

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE  
April 11, 2022**



These minutes are for informational purposes only.

**PRESENT:** Castle, Leah; Favreau, Lennon; Harten, Michael; May, Val; Musko, Jason; Paquette, Philippa; Rich, Matthew; Samborowski, Len; Sandford, Chris; Singleton, Holly; To, Thao (Stephanie)—alt.; Walley, David; Woodland, Julie; Young, Scott

**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 March 7, 2022**

**MOTION:** (Samborowski/Rich) To approve the minutes of March 7, 2022. All voted Yes except for Valerie May and Stephanie To, who abstained. Motion passes.

**4. DEI Update: Curricular/Instructional Adjustments and Regional Summer Institute**

Dean of Academics Dr. Harten shared DEI presentation he prepared for a recent academic committee meeting of the Woodstock Board of Education. Based on the pie chart, The Academy’s demographics are getting closer to the state average. The DEI team is trying to get enough grant funding to allow individuals from our sending town communities to participate in The Academy’s regional summer DEI institute at no charge. Examples of the many ways our curriculum has been adjusted were listed. Many members shared their perspective on how the DEI initiative has impacted their experience at The Academy. Discussion included privilege, barriers, and a feeling of belonging.

**5. Data Team/Testing Update**

In Dr. Harten’s data team and testing update, baseline scores show a minimal loss of skills since before the pandemic, cohort analysis demonstrates continued growth over time, and our students outperformed the state in all areas. Specific areas of improvement in math, evidence-based reading and writing were provided. A summary of the dates, style of test, and number of participants expected to participate in standardized testing during this second semester was reviewed.

**6. Health and Safety/PE and Wellness Credit Requirements**

Starting with the class of 2023, the state is requiring several changes to health & safety and physical education & wellness. Dr. Harten elaborated on how these shifts compared to current practices and answered related questions.

**7. Students from Ukraine**

Dr. Harten and Mrs. Singleton provided an overview of how the students from Ukraine have settled into classes and the residential program so far. A presentation about cultural norms was given to the Residential Life staff and a similar presentation has been planned for the larger employee/staff group. A Ukrainian-speaking counselor is available for students seeking services. In general, the students are happy to be here, and The Academy community has been very welcoming.

**8. Student Representatives 2022-2023**

Dr. Harten reminded the group that both Leah Castle and Stephanie To will graduate in June. As such, it is again time to consider new student representatives. Applicants will be selected at the May meeting; the current and new committee members will be recognized with cake at the June meeting.

**9. Other** – None.

**10. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** (Walley/Singleton) To adjourn the meeting at 6:26 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.*