

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**  
**March 8, 2021**



These minutes are for  
informational purposes only.

**PRESENT:** Paquette, Philippa; Young, Scott; Harten, Michael; May, Val; Musko, Jason; Walley, David; Ignacio, Joey; Sandford, Chris; Singleton, Holly; Woodland, Julie  
**ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION:** Child, Barbara; Castle, Leah; Michalski, Alina (alternate)

**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 February 8, 2021**

It was agreed to table this item until the next meeting.

**4. Course Proposal: Sports Communication**

Dr. Harten provided an overview of a new Sports Communication course proposal. Students will be able to learn real-life skills such as sports journalism and broadcasting. Beyond improving their writing skills, students may be able to work in related internships as a pathway to a possible career. Assignments will be project based and include media coverage of sporting events and sports-feature stories. The Academy already owns most of the required equipment and Marc Allard has been asked to participate in the class in a variety of ways. The group agreed to support the proposal and approve the Sports Communication course.

**5. Semester 1 Performance Update**

Dr. Harten and Mrs. Singleton reviewed data surrounding academically struggling students. After employing a variety of outreach strategies to re-engage these students, 30-35 still remain largely disengaged. Ongoing outreach strategies include the ILL program, weekly service coordination meetings, “seniors at risk” meetings every other week, offering opportunities for more students to attend in-person classes each day, and employing flexible approaches to encourage virtual students to experience in-person learning again. At this point, nearly every senior is on a path toward graduation.

**6. Bridge to Return Schedule**

Associate Head of School Singleton reviewed each week of a comprehensive “bridge to return” plan, which shifts employees and students back to campus for in-person learning through ever-increasing stages. The detailed handout addressed block schedules, lunch waves, bell schedules, office hours, and activities. Virtual learning will be limited to students with verified/approved medical conditions and academic support will be different than during the hybrid schedule. By the week of April 26 nearly every student will be on campus for four days a week of in-person learning and activities. The group shared how excited they are for the return of students and student activities to campus.

**7. Student Mental Health Support**

Dr. Harten provided a social emotional learning update through a handout which listed various ideas and suggestions generated from the faculty. Highlights included using a question of the day, scheduling one-on-one meetings with students, doing daily check ins, performing weekly reflections/scales, and generally being available for students and peers. The overall goal was to use outreach and caring to increase engagement. Many teachers discovered ways that worked even better than the original goals. Sharing the more popular and effective strategies proved to be uplifting for everyone.

**8. Other – None.**

**9. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** (Singleton/Musko) To adjourn the meeting at 6:15 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.*