



## MCCPS Board of Trustees

### Minutes

#### Academic Excellence Committee Committee Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Wednesday December 11, 2019 at 7:30 AM

**Location**

17 Lime Street- Treehouse

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**Committee Members Present**

Ellen Lodgen, Jessica Xiarhos, Kimberly Sullivan, Matt Cronin, Michael Condon, Peter Cohen, William Sullivan

**Committee Members Absent**

Emily Westhoven

**Guests Present**

Meg Upton

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**I. Opening Items****A. Record Attendance and Guests****B. Call the Meeting to Order**

Jessica Xiarhos called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee committee of MCCPS Board of Trustees to order on Wednesday Dec 11, 2019 @ 7:35 AM at 17 Lime Street- Treehouse.

**C. Approve Minutes from 11/06/19**

Matt Cronin made a motion to accept the minutes as is.  
Michael Condon seconded the motion.  
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**II. Academic Excellence Committee**

**A. "Big Picture"**

Teachers defining academic excellence.

Elevating exhibition across all grades and subjects.

Creating a network to help support framework- Committee to visit Francis Parker. Skype with High Tech High

How do we frame our work, and how do we make sure everyone else knows?

Graduate activity- connecting to "Here's what happens after".

Values in reaching out to MHS, SHS, SJP, asking "What skills are you hoping that students have when they come to you?"

-SJP recommendations reveal priorities- Academic integrity, etc., knowing vs. using vs. applying skills.

-Recent graduate- what did you get from Charter, what didn't you get. (high performers and low performers)

We don't want to fall into the trap of teaching to the test; maintain the excitement about learning.

Gamification- why can kids persevere in video games but not in school? Grading is the opposite of working your way up levels. "Charter Amazing Race." intrinsic vs. extrinsic motivation.

If we can define- then we can align

Giving students choice- and then students being able to articulate who they are as a learner.

Why portfolios are so important-

**B. Dissemination of Academic Excellence to Staff**

Action items- what do we want to ask staff, when

1st- Departments- What math, science, music skills should a graduate have by the end of the year/graduation?

2nd- Grade level- what do you want students to know and be able to do by the end of the year

**C. Parent Recruitment to Committee**

Going forward- developing questions to ask families to get community perspective about what we're doing.

**III. Closing Items**

**A. Next Meeting- January 8th**

**B. Action Items**

Jessica to ask IA teacher to join Ac Ex, research frameworks of "What a Graduate looks like?"

Peter to reach out to other schools to set up visits in the new year.

Talk to Judith about curating independent school applications

Kim to reach out to public schools

Meg to continue to have conversations with families.

**C. Adjourn Meeting**

Ellen Lodgen made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Matt Cronin seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica Xiarhos