



Tab 12

## Metropolitan Community College Redistricting Committee Appointments

Coordinating Board for Higher Education  
September 15, 2021

### BACKGROUND

Section 178.820.4, RSMo, requires that “if during the period between publications of decennial census figures the area of a district is increased or decreased, a new plan shall be adopted within one year thereafter or the trustees shall be required to run in the district at large.”

Metropolitan Community College (MCC) increased its taxing district during the April 2021 election. As a result, MCC must complete the redistricting process before the April 2022 election. The redistricting process for MCC is the same as the process for other community colleges with subdistricts, but is occurring on a different timeline due to the fact that MCC expanded its taxing district.

The process provided in statute is as follows:

1. The affected community college district board of trustees must vote to adopt a resolution calling for the formation of a redistricting committee. (§ 178.820.2, RSMo)
2. “Upon adoption of the resolution, the secretary of the board of trustees shall forward a certified copy [of the resolution] to the CBHE with the request that the redistricting committee be appointed in order to divide the community college districts into at least two and not more than six subdistricts for the purpose of electing trustees” (§ 178.820.2, RSMo)
3. The board of trustees appoints three residents within the affected district to the redistricting committee (§ 178.820.2, RSMo)
4. The CBHE appoints three residents within the affected district to the redistricting committee (§ 178.820.2, RSMo)
5. The redistricting committee then meets and adopts a redistricting plan (§ 178.820.2, RSMo)
6. Once the plan is approved by a majority of the redistricting committee, the committee forwards a certified copy, via the board of trustees secretary, to the CBHE for approval or disapproval (§ 178.820.4, RSMo)
7. “The CBHE shall approve any redistricting plan in which the population of any subdistrict divided by the number of trustees to be selected therefrom substantially equals the population of any other subdistrict divided by the number of trustees to be elected therefrom” (§ 178.820.4, RSMo)
8. “If the plan is not approved, then it shall be returned to the redistricting committee for revision and resubmission” (§ 178.820.4, RSMo)

### CURRENT STATUS

The MCC Board of Trustees adopted a resolution creating the redistricting committee, appointed three members to the redistricting committee, and submitted the names of five individuals for CBHE consideration, of which the CBHE must appoint three to the committee. See Attachment A.

The biographical information for each nominee is provided in Attachment B. In summary, the MCC Board of Trustees nominated the following individuals to their redistricting committee, of which the CBHE must choose three:

Name	Political Affiliation	Location
Carl Chinnery	Undeclared	Lake Lotawana, Missouri
David Disney	Undeclared	Kansas City, Missouri
Jerry Riffel	Undeclared	Kansas City, Missouri
Greg Baker	Undeclared	Kansas City, Missouri
Marjorie Williams	Undeclared	Kansas City, Missouri

DHEWD staff have reviewed the candidates' backgrounds and in the interest of providing as much balance to the committee as possible, DHEWD recommends the following individuals for the CBHE's appointment to the redistricting committee:

- Greg Baker
- David Disney
- Marjorie Williams

#### **NEXT STEPS**

After selection of appointees to the redistricting committee today, MCC will work with its vendor to create a redistricting plan. MCC will take that plan to the redistricting committee for a vote. Once approved by the redistricting committee, MCC will submit the plan to the CBHE for approval at or before the March 2022 regular meeting.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Based on DHEWD's review of the candidates' backgrounds and in the interest of providing balance to the redistricting committee, the Department recommends the CBHE vote to appoint Marjorie Williams, David Disney, and Greg Baker to the MCC redistricting committee.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. MCC Redistricting Resolution and Nominations
- B. MCC Redistricting Committee Nominees

September 15, 2021

**Tab 12 Attachment A  
MCC Redistricting Resolution and Nominations**

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, The Junior College District of Metropolitan Kansas City, Missouri has adopted a resolution calling for the formation of a redistricting committee in accordance with the provisions of Section 178.820 RSMo.; and

**WHEREAS**, said redistricting committee shall consist of three residents from within the affected district appointed by the Board of Trustees, plus three additional residents from within the affected district appointed by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees hereby appoints the following residents of the Junior College District of Metropolitan Kansas City, Missouri:

Ms. McClain Bryant Macklin  
5734 Forest Avenue Kansas  
City, MO 64110

Mr. Greg Canuteson  
22 North Main Liberty,  
MO 64068

The Honorable James Tobin  
307 Stanton Lane  
Lee's Summit, MO 64064

**BE IT FURTHERED RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees offer the names of the following citizens for consideration by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education:

Mr. Carl Chinnery  
19 B Street  
Lake Lotawana, MO 64086

Mr. David Disney  
12 East 6<sup>th</sup> Terr. Kansas  
City, MO 64113

Mr. Jerry Riffel  
3701 Valentine Road  
Kansas City, MO 64111

Mr. Greg Baker  
11200 Summit Street Kansas  
City, MO 64114

Dr. Marjorie Williams 9841  
View High Drive Kansas  
City, MO 64134

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution be incorporated into the permanent files of the District.

## Tab 12 Attachment B MCC Redistricting Committee Nominees

### Gregory D. Baker

A native of Kansas City, Missouri, and a Vietnam-era veteran, who served in the Air Force strategic air command, Baker received a B.A. in Psychology from Rockhurst University (Kansas City, Missouri) and a M.A. in Public Administration from the University of Kansas.

Formerly, he served as City Manager for the City of Damascus in Damascus, Oregon, Executive Director of the Blanchet House of Hospitality, the largest private owned and operated homeless shelter in the state of Oregon, briefly served as President of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, and seven years as the assistant city manager for the City of Kansas City, Missouri, spurring numerous initiatives to make the city more vibrant and maximize efficiency in city government. Prior to that, Baker, a true entrepreneur, served as president and CEO of LeadTeam LLC, a start-up leadership and marketing consulting firm and was vice president of Community Leadership with Missouri Gas Energy. He is currently founder and a partner with Commonwealth Consulting LLC.

As the founding executive director of Kansas City's Minority Supplier Council, he worked with top CEOs to connect more than 125 mainstream corporations and 185 minority firms. Those connections increased business revenues from \$1.8 million to more than \$467 million and stimulated new employment over a 15-year period.

In addition, Baker was the manager of community and international development with the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce and worked as a Labor Relations/Equal Opportunity Officer in the Department of Human Services in Washington, D.C.

Baker's civic leadership is unprecedented. He served as Chairman of the Minority Business Capital Corporation's Board of Directors, and as an active member of the Rockhurst College Board of Regents, President of Verona Hills Homes Association, Downtown Community Improvement District and the EDC Business Retention Committee, Board Member Mental Health Association of Oregon, Catholic Charities of Portland Oregon, and The Children's Center of Oregon City, Oregon. He served as the President of Kansas City Consensus and Co-Chaired the Race Relations task Force.

His past board memberships include the National Minority Supplier Development Council, Kansas City Consensus, Metropolitan Energy Center, Truman Medical Center, Alvin Ailey, Citizens Association, Project Equality, Metropolitan Community Colleges, Leukemia Society and Junior Achievement.

Known for his commitment to making a positive difference within the Kansas City community, Baker has received numerous awards including the Center of Creative Leadership Award (1992), National Eagles Award for Outstanding Leadership (1994) and the Junior Achievement Up & Comers Award and *The Kansas City Globe's* 100 Most Influential Blacks in Kansas City (1994). In addition, as the lead singer of Bake and the Tenderhearts, he won an Emmy Award for Vocals in the KCPT documentary, *Remember Me KC*. He was recognized with the National Peace Award by

Baker and his wife, Janet, have been married for 34 years and has five children and five grandchildren.

## Accomplishments:

- Initiated strategic planning process for Negro Leagues Baseball Museum (NLBM)
- Author of Homeless Building Homes for the Homeless/ Won national award of \$300,000 from Wells Fargo & US Conference of Mayors
- Initiated and completed Equal Employment Opportunity Commission plan for the Department of Human Services
- Implemented Refugee Resettlement plan for the District of Columbia
- Committed and contracted \$25 million dollars of funding to agencies to assist in resettlement of refugees in the DC area.
- Initiated policy discussion with Health & Human Services on housing for refugees.
- Raised \$50,000 each year to fund the City of Kansas City's annual report.
- Created and initiated the development of the City of Kansas City 's "Tiger Crews" designed to be a consumer-based response team to citizen service requests.
- Raised \$420,000 cash from citizens on behalf of the NLBM
- Quadrupled the attendance at the NLBM Legacy Awards program from 200 attendees to 800 and raised over \$330,000
- Raised initial \$20,000 funding from USIA to educate and promote the exchange of an International Visitors program in the Kansas City. Program has grown for 35 annual visitors to over 400 programmed each year by Chamber of Commerce.
- Raised \$75,000 funding in order to create and sponsor 2 marketing positions for the Chamber of Commerce.
- Raised initial seed funding from the business community and leveraged funding to create the Full Employment Council (FEC) a now 25 year old organization charged with metropolitan job placement of the unemployed.
- Created a strategic alliance with the US Postal service to launch a national double Negro Leagues stamp. Stamp projected sales over 88 million. Participated in the national radio broadcast with Tavis Smiley, Thurgood Marshall Jr. and Negro Leaguer Mamie "Peanut" Johnson wherein more than 8 million listeners heard stories about the Negro leagues.
- Authorized US Small Business "Certifier" to assist small businesses with completion of the certification process.
- Established and maintained a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Board of Directors for the Kansas City Minority Supplier Development Council (KCMSDC). This level of executive support created large business contracts and procurement opportunities for small minority owned firms.

- Wrote and published “Establishing a Minority Procurement Program in your Work Organization” which is the benchmark language nationally in the procurement arena.
- Created minority business membership program which culminated in enlisting the top 185 minority firms and top 125 majority firms in the Kansas City area doing business with one another.
- KCMSDC program under my leadership spurred the development of 25 minority small business millionaires.
- As President of KC Consensus lead the development and implementation of the Race Relations Study which created major economic development programs designed to reduce racial tensions and promote greater access for small minority suppliers
- Lead the development of KCMSDC from annual sales of \$1.4. million in annual sales to \$465 million over a ten-year period. Also increased employment with minority suppliers from an average of 1-3 employees.
- Created a series of economic development programs, Spotlight Vendor, Adopt A Vendor, Business Investment Exposition, as a way to promote greater small business exchange with large corporations. Annually from 36 -1000 small business firms meet to exchange business ideas and opportunities.
- Modeled after former show host Phil Donahue, developed the “Point Counter Point” business discussion forum to open dialogue on doing business with minority firms.
- Participated in TV station KOIN The Unsheltered Truth, A documentary on the Homeless



## KANSAS CITY

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T: 816.460.5712  
F: 816.292.2001

*Assistant*  
Trish Doran  
816.460.5652

## PRACTICE AREAS

Real Estate & Development  
Development & Incentives

Land Use

Real Estate Litigation &  
Disputes

Sales, Exchanges & Leases

## COURT MEMBERSHIPS

- Missouri

## EDUCATION

University of Kansas School of  
Law, J.D.

University of Kansas, B.A.,  
Political Science

# Jerry D. Riffel

Partner | [jerry.riffel@lathropgpm.com](mailto:jerry.riffel@lathropgpm.com)

Jerry Riffel focuses his practice on real estate and public law matters has a broad background and experience in economic development incentives, Chapter 353 (Urban Redevelopment), land clearance, condemnation, special business districts, Tax Increment Financing Development, and all aspects of land use planning and development. Jerry's most notable clients include: Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc., Kansas City Area Transportation Authority, Metropolitan Kansas City Performing Arts Center, National Association of Basketball Coaches Foundation, Bayer Crop Science, L.P., Affinity Gaming LLC, Zimmer Companies, Frye & Company and Sobel Development Corporation.

Representative engagements where Jerry has served as the principal attorney include the following:

- **Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc.** Representation of Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc. in the negotiation and development of a \$500 million mixed-use facility in downtown St. Louis, and a second \$350 million mixed-use facility at LeMay in St. Louis County. He handled countless land acquisition, land use, lease, environmental and other issues relating to the development of these projects. Experience included finance and acquisition strategies requiring coordination of various governmental entities to finance and acquire large parcels of real property necessary to accomplish the developments. Additional work included representing Pinnacle's interests in negotiation and preparation of agreements with engineers, appraisers, surveyors and others involved with these two major development projects. Representation also included representing Pinnacle in its licensing process before the Missouri Gaming Commission.
- **Faultless Starch Bon Ami and Butler Manufacturing.** Served as land use, acquisition, legislative, finance and development counsel

on the development of Butler World Headquarters and the expansion of Faultless industrial facilities in the West Bottoms area of downtown Kansas City. The results included obtaining over \$15 million in stormwater, road and other infrastructure funding through complex and varied sources that included the federal budget, Brownfields and economic development sources at the federal, state and local levels. The City as an incentive to Butler also financed the construction of a 1,000 car garage known as the West Bottoms Garage. The scope of work included the negotiation of sale-leaseback arrangements with the Planned Industrial Expansion Authority which financed the Butler garage and issued revenue bonds for redevelopment of the Butler World Headquarters improvements.

- **Hearst-Argyle Stations, Inc.** Representation of Hearst-Argyle in the development of a headquarters building and broadcasting facilities for KMBC-TV in Kansas City that included acquisition of headquarters site, negotiation of state and local incentives, preparation of construction and development agreements, land use decisions and business association covenants and restrictions.
- **Metropolitan Kansas City Performing Arts Center.** Representation of the Metropolitan Kansas City Performing Arts Center in the development of its \$320 million state-of-the-art performing arts center in downtown Kansas City. The Performing Arts Center will house the three largest performing arts institutions in Greater Kansas City - the Kansas City Symphony Orchestra, the Kansas City Ballet and the Lyric Opera of Kansas City. Representation includes negotiation of a Tax Credits for Contribution package with the Missouri Development Finance Board, resulting in the issuance of Tax Credits in the amount of \$25 million. The representation also includes negotiation of all conditions of the City of Kansas City's financing of a 2,000-space underground public parking garage to be used by the Performing Arts Center with a public park above the facility.
- **Bayer CropScience, L.P.** Representation of Bayer CropScience in the development of its \$40 million alzol-fungicide facility. The project was developed and financed in accordance with Missouri's Chapter 100 abatement program and involved negotiation of property tax exemption and payments in-lieu-of taxes, industrial revenue bond documents and negotiation of a Grant Agreement with the Kansas City, Missouri School District. Project was also developed with assistance of Development Tax Credits and involved negotiation with the Missouri Department of Economic Development, preparation of application and related documents.



- **Hispanic Economic Development Corporation/Zimmer Development Company.** Representation of the developer on an industrial development project on Kansas City's west side. The development was begun by Zimmer Development Company pursuant to various city and federal requirements keyed by federal grants and a Section 108 loan totaling \$14.2 million to the City of Kansas City. The project is now completed and is located on old railroad property adjacent to Southwest Boulevard. Kansas City-based DST owns and operates a massive mutual fund mail center on the site in a series of redeveloped buildings and in the renovated Union Station Roundhouse on the property. The property was blighted by industrial-related environmental problems and is considered to have historical value by the State of Missouri. The scope of work required the selection of tax incentives and the negotiation of Brownfields and other incentives from the City of Kansas City in the State of Missouri. Otherwise, the project was financially unfeasible. The scope of work also included the negotiation of Section 106 and environmental remediation plans with the State of Missouri. Other issues included MBE and WBE requirements and the Uniform Relocation Act.
- **Union Hill TIF.** Representation of the Developer in the Union Hill area of Kansas City, Missouri, on a mixed-use project that included office, housing and hotel developments. The construction of infrastructure and acquisition of blighted property was financed by a bond issue of the Tax Increment Financing Commission based upon PILOTS generated by the general neighborhood and a Super TIF approved by the City on a hotel on Main Street. Significant benefits would have been lost to the developer if the approval had not been secured in a timely fashion. Our representation was critical to several public-private partnerships and the assistance of Kansas City's large business corporate community played a vital role in the success of the project.

## Presentations

- Speaker on land use and real estate subjects for local Bar and University programs

## In The News

- Jerry Riffel Mentioned In The Kansas City Star on Historic West Bottoms Mixed-Use Development  
July 23, 2018

- KCBJ: Jerry Riffel Representing Kansas City Developer  
September 16, 2015
- KCBJ: Jerry Riffel Represents Local Developer, Shirley Helzberg  
August 12, 2015
- Kansas City Business Journal: Jerry Riffel Discusses Helzberg's  
Crossroads Development  
December 19, 2014
- Kansas City Business Journal Quotes Jerry Riffel on Court of  
Appeals Ruling in Favor of Firm Client  
September 7, 2011

### News Releases

- Chambers USA 2021 Names Lathrop GPM a Top Law Firm,  
Franchise Group Ranked Nationwide  
May 20, 2021
- Lathrop GPM Attorneys Named to The Best Lawyers in America®,  
Lawyer of the Year, and Ones to Watch for 2021  
August 20, 2020
- Chambers USA 2020 Names Lathrop GPM a Top Law Firm,  
Insurance Recovery Team Earns New Recognition, Franchise  
Group Ranked Nationwide  
April 23, 2020
- Best Lawyers in America 2020 Names 72 Lathrop Gage Attorneys;  
13 Lawyers of the Year  
August 15, 2019
- Lathrop Gage Recognized as a Leading Law Firm by Chambers  
USA  
May 3, 2019
- Best Lawyers in America Recognizes 70 Lathrop Gage Attorneys  
August 15, 2018
- Lathrop Gage Recognized as a Leading Law Firm by Chambers  
USA  
May 3, 2018
- Best Lawyers in America Recognizes 78 Lathrop Gage Attorneys  
August 15, 2017
- Lathrop Gage Recognized as a Leading Law Firm by Chambers  
USA  
June 8, 2017
- Best Lawyers in America Recognizes 78 Lathrop Gage Attorneys  
August 16, 2016

- Lathrop Gage Recognized as a Leading Law Firm by Chambers USA  
June 3, 2016
- Chambers USA Recognizes Lathrop Gage as a Leading Law Firm  
May 20, 2015
- Super Lawyers Recognizes 71 Lathrop Gage Attorneys  
October 14, 2013
- 81 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named “Best Lawyers in America”  
August 15, 2013
- Lathrop Gage LLP Receives Honors from Chambers USA  
May 24, 2013
- 75 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers  
October 15, 2012
- 80 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named “Best Lawyers in America”  
August 22, 2012
- 54 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers  
November 1, 2011
- Lathrop Gage Receives Top Rankings from Chambers USA  
June 10, 2011
- 62 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Recognized by Super Lawyers Magazine  
October 13, 2010
- 59 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named Best Lawyers in America  
August 6, 2010
- Lathrop Gage Obtains Leading Law Firm Ratings from Chambers USA  
June 11, 2010
- 56 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named Best Lawyers in America  
August 3, 2009
- Chambers USA Names Lathrop Gage a Leading Firm in Ten Practice Areas for 2009  
June 11, 2009
- Lathrop Gage's National Chambers USA Roster Grows in 2008  
June 13, 2008

## Professional Affiliations

- University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, Adjunct Professor of Urban Law

## Community Involvement

- City of Kansas City, Missouri, Past Council Member, Fourth District
- Downtown Council of Kansas City, Board of Directors, 1999 - Present; Chair, 2019; Business Retention and Expansion Committee, Chair (2005-2011); Executive Committee (2005-2011)
- Downtown Council Political Action Committee, Executive Committee, 2016-2019; President, 2018
- Economic Development Corporation of Kansas City
- Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors; Downtown Council, Chair
- Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact, Appointment by Gov. Bob Holden, 2001-2005
- Odyssey 2000
- Vietnam Veterans' Memorial

## Honors

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2007-2021
- *Chambers USA*, Missouri Real Estate, 2004-2011; 2013-2021
- Missouri/Kansas *Super Lawyers*, 2005-2015
- The Kansas City Business Journal, "Best of the Bar," 2003-2004
- Martindale-Hubbell® "AV" Rating

## David L. Disney

**Service** 36 Years with JE Dunn

### **Education**

BS-Construction Science, Kansas State University, 1980

### **Creativity**

Co-Inventor SITE1001, US Patent No. 9,064,219

### **Role And Responsibility**

Public Affairs and Community Development Officer for JE Dunn

David joined JE Dunn in 1985 as a Project Engineer and became full-time Project Manager in 1986 and became a Senior Project Manager in 1987. David began building the Educational Practice leading the Program Management Team (PMT) to implement the Court Ordered Desegregation Capital Improvements for the Kansas City Missouri School District. He was promoted to Vice President in 1981 and a Senior Vice President in 1999, and in 2011 he became the Public Affairs and Community Development Officer for JE Dunn.

David joined the leaders of the Construction Operations, Human Resources, and Marketing to ensure that diversity outcomes are achieved and that they support the business objectives. David continues to work with all employees to stress the importance of community involvement and to be active in our communities. He continues strategic relationships from his years of service in the community. He is active in civic, educational, and charitable organizations. He is a speaker for various professional, community, and engineering groups and is known as guest lecturer on recreational mathematics to schools in the Kansas City area and challenging youth to explore problem solving. He has helped organize the Kansas City Construction Career Academy for both girl and boy high school students to learn about the Skilled Trades working with their hands as they finish high school and earning an Associates Degree prior to graduating. Then the students can be sponsored by a contractor from first year apprenticeship to journeyman, or go on to college in architecture, engineering, or construction science.

### **Current and Past Business and Civic Affiliations**

- Construction Management Association of America, Past National Vice President
- Construction Management Association of America, Past President, K.C. Chapter
- Heart of America Council, Boy Scouts of America, Past Board Member
- Boy Scouts of America, National Advisory Board Member
- 2010 National Jamboree, Vice Chairman Administration 100 Years of Scouting, FT. AP Hill
- 2013 National Jamboree, Vice Chairman Administration, Summit Bechtel Reserve
- Kansas State University, Past Construction Science Advisory Council Member
- Metropolitan Community Colleges Foundation, Past Board Member
- Metropolitan Community Colleges, Past President of the Board (16 years of service)
- Missouri Colleges Fund, Past President of the Board, current Board Member
- LINC Commissioner
- Academy for the Integrated Arts, Charter School, current Board Member
- Midtown/Plaza Area Plan Implementation Committee Member
- KC Rising Human Capital Strategies, Building Trades – Talent to Industry Exchange
- Kansas City Chamber, K-12 Superintendents Forum Member
- Blue Springs School District Summer STEM Camp Instructor
- Blue Springs School District CSIP Committee member
- Kansas City Construction Career Academy Founding Academic Committee Chair
- KCPT American Graduate series speaker
- NAWIC – National Association of Women In Construction summer camp committee member
- JE Dunn Explorer Post – Chairman of the Post for KCPS
- Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Past ENSEMBLE Co-Chair, Current Member

- Urban Neighborhood Initiative (UNI), Past Finance Chair and Founding Board Member
- Urban League of Greater Kansas City, Past Board Member
- Penn Valley Park Conservancy, President of the Board
- Junior Achievement, Past Kansas City Board Member
- The Children’s Museum of Kansas City, Past President of the Board
- Thank You Walt Disney, Inc., Past President of the Board
- The Learning Exchange, Past Board Member
- Experiencia, Past Board Member

## **Carl Chinnery**

Driven by an unsinkable entrepreneurial spirit, Carl L. Chinnery founded the firm in 1967 and has been serving the community ever since. He enjoys contributing to the civic, charitable and educational life of the Lee's Summit and greater Kansas City area.

His charitable service includes serving as Chairman of the Truman Medical Center Planned Giving Council; Chairman of the Children's Mercy Hospital Planned Giving Council; Secretary of the Powell Gardens Board; and Chairman of the Community Foundation of Lee's Summit.

Carl's civic activities include the Rotary Club, serving as a District Governor of Rotary International in 2002-2003; the Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce, serving as its president in 1978; the Lee's Summit Economic Development Council, as president in 1996-97; and the Rockhurst College Small Business Development Corporation, as past Chairman. He has served as president of the Lee's Summit R-7 Board of Education, and as president of the Lee's Summit Educational Foundation. Carl was a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, and was also a Charter Life Underwriter. His indelible mark on the community is evidenced, among other things, by the nature trail at Unity Village that bears his name.

Carl earned a B.A. degree from Beloit College and a J.D. degree from the University of Missouri - Kansas City. His first love is his family, followed by hobbies and interests as varied as the Midwestern weather, including woodworking, sailing, gardening, golf, and boat-building.

## **Dr. Marjorie (Marj) Williams**

“Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching” C.S. Lewis

Born in Missouri and receiving her formal education in the Kansas City Missouri School District, Dr. Marjorie Williams (lovingly known as Dr. Marj) became Hickman Mills School District’s Superintendent of Schools in July 2000. Her passion and commitment to the city was ignited as she immediately took an active role in education, community issues and organizations in the Greater Kansas City area. Prior to Hickman Mills, Williams worked in the Kansas City, Public Schools, Columbia (Mo) and Ferguson Florissant School Districts. She has also served in Higher Education as an Adjunct Professor with Baker, Ottawa and Kansas State University. She currently serves as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Missouri, Kansas City and is a National Professional Development trainer for Black History 365.

After 37 years in the field and retiring as Superintendent of Schools in 2012, Williams transition to full leadership in her company, The Marste Group, LLC, which was founded in 2002. The company is a consulting firm, serving school districts and businesses throughout the United States. The firm specializes in providing organizational management services; grant writing, constructing and implementing educational programming, strategic planning, mentoring and evaluation services.

Dr. Marj has and currently serves on various Community and Civic Boards. She has received notable recognitions throughout the country, most recently being recognized by the Association of Fundraising Professionals for her work in Philanthropy and named by Ingram’s Magazine as “One of the 50 People You Need To Know In The State of Missouri”.

She is Co-Founder of the Sisters’ Circle GKC, which promotes Philanthropy among African American Women supporting the African American Community. Additionally, Dr. Marj is a founding member of Societas Docta, Incorporated GKC. Their mission is to provide assistance by mentoring and providing scholarships to African American Women pursuing Doctorate Degrees.

Her passion for the youth and young adults continues to be evidenced through her service as a member of the Jackson County (Mo) Chapter of the Links, Incorporated, the Derrick Thomas/Neil Smith Third and Long Foundation, Crittenton, Local Investment Neighborhood Commission, Teach for America, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, The Black Archives of Mid America, The Kauffman Fellows, The Faith and Education Initiative and The Boys and Girls Club of Kansas City. She continuously works as an advocate and educator, aiding and providing awareness to the needs of educating the community in the areas of voter rights, laws and legislation affecting communities of color, the need for more women of color to be represented on Boards and Commissions and affordable housing and health care for everyone.

Dr. Marj can be heard on the “PTK (Parents, Teachers, Kids) Report with Dr. Marj” weekly on KPRT 1590am/106.1fm. Additionally, she can be seen on the “Dr. Marj Show” and “On That Note with Mike, India and Dr. Marj” on various social media networks.