

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE
October 10, 2023



These minutes are for informational purposes only.

PRESENT: Folkerts, Chandler; Gronski, Melany; Harten, Michael; Larrow, Jeff; Munroe, Heather; Musko, Jason; Nguyen, Cang—alt.; Paquette, Philippa; Rich, Matthew; Sandford, Chris; Singleton, Holly; Staples, Eli; Walley, David; Woodland, Julie

ABSENT WITH NOTIFICATION: Samborowski, Len; Young, Scott

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 September 11, 2023

MOTION: (Gronski/Folkerts) To approve the minutes of September 11, 2023. All voted Yes except Eli Staples, who abstained. Motion passes.

4. Class Size Report

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten reviewed the Fall 2023 Class size report with the group, saying the levels for most classes are very similar to last year. The class size goal is 18-22 students, and classes within, above, and below that range were listed. The number of students partaking in study halls and senior privileges were noted. A brief discussion ensued about some specific classes that fell above and below the targeted range.

5. Update on October 25 Test Day

Director of College and Career Counseling Dave Walley described the upcoming October 25 Test Day. Plans include providing a modified PSAT test to grade 9 students and a regular PSAT to grades 10 and 11 students. Tests will be digital instead of paper, last about 2.5 hours, and have variable breaks built in. The pre-tests offered during the advisory blocks went well. Grade 12 students will have other options, such as field trips to tour several colleges or attending a common application boot camp on campus.

6. Dual Enrollment Update

Dean of Academics Dr. Michael Harten shared that the Dual Enrollment Program continues to grow and improve. Current partnerships include QVCC, the University of Bridgeport, and Eastern. Paperwork for a partnership with Nichols College is nearly complete. A grant from Manchester Community College will pay for some student field trips.

Trustee Len Samborowski plans to visit several classrooms on Tuesday, October 17.

7. Review Committee Goals

The 2023-2024 Academic Committee Goals were agreed upon. They are pasted below these meeting minutes.

8. AI Discussion and Direction

Student committee member Chandler Folkerts shared the results of his informal survey of fellow students about Artificial Intelligence use. His written report will be discussed again at the next meeting. The ways the group currently uses AI include career searches, teaching science concepts to non-English speakers, survey design, college

essay critiques, and essay editing. In the business world, establishing the guidelines for use, ethical questions, and protecting information technology are also of concern.

9. **Other** – None.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: (Larrow/Singleton) To adjourn the meeting at 6:12 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.

**Academic Committee Goals
2023-2024**

- A. Monitor social and emotional support for staff and collect data.
- B. Encourage BOT members to attend classes and events.
- C. Encourage understanding of Artificial Intelligence (AI) within the Academy community.
- D. Monitor, assess results, and support plans to improve student assessment data, particularly in science, English, and math.