

**Approved Minutes**  
**Board of Governors Meeting**  
**Washington Latin Public Charter School**  
**5200 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, NW Washington, DC**  
**Thursday, January 28, 2016**  
**6:00pm**

**Governors Present:** M. Cave; R. Dalal; J. Davis; A. Economou; C. Ejiasa (phone); M. Levasseur (late); A. Lovett; P. Mara; T. Morgan; H. Rawlings; T. Tuck (phone)

**Absent:** C. Culver; R. Greiff; M. Levasseur; J. Olchefske; A. Wilkins

**Head of School:** M. Cutts

**Guests:**

Geovanna Izurieta, WLPCS Director of Finance  
Diana Smith, WLPCS Principal  
Ryan Benjamin, WLPCS Assistant Principal  
Kate Cromwell, WLPCS Director of Development  
Kearney Shanahan, Principal, Shanahan Law Firm

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Davis called the meeting to order at 6:10pm and welcomed the group, explaining that he would be running the meeting while Mr. Ejiasa would be dialing in from business travel in Kenya.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Economou then presented the minutes from the general board meeting on January 28, 2016 and special meeting on February 2, 2016. Both sets were approved unanimously and with no changes after a motion made by Ms. Economou and seconded by Mr. Cave.
3. **Report of Contracts over \$25,000:** Ms. Izurieta reported no new contracts.
4. **Head of School Report:**
  - i. **FOCUS lawsuit:** Ms. Cutts updated board members that the city would like to go to mediation. She described the particulars and requested the board's support on two items: first, authorizing her to negotiate on the school's behalf and second, designating a board member to participate at settlement. Mr. Davis made a motion to approve Ms. Cutts' power to negotiate on behalf of WLPCS, Dr. Rawlings seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Davis then offered to attend settlement on behalf of the board in Mr. Ejiasa's absence and made a motion. Dr. Rawlings seconded it, and it passed unanimously. Ms. Cutts added that Cornish Hitchcock would be the mediator.

- ii. Expulsion Procedural Update: Ms. Cutts updated the board on the current status of students recently expelled and how both they and the broader WLPCS community was adjusting. She also shared a revised procedure for handling future expulsions, including a twenty-four waiting period. Mr. Cave asked for clarity on where that process “lived” and how it would be conveyed to the new Head of School, and Dr. Smith shared that it would be included in the school handbook.
  - iii. Gala: Ms. Cromwell chimed in to remind everyone that the gala celebrating Latin’s 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 1776 in downtown DC, thanks to support from Mr. Greiff.
  - iv. Strategic Plan: Ms. Cromwell also added that an electronic version of the strategic plan would be ready for the next board meeting in March.
5. **Finance Committee:** Ms. Izurieta presented on behalf of the finance committee, reviewing monthly financials and noting that budget approval would be sought in March. She also noted that the 990 was still under review and would require approval at that time as well. Mr. Morgan added that a reserves policy would be presented then too.
6. **Search Committee:** Ms. Lovett presented on behalf of the committee, sharing that Mr. Peter Anderson had formally accepted his position at WLPCS and announced his departure to his Hyde school community. She and Mr. Cave had announced his selection to the faculty. Ms. Cromwell was coordinating press activity, and Ms. Lovett was coordinating a transition team. Mr. Anderson was scheduled to visit WLPCS following the gala on April 30<sup>th</sup> and would officially assume his role as Head of School on July 1, 2016.
7. **Governance Committee:** Mr. Mara spoke on behalf of the committee, describing its recent work clarifying the new board member onboarding process. He also noted the significant upcoming vacancies, especially as they pertained to diversity, and encouraged board members to review their networks for potential candidates. He also noted that a candidate would be observing a board meeting the following month.
8. **Academic Committee:** Ms. Economou welcomed Dr. Smith and Mr. Benjamin on behalf of the committee, outlining their objective to review and explain results from the PARCC exam. Dr. Smith and Mr. Benjamin then provided an in-depth, hour-long analysis of WLPCS’s performance, sharing overall results as well as results broken down by subset of student population. They clarified differences between PARCC and its predecessor, the DC-CAS, and contextualized WLPCS’s performance in the broader landscape of DCPS and peer charter schools. While Dr. Smith and Mr. Benjamin were sure to highlight areas for improvement and next-steps, they also expressed a general sentiment of satisfaction with the test and their students’ performance.

9. **Motion to adjourn:** Mr. Davis thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 8:07pm.