

DRAFT



## Eno River Academy

# Minutes

Academic Committee May 7, 2026

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### **Date and Time**

Thursday May 7, 2026 at 9:00 AM

### **Location**

Online:

<https://www.google.com/maps/search/?api=1&query=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Fj%2F9142718917>

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### **Committee Members Present**

Charlotte Dungan (remote), Lindsey Sealy (remote), Margaret Barr (remote), Megan Shepherd-Banigan, Pamela Norcross (remote)

### **Committee Members Absent**

*None*

### **Guests Present**

Kristin Martin (remote), Michael Brown (remote)

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## **I. Opening Items**

### **A. Record Attendance**

Attendance:

Pamela Norcross

Lindsey Sealy

Scott Jewett

Kathy Hughes  
Margaret Barr  
Kristin Martin  
Dr. Brown  
Megan Shephard-Banigan  
Donna Kuhl

**B. Call the Meeting to Order**

Pamela Norcross called a meeting of the Academic Committee Committee of Eno River Academy to order on Thursday May 7, 2026 at 9:03 AM.

**II. Academic Committee**

**A. Review AC charter**

- new meeting set for Monday 2:30- to talk about new position
- did not read the AC charter due to a lack of time, but will need to review this to ensure AC committee is on target for the task we have been charged with.

**B. Personnel & Hiring**

New Hire discussion:

Dr Brown: Matthew Spencer to replace Mr Best for English Teacher position  
Has 19 years of experience

Ms. Martin:

Mr John Elderton 8th grade ELA  
-experience focusing on writing  
-fulbright award winner

Martha Bearfoot-Yeager- MS social studies- moving from ERA ELA position  
3 section of social studies and 3 on STREAM

**C. ERA STREAM Integration/Curriculum orientation**

**D. Field Trips**

4th & 5th graders had a field trip to Life and Science  
42 chaperones and 80 students  
-lots of other schools there  
-feedback that some students from another school were blocking kids from interacting and accessing, not being kind or friendly- some kids reported to parents but was not reported to teachers or Sealy on the field trip  
-Letter sent to the Board about safety, wasn't aligned academically according to that parent; driving

- parents have a background check and waiver
- suggested to create a document for parents as a guide for the field trip- has central rules and safety; guidance on what happens with an inappropriate situation; have a reflection of the learning as an outcome
- also in the letter "Spa Day," during a review day in stations- test taking strategies and social emotional health; are reviewed plus both subjects reviewed at the stations- parents may need more information about what SE learning is and its importance
- safety was emphasized as priority and steps for chaperones to take as well as training needs
- Lindsey will follow up with this parent

#### **E. AI update**

AI updates presented by Kathy Hughes and Scott Jewett:

- Updated technology user agreement
  - AI safety: created a universal document for when to use AI and when not to use AI
  - teach children how to identify AI
  - Communicate with families- grade specific
  - Align learning goals with STREAM initiatives
  - Possible AI cohort of teachers
- Technology and AI training for teachers
- Worked with Charlotte Dungan: Mark Cuban Foundation's Free Bootcamp for any teacher or staff member
- get an AI fellow to represent ERA- applications close May 15th

### **III. Other Business**

#### **A. Update on MS**

- need more elective teachers-
- Spanish & Computer Science- student will have to choose one as required due to longer days
- students as 8th graders will be able to do 3 high school credit
- 3 blocks, so not enough time in the day to offer both
- Are there ways to integrate computer science skills across the curriculum? Focus on exposure and less on HS credit to prepare them for HS- spanish or CS club
- still planning the classes
- Charlotte has offered to help integrate CS across the grades to help integrate CS with the STREAM initiative.

#### **B. TWCS**

### **IV. 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 10:02 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Norcross

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