: Discussion Items

A. Lilly Grant & Budget Phase III Discussion

- Grant & Budget – Due 8/25
- Selected for final phase; results expected by November.
- Appendix 2: Waiting for gym schematics.
- Appendix 3: Teacher housing—include maps showing targeted purchase areas and proximity.
- Final edits due 8/11.

B. Website Update

matchbooklearning.com

VII. 5:45 PM: Public Comments

VIII. 5:48 PM: Adjourn

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

The motion to adjourn the meeting carries. Meeting adjourned at 5:48 PM.

- IX. 6:10 PM: Executive Session - The Board of Matchbook Learning Schools will hold an Executive Session at 7:00 PM on Monday, July 21, 2025 in the Conference Room at The Match High School (1401 Indiana Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46202) to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9).**