

**Wissahickon Charter School  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
January 23, 2019 6:30pm-8:50pm**

**Wissahickon Charter School Awbury Campus (Board Room)  
815 E Washington Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19138**

**Board Members Present:** Rosi Barbera (Chair), Justin Wheeler (Treasurer), Fran Bradley, Bob Anderson, Rachel Loeper, Charles Case

**Staff Present:** Kristi Littell (CEO), Anne Pennington Wang (Development Director), Jane Walsh (Development Associate), Jack Haurin (Awbury Fourth Grade Teacher), Kate O'Shea (Director of Lower School, Awbury), Rebecca Benarroch (Director of Middle School, Fernhill), Kim Krasnow (Director of Human Capital), Paul Vande Stouwe (Assessment and Accountability Manager)

**Guests Present:** Ted Bailey (Parent), Derek Zeigler (Parent)

**Board chair called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.**

**Review of December Minutes (Rosi Barbera, Chair)**

The Board reviewed the December minutes.

A spelling error was acknowledged and it was suggested that wording surrounding the honoree be changed.

A motion to approve the minutes pending these changes was led by Bob and seconded by Justin. The Board approved the minutes unanimously.

**Parent Comment**

In accordance with our policy for guests addressing the Board, a parent addressed the Board regarding subject matter that was taught in his daughter's class.

**Financials (Justin Wheeler, Treasurer)**

Finance committee did not meet this month as is typical for the month of January.

Justin reported that the school financials remain healthy.

Motion to approve the financials was led by Fran and seconded by Rachel. The Board approved the financials unanimously.

Motion to approve the transactions was led by Bob and seconded by Charles. The Board approved the transactions unanimously.

**Development Update (Kristi Littell, CEO, and Anne Pennington Wang, Director of Development)**

Anne gave a development update to the board. The development team is on target to meet or exceed their fundraising goals.

Anne and Kristi met with Jano Cohen, the wife of honoree Jeremy Nowak. She and her children are very excited to be a part of planning the event.

Anne detailed next steps for Board Members regarding the Spring Event:

1. Jane will email all board members with a spreadsheet to complete detailing their guest list for the event. Board Members should complete and return the guest list by Friday February 1st. If this deadline is not attainable, Members should let Anne know.
2. Board Members should brainstorm businesses and other connections who may be interested in sponsoring the event. Members should bring ideas to the next Board Meeting.
3. Board Members should brainstorm auction items that they can obtain and bring these ideas to the next Board Meeting.

### **Title IX Policy (Kristi Littell, CEO)**

The Board reviewed a new Title IX policy for the school.

A motion to approve the policy was led by Bob and seconded by Charles. The policy was approved unanimously.

### **Personnel and Hiring (Kristi Littell, CEO)**

Kristi reported that both vacant math positions at the Awbury Campus have been filled. The apprentice teachers who were filling these lead teacher roles can now return to providing support in the classroom and fulfilling their intended duties.

The Fernhill Guidance Counselor recently informed the school that she has accepted a new position and will be leaving her role after February 8th. There is an active search for an individual to fill this role.

### **School Spotlight: Search for New Math Curriculum (Rebecca Benarroch, Middle School Director at Fernhill, and Kate O'Shea, Lower School Director at Awbury)**

Kate and Rebecca both provided a demonstration math lesson to show the Board how math is typically taught at Wissahickon.

Kate shared the "Vision for Math at WCS", a plan which Wissahickon Directors have been creating with Bloom Consulting, a firm that is helping both campuses develop new math curriculum.

Rebecca explained the criteria for selecting a math program at Wissahickon. "Bridges in Mathematics" and "Open Up" are two programs that have come to the forefront of the ongoing discussion. Both programs have many strengths.

**The Board went into a Closed Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and several student situations.**

**The Board came out of closed session to approve two items.**

- Bob motioned to approve a confidential settlement agreement. This was seconded by Rachel. The agreement was approved unanimously.
- The Board approved a resolution to allocate up to \$10,000 to help with evaluation expenses this year. The motion to approve the resolution was made by Bob and seconded by Rachel. The resolution was approved unanimously.

**The Board Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:50.**

**Handouts that were distributed are attached.**

- Wissahickon Charter School Financial Statements; December 2018
- Development Update for Board Meeting
- Wissahickon - 580-18 - Redacted Agreement for Board 1.3.19.pdf
- Confidential Settlement Agreement and Release
- Wissahickon Charter School Student 580-18 Synopsis for Board of Trustees
- Resolution of the Board of Trustees
- Board Meeting Minutes 12.12.18
- Board of Trustees Policy, Title IX Policy
- Development Update for Board Meeting 1.23.19

**Action Items:**

- Jane to send out Guest List Spreadsheet for all members to complete by February 1st.
- Board Members to work on event “next steps” from Anne