

**Wissahickon Charter School  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
March 15, 2023 7:10am-8:33pm**

**Wissahickon Charter School  
Meeting Held By Zoom**

**Board Members Present:** Justin Diberardinis (Chair), Rachel Loeper (Vice Chair), Charles Case (Treasurer), Shauna Mace, Ohenewaa White-Ra, Erich Holland, Allora Buckshon

**Board Members Absent:** Samantha Mathews, Rekyiah Abdul-Zahir, Anthony Coughlin, John Wylie

**Guests:** Mike Whisman

**Staff Present:** Kristi Littell, Jane Walsh, Alyssa Pinder

**Meeting Called to Order at 7:10am**

**Welcome (Justin DiBerardinis, Chair)**

**Some Good News (Kristi Littell, CEO)**

Kristi shared that Wissahickon had its first schoolwide spelling bee at Awbury and that it was a big success.

**Consent Agenda (Justin)**

The motion to approve the Consent Agenda was led by Ohenewaa and seconded by Rachel. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Finance Committee Update (Mike Whisman, Charter Choices)**

Mike reviewed the February Financial Statements. He reported that we have added a few more students to our enrollment, increasing income from the District. At the Finance Committee held the previous week, Director of Operations Tiffany Days-Harris reported that we do not typically add more students after March, so we should not expect our enrollment numbers to change significantly going forward.

Given recent events with Silicon Valley Bank, Mike reached out to Truist to get confirmation regarding the security of WCS's assets. Because we are a public school, our accounts are covered by Act 72, which means we have a fully-insured account and are not only insured at the limits set by the FDIC.

Justin called for a motion to approve the February Financial Statements. Rachel led the motion and Shauna seconded. The February Financial Statements were approved unanimously.

**Governance Committee (Shauna Mace)**

Shauna noted that we are still looking for board recruits, in particular looking for a candidate with legal experience. Shauna encouraged members to reach out to their contacts and, if they have any potential candidates, to notify the Governance Committee.

We have two members who have terms ending this year, but both are eligible for renewal. Shauna will contact both to confirm that they would like to continue for another term.

#### **Diversity, Equity, and Justice (Justin & Ohenewaa White-Ra)**

Justin and Ohenewaa provided an update on the planned goals and approach that the Diversity, Equity, and Justice Committee plans to take going forward.

#### **Development Update (Jane)**

Jane encouraged board members to collect any auction items they've secured and bring them or mail them to the school by the end of the month.

#### **CEO Report (Kristi)**

- **Diversity, Equity, & Justice** Kristi spoke about the HBCU Tours that occurred at both campuses in February and shared the tour planning doc to demonstrate the depth of work that goes into planning such an event
- **Curriculum Update** This past year, Wissahickon Lower School adopted a new literacy curriculum called EL Language Arts. As we begin to ponder whether we want to adopt this curriculum in middle school as well, several instructional leaders went on a site visit to observe the EL Curriculum in action at another middle school. The visit was very insightful and Kristi would like to do more of these observational visits in the future.
- **Other Updates** Report card conferences are currently happening at both campuses and we have had excellent family turn-out so far. Classes at both campuses have had some fun extracurricular excursions and activities including a trip to the movies and to a roller rink.
- **Hiring Update** We have asked all staff to inform us by the end of this week if they do not plan to return next year. Anyone who informs us by this deadline will have their health benefits extended through the summer. This has been a useful way to find out about openings as soon as possible so we can get a headstart on hiring.

The Board of Trustees entered a closed session to discuss a Personnel Issue as allowable through PA State Sunshine Laws.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:33pm. A motion was made by Erich, seconded by Allora, and passed unanimously.**

#### **Action Items:**

- Board members are to collect any auction items they've secured and bring them or mail them to the school by the end of the month.
- Board Members should send any potential Board candidates to the Governance Committee.

**Any handouts that were distributed are attached.**

- WCS Financial Report 202208.pdf

- WCS Board of Director Mtg March 15 Agenda
- ReportNarrative\_February 2023 v1.1
- FY23 WCS Board Development Update (as of 3.13.23)
- February Meeting Minutes