APPROVED

Washington Latin

Minutes

WLPCS Board of Governors Spring Retreat - April 2025

AJC Campus

Date and Time
Tuesday April 22, 2025 at 3:30 PM

Location
AJC Campus
711 Edgewood St NE
Washington DC 20017

Directors Present
A. Jesseman (remote), A. Zachariah, B. Caldwell, C. McFadgion (remote), E. Paisner, F. Perera, J. Osgood, K. Merritt, L. Ballenger, L. Rucker, M. Yeager

Directors Absent
A. Graham, B. Williams-Kief, G. Kautt, P. Jayachandran

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened
A. Jesseman, L. Ballenger

Directors who left before the meeting adjourned
A. Jesseman, C. McFadgion, J. Osgood

Guests Present

Alex Doyle, Ananda Massey-Pendergrass (student), C. Gifford, Christian Benton (student), D. Smith, Ella Holder (student), G. Izurieta, Jasmine Stewart, Jeffrey McCreight, L. Chia, P. Anderson, Penny Bermudez, T. Porter, Viticia Thames

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I. The Latin Way Moment (OPTIONAL)

A. Panel of students and faculty

Prior to the board meeting, there was an optional "The Latin Way" session with several AJC students and faculty.

The students and faculty did not stay for the board meeting.

II. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

K. Merritt called a meeting of the board of directors of Washington Latin to order on Tuesday Apr 22, 2025 at 4:00 PM.

C. Welcome/Opening Remarks

Ken Merritt announced that Glenn Kautt will be stepping down from the WLPCS board due to personal reasons.

Barry Caldwell gave a testimonial at a recent DC Council meeting about legislation that requires charter board members to get annual training in their governance roles.

Ken Merritt attended a charter school board chair focus group in March.

D. Approve Minutes

J. Osgood made a motion to approve the minutes from WLPCS Board of Governors Pre-Meeting Discussion : Naming Opportunities (OPTIONAL) on 03-13-25.
B. Caldwell seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
E. Paisner	Aye
L. Rucker	Aye
B. Williams-Kief	Absent
F. Perera	Aye
K. Merritt	Aye

Roll Call

J. Osgood	Aye
G. Kautt	Absent
C. McFadgion	Aye
A. Zachariah	Aye
L. Ballenger	Absent
P. Jayachandran	Absent
A. Graham	Absent
B. Caldwell	Aye
A. Jesseman	Absent
M. Yeager	Aye

E. Approve Minutes

J. Osgood made a motion to approve the minutes from WLPCS Board of Governors Meeting - March 2025 on 03-13-25.
F. Perera seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Jesseman	Absent
E. Paisner	Aye
B. Williams-Kief	Absent
F. Perera	Aye
B. Caldwell	Aye
J. Osgood	Aye
G. Kautt	Absent
P. Jayachandran	Absent
M. Yeager	Aye
A. Zachariah	Aye
L. Rucker	Aye
L. Ballenger	Absent
A. Graham	Absent
K. Merritt	Aye
C. McFadgion	Aye

F. Approve Minutes

J. Osgood made a motion to approve the minutes from WLPCS Board of Governors Meeting - 18 Mar 2025 on 03-18-25.
M. Yeager seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Jayachandran	Absent
G. Kautt	Absent
C. McFadgion	Aye
E. Paisner	Aye

Roll Call

B. Caldwell	Aye
L. Rucker	Aye
J. Osgood	Aye
B. Williams-Kief	Absent
M. Yeager	Aye
A. Zachariah	Aye
L. Ballenger	Absent
A. Graham	Absent
K. Merritt	Aye
A. Jesseman	Absent
F. Perera	Abstain

III. Executive Report

A. LEA Overview

Peter Anderson informed the board about the following issues.

- SPED audit
- OSSE issue
- Concern from the family of a former student

Security issues at 4301 HAREWOOD were raised.

Caroline Gifford explained in detail the "Science of Reading" standards (for K-5) being implemented by OSSE starting SY25/26. Caroline Gifford and two other WLPCS faculty members will be helping to develop the middle school standards.

B. TITLE VI

Schools are being asked to recertify their Title VI compliance by tomorrow on Apr 23 Wed. Peter Anderson mentioned OSSE has agreed to sign this recertification on behalf of the "state". Individual LEAs have the option to join OSSE. WLPCS plans to also sign and include an accompanying letter clarifying our understanding of the attestation. A board member commented that the letter attached to the signed attestation would be for context only.

C. CHARTER REVIEW

Peter Anderson highlighted and elaborated on the charter review process that is due every 5 years. The next charter review for WLPCS is SY25/26.

A. Jesseman arrived.

L. Ballenger arrived.

IV. Deep Dive: Academic Performance and Accountability

A. School Program and Performance Committee

Caroline Gifford shared details of the evaluations of our three schools (2nd St US and MS and AJC MS) according to the ASPIRE FRAMEWORK, and elaborated on how schools are scored/tiered.

For middle schools, the focus is on growth.
For high schools, the focus is on proficiency.

V. Finance

A. February financials

Geovanna Izurieta reported that WLPCS has been managing resources well so far. An increase in student enrollment is another factor contributing to a good year financially.

B. 990

Board members were requested to review the 990 documents and acknowledge receipt by May 15 Thu.

C. Budget modeling

WLPCS received the DC FY25 Q4 payment from the DC government, despite the uncertainty about the DC budget. There has been no cuts in education so far.

The DC FY26 Q1 payment from the DC government might be in jeopardy.

Geovanna Izurieta presented a few budget scenarios in light of the uncertainty:

- Cautiously Optimistic
- Extremely Conservation (Per Pupil Funding at 0)
- Pessimistic
- Doomsday

For the "Extremely Conservative" scenario, WLPCS is looking at a significant cut in expenses to balance the budget.

A. Jesseman left.

C. McFadgion left.
J. Osgood left.

VI. Other committee updates

A. Fundraising in this Environment

The board was asked to consider ways to help with reducing costs. The following are a few suggestions.

- LEA retreat location (thanks to Laurie Ballenger)
- relaxation and vacation opportunities
- faculty appreciation events at special off site venues

B. Facilities Committee

Currently, the 4301 HAREWOOD project is on time and on budget.

C. Governance

For SY25/26, these are the nominations for the following positions.

president : Ken Merritt
vice president : Brendan Williams-Kief
treasurer : Elizabeth Paisner
secretary : Lisa Rucker

A few possible board candidates may be invited to attend the June board meeting.

WLPCS is looking for board candidates with the following criteria.

- with academic background
- with finance connections
- with law expertise

VII. Executive Session

A. HR and compensation matters

L. Ballenger made a motion to enter into executive (closed) session to discuss about HR.
B. Caldwell seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Yeager	Aye
B. Caldwell	Aye
C. McFadgion	Absent
E. Paisner	Aye
F. Perera	Aye
K. Merritt	Aye
L. Rucker	Aye
G. Kautt	Absent
B. Williams-Kief	Absent
P. Jayachandran	Absent
A. Graham	Absent
J. Osgood	Absent
L. Ballenger	Aye
A. Jesseman	Absent
A. Zachariah	Aye

L. Ballenger made a motion to exit out of executive (closed) session.

B. Caldwell seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

F. Perera	Aye
G. Kautt	Absent
K. Merritt	Aye
A. Graham	Absent
M. Yeager	Aye
L. Rucker	Aye
E. Paisner	Aye
B. Caldwell	Aye
L. Ballenger	Aye
P. Jayachandran	Absent
J. Osgood	Absent
A. Zachariah	Aye
C. McFadgion	Absent
B. Williams-Kief	Absent
A. Jesseman	Absent

L. Ballenger made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

B. Caldwell seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

F. Perera	Aye
G. Kautt	Absent
L. Ballenger	Aye
C. McFadgion	Absent
P. Jayachandran	Absent
A. Zachariah	Aye

Roll Call

A. Jesseman	Absent
B. Williams-Kief	Absent
J. Osgood	Absent
A. Graham	Absent
E. Paisner	Aye
M. Yeager	Aye
L. Rucker	Aye
K. Merritt	Aye
B. Caldwell	Aye

VIII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
L. Chia

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov."