



Wasatch Charter School  
18 March 2019  
Governing Board Meeting  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
1458 East Murray-Holladay Road, Holladay, UT 84117

Minutes: Meeting commenced at 6:04 pm

1. Confirm recorder is on: Confirmed
2. Roll call

Sherry Jones, Board President  
Rachel Buchanan, Board Member  
Kevin Emerson, Board Secretary  
Meg Golden, Board Member  
Megan Zurkan, Board Member  
Andy Rohrwasser, Board Member  
Charlie Burkam, Alliance for Public Waldorf Education  
Emily Merchant, Executive Director  
Jeff Biesinger, Business Manager  
Charlie Hastings, Board Member (arrived 6:13 pm)  
Lauren Shurman, Board President (arrived 6:32 pm)

Mary Echlin, excused

3. Potential conflicts of interest: None disclosed.
4. Public comments: None offered.
5. Waldorf Education discussion: Corinne Gentry will lead / Waldorf verse

*"The healthy social life is found  
When in the mirror of each human soul  
The whole community finds its reflection,  
And when, in the community,  
The strength of each one is living."  
-Rudolf Steiner*

6. Approval of meeting minutes from February 25, 2019: Motion made by Trustee Golden to approved minutes as presented. Trustee Rohrwasser seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

7. Visit from Charlie Burkam, from Alliance for Public Waldorf Education: Mr Burkam provided an overview about the Alliance for Public Waldorf Education, which promotes the development of Waldorf education in the public realm. The Alliance has developed core principles to assist public Waldorf schools. He provided a history of the service mark of the word “Waldorf” and its history in the United States. In summer 2018, the Alliance developed a pathway to legally use the term “Waldorf” in cooperation with AWSNA. The Alliance provides resources to schools, facilitates sharing of resources between schools, offering a conference to schools, monthly e-newsletter, provides assistance with meeting Waldorf service mark requirements.
8. Business Manager report: Mr. Biesinger reported that the school is on budget, the operating margin has increased, and enrollment is looking positive. The school has made adjustments to align with updated (lower) budget. The school’s fundraising efforts are very positive and unique among schools. Our school spends 66% of its budget on salaries and benefits, which is close to average for schools. Trustee Zurkan gave an update about Spring Gala fundraising efforts, which looks like it may exceed fundraising goal. The school’s Sustainers program has raised approximately \$58,000 for this school year with 138 families participating.
9. Executive Director report: Highlighted that the school may be featured in a news story about our need for a crosswalk. Director Merchant also noted that there is a new federal category for schools in a “turnaround” status that required schools to develop internal plans to assist low-performing student groups in improving their scores on state academic assessments. The Family Council has requested a budget line item within the school’s budget. After discussion it was decided that Director Merchant will instruct the Family Council to direct any budget requests to her and the Board in a formal budget request.
10. Board discussion and votes
  - a. Vote on resolution for revolving loan fund application for solar: Mr Biesinger noted that the application is due on Friday, March 22 to the Utah state school revolving loan fund. The application as an option to pay for a portion of the rooftop solar installation if a grant is awarded from the Rocky Mountain Power Blue Sky program. An application would be made for the solar cost and to help with playground equipment and school field drainage issue. Recommends asking for \$100,000 for solar and playground/drainage. Trustee Hastings motioned to approve an application for the RLF for an amount up to \$100,000 for the purposes discussed. Trustee Emerson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
  - b. Revisions to 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 board calendars: Director Merchant highlighted proposed revisions to the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school calendars. Trustee Hastings made a motion to accept the revised calendars. Trustee Golden seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

- c. Gradalis contract regarding curriculum frameworks: Trustee Shurman reported that after review the contract, the current draft is likely to be ineffective for purposes of licensing the curriculum framework for use by the school, and recommends that the school engages a copyright lawyer to re-draft the agreement. Director Merchant will discuss options to move forward with Gradalis representatives and Trustee Shurman and report to the board in a future meeting.
- d. Policy votes
  - i. Enrollment - status for “non-traditional programs” R277-419-5: The policy was updated to align with language in state statute. The policy will be further reviewed and discussed at the April meeting.
  - ii. Procurement policy: Director Merchant explained that a state audit recommended that the school lunch program adopt additional procurement policies related to the procurement of items for the school lunch program. The board’s policy committee will review the school lunch procurement guideline and determine if action is needed at the April meeting.
- e. School Land Trust Council
  - i. School Land Trust plan approval: Trustee Shurman made a motion to close the board meeting and enter a School Trust Land meeting. The Council reviewed the proposal to support Tier 3 literacy and math students. Trustee Golden made a motion to support the plan as discussed, with Trustee Zurkan seconding the motion, which carried unanimously. Trustee Emerson made a motion to close the School Land Trust Council, which was seconded by Trustee Golden, which passed.

#### 11. Committee reports

- a. Fundraising Committee: discussed previously
- b. Governance Committee: The Governance Committee members will continue to seek additional board candidates.

12. Closed session: Trustee Emerson made a motion to enter a closed session to discuss the character or competency of an individual. Trustee Rohrwasser seconded the motion and the board entered a closed session. The closed session adjourned at 7:53 pm.

#### 13. Meeting Evaluation

- a. Did we spend our time effectively?
- b. What can we do to improve our effectiveness?
- c. What is keeping our leader awake at night?

14. Adjourn: Trustee Zurkan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Trustee Hastings seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.