

WLPCS Academic Committee Meeting Minutes – 4.4.24

Present: Caroline Gifford, Paul Vom Eigen, Khashiffa Roberts, Jimmy Kelly, Peter Anderson, Laurie Ballenger, Barry Caldwell, Alyse Graham, Anna Jesseman, Josiah Osgood, Lisa Rucker, Brendan Williams-Kief

The meeting began shortly after 4:30pm

Jimmy Kelly presented seven world language waivers for consideration by the committee, explaining that we have moved to proposing these waivers for some students earlier in their high school careers, so we now have waivers not just for seniors but for freshman, sophomores and juniors as well. The committee unanimously voted to recommend approval of the waivers to the Board for a vote at its meeting on April 11

Caroline Gifford then led the committee through a discussion of the Instructional Framework, aka “Teaching in the Latin Way,” including a reminder on the background of its creation, the organization of the framework, and how it is used.

She reminded the committee of the goals and metrics in Strategic Plan Priority #3 around teacher observation, goal-setting and instructional coaching. She also described being in-process with evaluating apps that assist with tracking teacher observations as well as developing a one-page tool. She and other school leaders will continue those efforts and continue developing additional improvements to the process in summer 2024.

The committee was provided an update on both 2nd Street and Cooper Campus’ use of the Panorama survey of student climate and culture this year. There are many questions both specific to Latin and in the sector more broadly (with OSSE and PCSB) about the best way to measure climate and culture, to what degree the tool must be standardized, as well as how best to use the results and whether they might be included in an evaluative framework. The committee reviewed Panorama results on two primary questions, including % of students who have a trusted adult at school.

That concluded the committee’s business.