

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE
May 12, 2021



These minutes are for
informational purposes only.

PRESENT: Asikainen, Samantha; McGinn, Walter; Rhynhart, Hans; Smith, Adeline; Preston, Megan (alt.); Hughes, Karin; Rigney, John; Sandford, Chris; Saucier, Bobbie-Jo; Singleton, Holly; Woodland, Julie
ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION: Du, Stella; Trivella, Joan; Samborowski, Leonard

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-chairman Asikainen at 7:00 p.m.

2. Community Participation – None.

3. Secretary's Report—Minutes of March 10, 2021

MOTION: (McGinn/Rhynhart) To approve the minutes of March 10, 2021.
Unanimous

4. End-of-Year Plans

Head of School Sandford welcomed Dean of Student Affairs Karin Hughes, saying she will assume a lead role on the Student Life Committee on behalf of the administration beginning in 2021-2022. Mrs. Hughes informed the group that she had invited current sophomores and juniors to submit applications to join the Student Life Committee. The new student representative will likely be selected via electronic voting by committee members.

End-of-year events were listed, some of which included:

- An afterschool picnic for freshmen, hosted by F.R.E.S.H.
- Dedication ceremony of an outdoor bench in honor of Aiden Trevorrow in late May
- Class picnics for freshmen (5/13); sophomores (5/18); and juniors (5/25)
- Senior Athletic Awards on June 3
- Pink House Tea for seniors on June 7
- Graduation rehearsals
- Senior Class Picnic on June 8 featuring hot air balloon rides and more
- Senior Prom on June 11 behind the Loos Center with several upscale tents, catering, bonfires and more
- Commencement on June 12
- Junior Prom on June 15, also behind the Loos Center
- Graduation for distance learners on June 16 (by appointment)
- Pink House Tea and Luncheon for the Class of 2020 on June 24

Other information shared included:

- Only students attending in-person classes can participate in the in-person end-of-the-year activities.
- The First Congregational Church of Woodstock offered to ring their bell at 10:00 a.m. on the morning of commencement.
- The Academy's first Poet Laureate will speak at commencement this year.
- The Woodstock Public Schools were invited to use the tents behind the Loos Center free of charge for their eighth-grade dance.

5. 2021-2022 Opening

Associate Head of School for South Campus John Rigney and Director of Health Services Bobbie-Jo Saucier provided an overview of their expectations for residential life on South Campus this fall. Discussion included The Academy's vaccine policy for staff and students on South Campus, the number of students expected to participate in pre-season soccer, the Liaoyuan partnership's summer and fall programs, concerns about cases of flu during the fall and winter, expectations for remote learning and snow days, and plans for fall activities. Right now, 130-140 students are expected to live on South Campus.

6. Other

Student representative Adeline Smith wondered if teachers might consider recording certain classes next year to help students who are unable to attend class due to illness. Since a universal policy would be difficult to apply to all classes (which range from physical education to social studies, for example), she was told that teachers may be requested but not required to record their classes. This topic is still in discussion.

Dean of Student Affairs Karin Hughes described the ESY (Extended School Year) program, which is a modified summer school program being offered this summer. Grant money was received from the state to provide a wide array of academic and credit recovery classes which will include cooking, transitional skills, vocational skills, and life skills among other things. The program is targeted for, but not limited to, special education students.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: (Rhynhart/Smith) To adjourn the meeting at 7:45 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.