

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE
February 12, 2020



These minutes are for
informational purposes only.

PRESENT: Asikainen, Samantha; McGinn, Walter; Musumeci, Joe; Rhynhart, Hans; Samborowski, Leonard; Trivella, Joan; Rigney, John; Sandford, Chris; Woodland, Julie
ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION: Singleton, Holly

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-chairman Asikainen/Trivella at 7:02 p.m.

2. Community Participation – None.

3. Committee Charter and Goals

Head of School Sandford welcomed the group to this new subcommittee of the Board, pointing out the committee charter specifies that two student and two staff members will also be part of the committee—similar to the Academic Committee. Ideally, each pair would be able to represent the perspective of both boarding and day students. So far, Director of Health Services Bobbie-Jo Saucier and Head Prep Basketball Coach Jacque Rivera have stepped forward to serve on the committee as staff members. Additionally, student volunteers are being sought to bring before the committee for approval. It was suggested the committee charter be shared with all possible new members.

The only one correction was suggested for the committee charter. It will be reviewed again at the next meeting.

4. Create Meetings Schedule

The group decided to pair with the Policy Committee meeting schedule. Head of School Sandford suggested the Policy Committee meet at 6:30 p.m. and the Student Life Committee meet at 7:00 p.m. on those dates.

5. Residential Life Update

Assistant Head of School for South Campus John Rigney provided an overview of the residential life program, saying 154 students from 19 countries participate in the program. He discussed plans and parameters for spring break and described how students spend after-school hours doing sports, working out, studying, and getting extra help. He said the most-enjoyed weekend activities included trips (downtown Boston, Chinatown in Boston, shopping) on-campus dances, and gaming. Mr. Rigney spoke about the wide array of topics typically covered at dorm meetings and explained the various ways students are monitored and tracked for behavior, health and safety. Questions were asked and answered about how students received physical and mental health services, and the types of insurance that covered various procedures. Mr. Rhynhart shared insight and challenges from his professional background. The committee was looking forward to input from students and staff members. Mr. Rigney was asked to discuss the Reach Program and Ruvna at the next meeting.

6. Other

A white paper called, “Leverage the Girls’ Hockey Program to Increase Private Pay Tuition” was explained by Head of School Sandford. The group discussed coaching, recruiting targets, diversity in the girls’ dorm, league play, ice time, and covering program costs. The proposal was well received and will be presented to the full Board at a future meeting.

Next, a white paper called, “Every Student Matters—Increasing The Academy’s Focus on the Whole Child” was reviewed by Head of School Sandford. This document identified areas of concern for coordination of student services and proposed a cost-effective solution that involves reorganizing the administrative team and their duties. Discussion included the latest definition of truancy by the state. This proposal also received group support, and it was noted the proposed 2020-2021 budget already reflects this staffing configuration. The white paper will be presented to the full Board at a future meeting.

It was agreed the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

7. Community Participation – None.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: (McGinn/Asikainen) To adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Woodland

Julie Woodland

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.