



## Washington Latin

### Minutes

Washington Latin board spring retreat @ 2nd St Campus - Apr  
2026

@ 2nd St Campus

---

#### Date and Time

Tuesday April 21, 2026 at 2:30 PM

#### Location

@ 2nd St Campus

---

#### Directors Present

A. Zachariah (remote), B. Williams-Kief, E. Paisner, F. Perera, K. Merritt, L. Rucker, M. Yeager (remote), R. Brooks (remote), S. Angus (remote), Z. Berte

#### Directors Absent

A. Huston, C. McFadgion, P. Jayachandran

#### Directors who left before the meeting adjourned

A. Zachariah, S. Angus

#### Guests Present

Anaya Rodgers, C. Gifford, D. Smith, E. Moussa, G. Izurieta, J. Kelly, Julia Toews, L. Chia, Martita Fleming, P. Anderson

---

### I. Pre-Meeting

#### A. FACULTY PANEL and STUDENT PANEL

Prior to the board meeting, the board met with a faculty panel followed by a student panel. Various topics - ranging from compensation to community - were discussed.

#### FACULTY PANEL

Alexander Porcelli

Carl Hultgren

Elaina Barroso

Kena Allison

Khallid Love

Rachel Moussa

#### STUDENT PANEL

Alice Birkenhead

Esteyssi Espinosa Dilone

Eve Paisner

Jonah Cohen

June Walsh

Sanaa Evans

## II. Opening Items

### A. Call the Meeting to Order

K. Merritt called a meeting of the board of directors of Washington Latin to order on Tuesday Apr 21, 2026 at 2:30 PM.

### B. The Latin Way Moment

The board briefly discussed the feedback from the panels.

## III. Business Meeting

### A. 2nd St Update

Julia Toews gave an update about the work of the College Counseling Office.

James Kelly spoke about the enduring impact of Albert Edmundson on the school. Albert Edmundson, who worked at 2nd St for many years, passed away recently - and will be missed.

James Kelly highlighted the salient points of the faculty (2026) summer reading THE OPPORTUNITY MYTH.

The board was asked to vote on world language waivers for several students.

B. Williams-Kief made a motion to waive the world language requirement for several students.

L. Rucker seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

B. Williams-Kief	Aye
K. Merritt	Aye
C. McFadgion	Absent
S. Angus	Aye
R. Brooks	Aye
E. Paisner	Aye
P. Jayachandran	Absent
A. Huston	Absent
M. Yeager	Aye
Z. Berte	Aye
F. Perera	Aye
L. Rucker	Aye
A. Zachariah	Aye

**B. Approve Minutes**

B. Williams-Kief made a motion to approve the minutes from Washington Latin board meeting - Mar 2026 on 03-19-26.

F. Perera seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

R. Brooks	Aye
A. Zachariah	Aye
L. Rucker	Aye
E. Paisner	Aye
F. Perera	Aye
B. Williams-Kief	Aye
M. Yeager	Aye
A. Huston	Absent
Z. Berte	Aye
S. Angus	Aye
C. McFadgion	Absent
K. Merritt	Aye
P. Jayachandran	Absent

**C. LEA Executive Report**

Peter Anderson briefly mentioned the departure of Kate Cromwell. Anaya Rodgers, who worked closely (together with Jennifer Thorpe-Lewis and) with Kate Cromwell, was introduced to the board.

Peter Anderson informed the board that the Washington Latin 20 year charter review was approved.

There was a brief discussion about "classical" education. The board was encouraged to read the following two articles.

1. <https://www.the74million.org/article/amid-the-pandemic-a-classical-education-boom-what-if-the-next-big-school-trend-is-2500-years-old/>
2. [https://drive.google.com/open?id=1atzvfX8VptJyj2eLQ\\_2RzKNdnrgrW\\_ZR&usp=drive\\_fs](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1atzvfX8VptJyj2eLQ_2RzKNdnrgrW_ZR&usp=drive_fs)

Washington Latin was one of four schools chosen to share its staffing model approach FLOURISHING IN THE LATIN WAY as a case study for other schools. This case study was developed with funding and participation from NEWSCHOOLS VENTURE FUND and co-written by TRANSCEND.

#### **D. Review of most recent financials**

Geovanna Izurieta reported that financial projections are stable and have not changed much from last month. A strong net income is expected at the end of the year.

One focus of the next strategic plan is to increase teacher salaries.

#### **E. Development and Advocacy Update**

The 20th anniversary celebration gala will be at 2nd St on Jun 06 Sat. The board is encouraged to attend and to solicit sponsorship.

#### **F. Q&A about facilities issues**

Some interior finishes at AJC needs attention.

A. Zachariah left.

S. Angus left.

### **IV. Executive Session**

#### **A. Closed session with counsel**

L. Rucker made a motion to exit the open session.

B. Williams-Kief seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

B. Williams-Kief Aye  
Z. Berte Aye  
P. Jayachandran Absent  
C. McFadgion Absent  
F. Perera Aye  
L. Rucker Aye  
E. Paisner Aye  
S. Angus Absent  
K. Merritt Aye  
A. Huston Absent  
A. Zachariah Absent  
M. Yeager Aye  
R. Brooks Aye

The board entered into executive session to discuss a HR / labor relations matter with counsel Laurel Rimon.

The following WLPCS staff were in attendance.

Caroline Gifford  
Diana Smith  
Geovanna Izurieta  
Peter Anderson

L. Rucker made a motion to exit the closed session.

B. Williams-Kief seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

B. Williams-Kief Aye  
Z. Berte Aye  
C. McFadgion Absent  
P. Jayachandran Absent  
E. Paisner Aye  
L. Rucker Aye  
S. Angus Absent  
R. Brooks Aye  
M. Yeager Aye  
A. Zachariah Absent  
F. Perera Aye  
K. Merritt Aye  
A. Huston Absent

**V. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

B. Williams-Kief made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

L. Rucker seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

A. Zachariah Absent

Z. Berte Aye

F. Perera Aye

L. Rucker Aye

A. Huston Absent

B. Williams-Kief Aye

P. Jayachandran Absent

K. Merritt Aye

M. Yeager Aye

R. Brooks Aye

S. Angus Absent

C. McFadgion Absent

E. Paisner Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 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](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov)."