

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**  
**March 10, 2025**



These minutes are for  
informational purposes only.

**PRESENT:** Besette, Mikayla; Duvall, Nancy; Folkerts, Chandler; Gronski, Melany; Munroe, Heather; Musko, Jason; Paquette, Philippa; Rich, Matthew; Young, Scott; Harten, Michael; Sandford, Chris; Woodland, Julie  
**ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION:** Gregoire, Avery; Samborowski, Len; Singleton, Holly; Walley, David  
**GUEST:** Denzel Washington

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Paquette at 5:31 p.m.

**2. Community Participation**

Committee Chair Paquette shared a warm greeting from the Rigney family in Senegal.

**3. Secretary's Report—Minutes of February 10, 2025**

**MOTION:** (Musko/Folkerts) To approve the minutes of February 10, 2025. All voted Yes except Mikayla Besette, who abstained. Motion passes.

**4. Goals Update: Faculty and Staff Wellness; AI**

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten summarized the Health and Wellness Committee's newsletter, which highlighted book club meetings, cupcakes, "craftersnoon" events, college basketball challenges, and departmental competitions, among other things. These activities offer something for everyone, engaging people and boosting morale.

Regarding the school-wide AI goal, initiatives included "Weekly AI- deas," development of an on-ramp and rubric to help staff begin their learning, advisory lessons guiding students to use AI safely and responsibly now and in the future, and mid-year meeting discussions that included writing a reflection and taking an optional survey. Committee members shared their thoughts and experiences on both topics.

**5. Community and Belonging: Reframing the Work (Guest—Denzel Washington)**

Director of Community and Belonging Denzel Washington reviewed the "Reframing the Work" white paper with the group. The Connecticut Code of Professional Responsibility for Teachers demands that professional teachers recognize, respect, and uphold the dignity and worth of students as individuals by treating students justly and considerately; The Academy concurs. Group discussion ensued. Updates to BOT Policy #0523, the student and faculty handbooks, several student and faculty organizations, and the school website are planned.

**6. Review the Process for Selecting New Student Representatives**

It was agreed to use the same review and selection process as last year.

**7. Apple Distinguished Schools Visit for Friday, March 14**

Dr. Harten shared an itinerary for the Apple Distinguished Schools visit planned for Friday, March 14. Nine guests are expected from four different schools; if their schedule permits, all present are invited to attend.

**8. Other – None.**

## 9. Adjournment

**MOTION:** (Young/Bessette) To adjourn the meeting at 6:26 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.*