

WINTERBERRY CHARTER SCHOOL  
ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE dba WINTERBERRY CHARTER COUNCIL

**Minutes**

8/15/23

6 pm at Winterberry, handwork room

Attendance: **Neil Brauer, Shana. Garrels, Chris Griffith, Trevor Holm, Nick Parry (by phone), Julie Pepe-Phelps, Marc Stover, Molly Towner**

**I. Opening**

- A. Motto of the Social Ethic by Rudolf Steiner  
*"The healing social life is found  
when in the mirror of each human soul  
the whole community finds its reflection  
and when in the community  
the virtue of each one is living."*
- B. Song: Come Let Us Gather
- C. Excitement Sharing and Welcoming

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**No minutes**

**III. Approval of Agenda**

**Chris Griffith moved to approve the agenda with the addition of a discussion about ABC training per Marc Stover's request.**

**Neil Brauer 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**The agenda was approved.**

**IV. Community Comments** [3 minutes each] *Please note: This is the public's time to talk and the board's time to listen. Winterberry Charter Council does not hear complaints against students or personnel in public session. It is not the board's practice to engage in discussion or to answer questions during community comments. Commenters' names will be recorded in the minutes. Thank you.*

**No community comments.**

**V. Informational Reports**

- A. Administrator's Report (Julie Pepe-Phelps)  
Attached
- B. Faculty Report (Jennifer Fuller)

All teachers from last year are returning this year. We have a new SLP and psychologist. The teachers are grateful for the training received this summer. Faculty meetings this year are being structured as a college course.

C. WPG Report (Nick Parry)

There was not a meeting in August. The handbook was sent through email to review.

E. Budget Report (Shana Garrels)

Mercurius supplies were ordered the end of the year \$20,350.32 (ordered early to save 20%).

Other non-Mercurius items are still being ordered.

Supply fees are coming in, with reminders in the newsletter each week.

FY24 funding estimate based on 245 ADM with 2 intensive needs students. \$2,970,133.

Estimated number of students is now 264. Final numbers for funding purposes is in October.

Hybrid has 20 students.

FY23 Funds- still being finalized by ASD. We will be notified by November 1.

DEED funded \$1000.00 for every teacher who put together a Donor's Choose project.

Several teachers had projects funded.

F. Committee Reports

1. Administrative Committees [answers to principal]

a. Safety

All of the outside doors have been re-keyed.

We have new emergency backpacks.

Teachers have been reminded of safety procedures this week during professional development time.

b. Outdoor Play Space

a. Update: A lot of changes have been made this summer. Phase 1 is being completed. Some of the dirt work has been done, improving the mud situation on the south side. Some fencing was added. Some of the ADA-approved walkway has been completed.

b.

2. WCC subcommittees

a. Legislative Policy (Chris Griffith)

Nothing new to report

b. Grant Committee

Rasmussen Foundation suspended grant programs until at least the spring of 2024. Lots of non-profits depend on operational funding from them, so there will probably be fewer grants available from non-profits in the near future.

**VI. Business**

A. APC meeting- Mark Stover, Chris Griffith, and Julie Pepe-Phelps will attend this training on September 29 and 30. Registration will be handled through Jason Hlasny.

B. Policy and Procedure Review: 5 – 10 minutes reminder on item of choice  
a. What is our charter, and how does that impact our relationship with ASD: Our charter is a contract with the state, approved through both ASD and the state of Alaska.

C. Alaska Reads Act

\*Passed in April 2023, and must be implemented this school year.

\*Charter schools, including Winterberry, are under the perview of the school district (part of ASD, but not under ASD).

\*The Alaska Reads Act Timeline was reviewed.

\*9/1- compliance survery is due.

\*K/1 will be able to use paper/pencil for screenings.

\*K-3 parent nights will be early in the year and Ms. Pepe-Phelps will be attending those meetings.

\*Discussed ways of communicating with parents.

a. Update

b. Response Plan

D. Gratitude

E. Adjournment:

Neil Brauer moved to adjourn. Chris Griffith 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.

*Winterberry's Mission: Growing the innate potential of each child.*

*Winterberry's Vision: To receive the children in reverence, educate them in love and send them forth in freedom.*

## **HEART**

- Please read **Winterberry Business** newsletter each Thursday for highlights of each week and upcoming events.
- **On-going School Tours**- have been successfully filling seats
- Beginning to work on **20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Winterberry/Alumni gathering**—if interested, please contact me
- **Back-to-school potluck** at Goose Lake Tuesday 8/22
- **Gr. 2-8 Back to school Thursday!**
- **Gr. K-1 and Hybrid come back to school next Thursday!**

## **HANDS**

- **Woodworking program** with Eric Anderson (former WB Principal-now retired!)
- **Outdoor Site Committee** met through the summer and managed various projects from Phase 1 Mud abatement, kindergarten area, new trees and fenced area we also had parents painting, re-doing hinges on desks, deep cleaning and maintaining the garden throughout the summer months.
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## **HEAD**

- **Alaska Reads Act**—lots of information to share with the board
- **Attended new required K-3 assessment probe “mClass”** Zoom training all day today 8am-4pm.
- **Teacher Professional development days**, lots of sharing and info to share with faculty and staff.