

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE
January 12, 2026



These minutes are for
informational purposes only.

PRESENT: Duvall, Nancy; Gregoire, Avery; Gronski, Melany; Munroe, Heather; Musko, Jason; Paquette, Philippa; Rich, Matthew; Walley, David; Young, Scott; Filippelli, Lawrence; Harten, Michael; Singleton, Holly; Woodland, Julie

ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION: Cournoyer, Adelyn; Kyrlyuk, Danylo

GUESTS: Joe Musumeci

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Paquette at 5:30 p.m.

2. Community Participation – None.

3. Secretary’s Report— Minutes of December 8, 2025

MOTION: (Walley, Gregoire) To approve the minutes of December 8, 2025. All voted Yes except Jason Musko and Scott Young, who abstained. Motion passes.

4. New Course Proposal

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten invited Curriculum Leader Joe Musumeci to provide background and details on a new course proposal called The Rise of Totalitarian and Authoritarian Governments. Discussion ensued, and there was consensus to support the course moving forward.

Mr. Musumeci exited the meeting at 5:43.

5. Bracken Library Update

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten reviewed two handouts created by librarian Deb Sharpe. In the 2025-2026 WA Library Update handout, book clubs, library use, book circulation/literacy integration, database instruction, library environment, and an update about the “town” aspect of the library were discussed. In the 2025-2026 Library Policy Update, the impact of Public Act 25-168 was addressed, along with the new policies under consideration for adoption by the BOT and the Town of Woodstock. After being considered by the Policy and Executive Committees, these policies will be moved forward to the full Board for approval.

6. Pathways Follow-up/Draft

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten described the inception and parameters of The Academy’s Pathways program. A staff member will be assigned to monitor the student experience and coordinate community connections. This highly individualized program will include at least three WA courses, provide opportunities to demonstrate real-world experience/skills, and require a culminating assessment. Students will be able to register for these programs beginning this spring, with additional offerings in the 27-28 and 28-29 school years.

7. IMPACT (AI Conference)

Dr. Harten asked the group to mark their calendars for the IMPACT Conference scheduled for Thursday, August 13, 2026, in the Loos Auditorium. IMPACT stands for Innovation Meets Pedagogy: AI and Critical Thought, and will be taught by Sarah W. Newman, Director of Art & Education at Harvard University's metaLAB.

8. Academic Committee Meeting Schedule Update

It was agreed to cancel the February meeting and meet again in March.

9. Other – None.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: (Young/Harten) To adjourn the meeting at 6:09 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.