

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**  
**January 8, 2024**



These minutes are for informational purposes only.

**PRESENT:** Folkerts, Chandler; Gronski, Melany; Harten, Michael; Musko, Jason; Nguyen, Cang—alt.; Paquette, Philippa; Rich, Matthew; Sandford, Chris; Singleton, Holly; Walley, David; Woodland, Julie; Young, Scott  
**ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION:** Larrow, Jeff; Munroe, Heather; Samborowski, Len; Staples, Eli  
**GUESTS:** Joe Musumeci

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Paquette at 5:30 p.m.

**2. Community Participation – None.**

**3. Secretary's Report—Minutes of November 6, 2023**

**MOTION:** (Sandford/Rich) To approve the minutes of November 6, 2023 as amended to include Associate Head of School Holly Singleton as Present. All voted Yes except Scott Young, who abstained. Motion passes.

**4. Learning Assistance Block/Staff Wellness Presentation (J. Musumeci)**

Committee Chair Paquette introduced Director of the Learning Assistance Block (LAB) Joe Musumeci. LAB is a structured study hall program designed to assist students who are struggling academically for a variety of reasons. Focused skills include planning, organization, time management, perseverance, self-motivation, attention to detail, self-advocacy, and more. Presentation details included current program demographics and future plans/goals.

As a member of the Health and Wellness Program, Mr. Musumeci shared how survey data was used to develop this topic as a focus area for strategic planning/improvement. Group members were listed, and current/upcoming work/activities were provided for discussion. Questions were asked and answered during both presentations.

**5. New Course Proposal: Financial Literacy**

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten provided an overview of a new Financial Literacy course being planned. Per state requirements, the course will include banking, investing, saving, and other personal finance matters, such as using credit/debit cards. Students in grades 10 (current freshmen) and above will be eligible to enroll in this non-GPA course. Committee members agreed to support this course offering if it included information about retirement. Dr. Harten will provide a course status update to the Academic Committee at a future date.

**6. Course Registration/Recommendation Process**

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

**7. AI Update**

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten, shared the information he planned to present to the Student Life Committee later in the week. He provided a list comparing what AI is/is not and another list comparing what education with AI is/is not. AI risks vs. opportunities were compared/contrasted. Past and future learning opportunities for teachers and staff were provided.

**8. Other**

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten reviewed proposed changes to Policy 6146. The Committee approved the adjustments. The revised policy will be forwarded to the Policy Committee for continued review.

**9. Adjournment at 6:10 p.m.**

**MOTION:** (Singleton/Musko) To adjourn the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

*Julie Woodland*

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Board Clerk

*The Woodstock Academy prepares all students by providing diverse opportunities through a rigorous curriculum and a variety of programs in order to cultivate the necessary skills to become lifelong learners and global citizens.*