

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**February 4, 2026**



These minutes are for  
informational purposes only.

**PRESENT:** Blackmer, Robert; Brown, Lauren; Higgins, Edwin; Keser, Adam (W); Langevin, Leisl; Larrow, Jeff; McGinn, Walter; Paquette, Philippa; Quinn, Eric; Rich, Matthew; Swenson, Christine; Filippelli, Lawrence; Harten, Michael; Hughes, Karin; Rhynhart, Hans; Singleton, Holly; Sturdevant, Jon; Woodland, Julie  
**ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION:** Ellsworth, Robert (E); Munroe, Heather; Perkins-Banas, Melissa (B)

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Swenson at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Community Participation – None.**

**3. Secretary's Report—Minutes of November 5, 2025**

**MOTION:** (McGinn/Brown) To approve the minutes of November 5, 2025, as presented. All voted Yes except Philippa Paquette, who abstained. Motion passes.

**4. Correspondence**

Head of School Filippelli reviewed the correspondence included in the packet. Highlights included a letter celebrating a student who earned the rank of Eagle Scout, assorted letters of congratulations (for this year's valedictorian, salutatorian, head of school award winners, and academy champion), several letters of condolence, and letters acknowledging various resignations and retirements.

**5. Strategic Plan Update and March Retreat Planning**

Head of School Filippelli described the listening sessions, surveys, and mealtime meetings used to gather input for the strategic plan. Recurring themes continue to cluster around the previously identified pillars. A second Governance Committee meeting will be held in early March to shape the Board Retreat scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, at 7:00 p.m. The updated strategic plan is expected to be in place for the 2026-2027 school year.

**6. Nominating Committee Report and Discussion**

Nominating Committee Co-chair Matt Rich provided an overview of the group of candidates recently interviewed for seats on the Board of Trustees. Other members of the nominating committee shared their thoughts and impressions of the candidates. President Swenson praised the quality of the candidates and thanked the committee for their hard work. She expressed her desire to recruit new members with intentional skill sets in the future. While she favored moving any trustees from the sending towns forward to the full Board without delay, she asked the nominating committee members to limit their trustee recommendations to only two at this time. The committee is still waiting on an application from the Town of Canterbury.

**7. Finance Committee Update: Tuition Rates**

Chief Finance and Operating Officer Hans Rhynhart Head of School Filippelli reviewed the 2025-2026 budget and tuition rates. Discussion ensued.

It was agreed to move the proposed 2026-2027 tuition rates to the full Board for a vote.

**8. Enrollment and Development Update**

Associate Head of School for External Affairs Jon Sturdevant provided a brief overview of the update he planned to share at the February BOT meeting, sharing that enrollments are going well compared to this time in previous

years. We have a large number of non-sending-town day students, several donor meetings scheduled, and an athletic campaign on the horizon.

**9. Academic Calendars 2025-2026 and 2026-2027**

Head of School Filippelli provided the revised 2025-2026 Academic Calendar and a Draft 2026-2027 Academic Calendar for discussion at the next full BOT meeting, noting that snow days have required pushing back the graduation date by one week.

**10. Second Read--Policies**

Head of School Filippelli asked that members please reach out with any questions or suggested edits. It was agreed to move the policies forward to the full Board for approval.

**11. Other Items – None.**

H. Singleton, K. Hughes, Michael Harten, Jon Sturdevant, and Hans Rhyhart exited the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

**12. Executive Session—Personnel**

**MOTION:** (Paquette/McGinn) To enter into an Executive Session to discuss Personnel matters, inviting Head of School Filippelli and Julie Woodland to attend at 8:04 p.m.

Unanimous

The meeting returned to regular session at 8:31 p.m.

**13. Possible Action Based on Executive Session – None.**

The administrative team was asked to include the Head of School’s Theory of Action and the Head of School Review Process on the full meeting agenda for February.

**14. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** (Langevin/Paquette) To adjourn the meeting at 8:42 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.*