

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**  
**June 8, 2020**



These minutes are for  
informational purposes only.

**PRESENT:** Child, Barbara; Paquette, Philippa; Harten, Michael; May, Val; Musko, Jason; Walley, David; Arends, Alyssa (alternate); Ignacio, Joey; Pan, Jingy (Jane); Sandford, Chris (6:33); Singleton, Holly; Woodland, Julie  
**ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION:** Young, Scott

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Paquette at 5:33 p.m.

**2. Community Participation – None.**

**3. Secretary’s Report—Minutes of March 9, 2020**

**MOTION:** (Harten/May) To approve the minutes of March 9, 2020. All voted Yes except for Committee Chair Paquette, who abstained. Motion passes

**4. Approve Committee Charter**

**MOTION:** (Singleton/Musko) To approve the Academic Committee Charter as presented. Unanimous

**5. Select Two New Student Members**

Joey Ignacio (grade 11), Jane Pan and Alyssa Arends (both, grade 12) were thanked for their contributions to the Academic Committee. After review and discussion, the following students were selected to be invited to serve on the Academic Committee in 2020-2021: Joey Ignacio (full member, grade 11), Alina Michalski (alternate member, grade 11), and Leah Castle (full member, grade 10). Dr. Harten planned to notify and welcome the new committee members.

**6. Review Grading Policy and Procedures Adjustments**

Associate Head of School Singleton and Dr. Harten explained and reviewed the second semester final grading options offered to students in good standing as a result of eLearning during second semester. Students will be able to (1) keep their current grade; (2) choose their 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter grade as a final grade; or, where their average is 60 or above, (3) select “Pass” for the final assessment (not calculated into GPA). Strategies and guidelines for students with incompletes or late assignments were also discussed. There is a possibility that not 100% of students in grade 12 will graduate this year.

**7. Review Task Force’s Proposed Schedules and Learning Guidelines**

Associate Head of School Singleton and Dr. Harten presented information generated by the Reopening Task Force. From the faculty perspective during the recent eLearning experience, the organizational requirements and self-care opportunities were challenging. Students were praised for making eLearning successful through extra effort and patience. A “blended learning” proposal was discussed, where student education takes place from home and/or from school for at least two days each week. In-person classes are believed to better meet the needs of the “whole child’s” social and emotional health in addition to academics. The class schedules proposed by the task force were positively received noting the extra class length and extra break periods. The Academy’s investment in Canvas was commended as a versatile and comprehensive tool. As an independent high school, The Academy should be able to offer much more than a typical public high school—unless the state forces all schools to offer the same experience in the interest of equity. In-depth discussion included transportation challenges (financial/physical distancing/staggered arrivals/etc.) from sending towns, ventilation in classrooms, travel between classes, shuttle busing, speculation about what the state might mandate, and the financial strain to provide adequate safety measures campus wide. Jane Pan made some suggestions about class scheduling times and how best to help students taking

classes from other countries/time zones meet academic requirements. Alyssa Arends thanked the group for all the extra effort to provide a quality experience this past spring—particularly when she compared her experiences to those of friends in other area schools. Val May expressed concern that if students from only certain grades attended class on specific days, the possibility exists for only one or two students to be taking an in-person class. Creating equitable student schedules will be a challenge over the summer and conversations will continue as more information comes available.

#### **8. Other**

Academic Committee members thanked seniors Jane Pan and Alyssa Arends for their hard work and insight and wished them great success in their future endeavors.

#### **9. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** (Harten/Child) To adjourn the meeting at 6:45 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.*