

The Watershed School

Academic Policy Committee

Minutes

Thursday, October 19, 2023 6:00 PM

Location: Watershed Charter School – Ms. Perez’s Room

1. Welcome

- a. Call to order: 6:02 PM
- b. Review September meeting minutes: minutes approved unanimously
- c. Sean Walklin and Larissa Sommer were not present at the meeting and all other members were present

2. Public comment: The parent who attended the meeting verified that Watershed’s outdoor program was one of the main reasons she chose the school.

3. Principal’s report:

- a. Budget
- b. Watershed Action Plan (data, goals, plan)
 - i. Attendance: Start sending letters to families starting October 31, 2023
 - ii. Reading (based on fall assessment data)
 - iii. School climate (based on [2022-23 School Climate Survey](#) results)
- c. Highlights
- d. Questions from the board

Why are so many students found not proficient in reading? Jarrod Decker explained that mClass is not a criterion-referenced test, it is norm-referenced. How is the progress on social-emotional learning being measured? It is measured by the school climate survey and inclusion in teachers’ newsletters.

4. Action Items:

- a. Proposal: Amend [Watershed's 2023-2024](#) calendar to include the next two FNSBSD early dismissal "data days" - **January 22** and **April 26** - to provide staff time to review and respond to student assessment data (mClass, MAP).
- b. Motion by Dave Merrill and seconded by Becky Hansen to amend the proposal to one professional development day was unanimously approved
- c. Proposal to have a full professional development day on January 22, 2024 and was unanimously approved
- d. Jason moved that the strategic plan committee survey get sent out again and taken by board members, Becky seconded and it was unanimously approved.

5. Discussion items:

- a. Strategic Plan Committee survey: The board agreed it would be a good idea to include some questions about parent expertise we may not know about otherwise (and could potentially lead training on outdoor leadership). Sustaining Watershed's outdoor curriculum: Add training for staff to lead the outdoor education trips, perhaps focused on especially challenging trips like winter camping and canoeing. In the future, UAF grads may have taken a class in outdoor learning. Jarrod Decker agrees that professional development needs to take place but it can be done on the job by mentor staff. Maybe Watershed can offer professional development time and money to staff in a targeted way, meaning if that grade level typically does canoeing, they do the canoe training.
- b. In January, we plan to have a calendar committee assembled to look at next year's calendar

6. Adjourn: 7:14 PM

7. Executive Session

- a. Debrief on school neighborhood incident

The next APC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 6:00 PM