

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE
January 9, 2023



These minutes are for
informational purposes only.

PRESENT: Harten, Michael; Larrow, Jeff; May, Val; Musko, Jason; Nguyen, Cang—alt.; Paquette, Philippa; Rich, Matthew; Samborowski, Len; Sandford, Chris; Singleton, Holly; Staples, Ethan; Walley, David; Woodland, Julie
ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION: Favreau, Lennon; Young, Scott

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Paquette at 5:31 p.m.

2. Community Participation – None.

3. Secretary's Report—Minutes of November 7, 2022

MOTION: (Sandford/Samborowski) To approve the minutes of November 7, 2022. All voted Yes except Matt Rich, who abstained. Motion passes.

4. Next Generation Performance Index Results

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten presented information and answered questions about the Next Generation Accountability Index for 2021-2022. Although the index was not generated in 19-20 or 20-21 due to Covid, The Academy's scores remained consistent despite the two-year gap. The Academy had no statistically significant achievement gap in 2021-2022 and testing results measured favorably against regional schools and state standards. Similar to surrounding schools and the state, the primary area of concern continues to be high levels of absenteeism. Administration, social workers, and counselors have been collaborating to address chronic absenteeism, students earning sub-standard grades, and generally disengaged students. Four to five students are enrolled in a voluntary absentee reduction program offered through TEEG. Sharing a condensed or dashboard version of these results with the full Board was discussed.

5. Community Lunch Survey Results

Associate Head of School Holly Singleton reviewed the student and adult responses from a recent survey about the community lunch program. Survey questions included general information about respondents together with where, when, what, and how each respondent used this mid-day hour. Adult and student members present shared their personal perspectives about the program. Associate Head of School Mrs. Singleton highlighted comments and concerns, as well as explained the ways in which these concerns are being addressed.

6. Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten provided written materials to begin a preliminary discussion about how students and teachers may utilize the greater AI capabilities available today. Future focus areas include (1) a broader use of Turnitin to address plagiarism; (2) looking at AI identification tools such as GPTZero; (3) rethinking classroom assignments, teacher planning, and lesson development to leverage current AI capabilities; (4) discussions with WALT and faculty/staff in January; (5) reviewing the academic integrity policy to directly address AI; (6) continue to stay abreast of current AI use and misuse in educational settings.

7. Possible Strings Program

This agenda item was tabled until the next meeting.

8. Other

The group was reminded that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 6, which is the first Monday in February rather than the second as is typical.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: (Samborowski/Rich) To adjourn the meeting at 6:21 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.