



WASHINGTON LATIN
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

A Classical Education for the Modern World

Board of Governors Meeting
Washington Latin Public Charter School
5200 2nd Street, NW Washington, DC
Thursday, February 2, 2017
6:00pm

Governors Present: J. Davis; R. Greiff (phone); T. Morgan (phone); M. Demeke (phone); C. Culver (phone); H. Rawlings; A. Economou; C. Wilkinson; M. Demeke; P. Mara; R. Dalal (phone); K. Cole; A. Lovett

Absent: T. Tucker; M. Cave

Head of School: P. Anderson

Guests:

Dianna Smith, WLPCS Principal

Kate Cromwell, WLPCS Director of Development and Communications

Melissa Hinton, WLPCS Director of Mental Health

Anna Jesseman, WLPCS School Social Worker

Brad Olander, Managing Director, EdOps

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Davis called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and welcomed our guests.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Economou presented the minutes from the December 1, 2016 Executive meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously and with no changes after a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Economou.
3. **Head of School Report:**
 - i. Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the student demographics at Washington Latin. Additionally, he reviewed the PCSB Compliance Review Reports, Equity report, and a letter from OSSE Superintendent. Mr. Anderson also informed the board that the Mayor has announced a proposal to provide opt-in preference to neighborhood students within walking distance to schools. This preference would not be applicable to middle school and high school students.
 - ii. **FOCUS lawsuit:** At Mr. Anderson's request, Mr. Wilkinson updated board members regarding the status of the FOCUS litigation. He advised that procedurally, amici briefs have been filed in support of both sides of the litigation. The last amicus brief was filed in February 2017. Oral argument is scheduled for March 2017. Mr. Wilkinson opined that a decision may be likely in fall. Mr. Rawlings inquired as to additional action that Washington Latin can take to attempt to resolve this matter and prevent it from languishing for an indeterminable amount of time. Mr. Wilkinson explained that previous efforts to

resolve the litigation, including formal mediation, have been unsuccessfully made. The plan of action at this juncture is to await a ruling by the court.

4. **Finance Committee**: Mr. Anderson recommended that we amend the Investment Policy to include additional fully federally-insured instruments. Mr. Morgan advised that the committee is currently reviewing the draft 2017-2018 fiscal year budget. The Deputy Mayor of Education has not yet determined the extent of funding increases for the next fiscal year, which will impact the Washington Latin 2017-2018 fiscal year budget.
5. **Governance Committee**: Mr. Mara presented proposed changes to the Bylaws for board consideration. He also noted that elections are upcoming and requested that nominations for board officer positions be submitted via email by February 16, 2017. Mr. Davis moved and Ms. Lovett seconded that Ms. Demeke be added to the Governance committee. The motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Mara asked board members to give further consideration to board candidates, with a particular focus on building a pipeline of candidates that can assist with development efforts.
6. **Academic Committee**: Ms. Economou introduced Ms. Hinton and Ms. Jesseman and invited them to present information regarding mental health support offered at Washington Latin. Ms. Hinton and Ms. Jesseman provided an overview of the mental health staff at Washington Latin and the services they currently offer to the Latin community. They presented data regarding the mental health challenges that students most frequently confront. Ms. Hinton stated the School's desire to expand its staff and the programs offered in order to provide additional mental health resources to students. Ms. Hinton requested that the board focus on generating funding for additional staff and services, including confidential meeting space, professional development opportunities, and external professional resources.
7. **Growth Committee**: Ms. Lovett provided an update regarding the self-assessment process in which the committee has engaged, as recommended by the Replicating Quality Schools program, to ensure that members of the committee are operating under a shared set of guiding principles as they evaluate potential growth opportunities. Participants in the assessment included Mr. Anderson and Ms. Smith as well as the Directors of Development and Operations and other school administrators. The committee has also narrowed its focus regarding the options for potential growth. The committee continues to vet the options and will provide recommended next steps in the near future.
8. **Development Committee**: Ms. Cromwell provided a copy of the Development committee's report for review. She advised that she is in the planning stages for a fundraising event in May 2017. Ms. Cromwell will be reaching out to board members individually to request assistance. She also advised that Washington Latin's website has been updated.
9. **Motion to adjourn**: Mr. Davis thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.