

## Winterberry Charter Council/Academic Policy Committee Regular Meeting

WCC Members Present: , Melissa Janigo, Shanna Mall (Administrator) , Della Swartz, Julie Pepe-Phelps (Staff) Mike Rehberg, Anthony Banker, Meg Eggleston (Staff) Dedra Watson (financial manager non-voting) Christina Eubanks, Bob Steinman, Jeff Jablonski (Parent)

WCC Members Absent : Erin Fleischer, WCC Secretary, Jill Abrams (*Ex-officio non voting Bryn Mawr*) Tamara Baughman (*Ex-officio non voting college alps*)

Community member present: Sara Norris (WHP Parent)

Meeting Opened: 6:10pm

Meeting Location: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Winterberry Charter School

Prepared by: Julie Pepe-Phelps

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS:	DECISIONS/ FOLLOW UPS:
Opening	A. Motto of the Social Ethic B. Song Let Us Sing Together C. Excitement sharing	
Approval of Minutes	Approved Della motioned to approve, Anthony 2nd	
Approval of Agenda	Approved as amended Meg motioned, Anthony 2nd	
Community Comments	Introduced Jeff Jablonski as a potential new board member/treasurer	We (Mike and Della) will examine the bylaws regarding an addition of Jeff to the board and post any changes to the board as well as publicly.

<p>Informational Reports</p>	<p><b>A. <u>Administrator Report</u></b>          Testing almost finished—Paper testing was 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>. Hiring for teacher positions will be May 4-6th from 6-9pm. If you are interested—see Shanna. We will be hiring for a 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher as 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Chanell Crawford is leaving for graduate school and will not loop down. And also hiring for a Spanish teacher as well.          Regarding the current school cuts, Shanna feels that we will be able to adapt to them.          Will be gone for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip 4/21-5/1          Lottery for Spring went well: 200 on Kindergarten waitlist alone. Colleen did a great job with organization of the lottery.</p> <p><b>B. <u>Budget Report</u></b>          Our new terms for this month: Working Budget, Month-to Date, Fiscal Year-to-date, Encumbrances. We will be receiving \$100,000 in Special Education reimbursement funds that we are allowed to put into our general account. Our board could look at forming a Legislative committee.</p> <p><b>C. <u>WPG Report</u></b>          Christina: Had discussion about fundraising—athletic budgets—setting up sport supplies budget. Looking into funding Lee Sturgeon-Day to come up to speak with us. Summerberry launching this summer. Christina is the new administrator of the WEP program.</p> <p><b>D. <u>Faculty Report</u></b>          Upper grades presented an option for a school mascot—combining the dragon and the raven. Lee Sturgeon-Day Oct. 7-14          “Relationships through biographies” May pole          May 20<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>No actions on informational reports.</p>
<p>Business</p>	<p>Discussion Items</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Charter review</li><li>B. Hybrid Program</li><li>C. Form a recruitment committee</li><li>D. Rudolf Steiner Loan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Mike created a reduced copy of our charter and asked that we all read through it—not to memorize it—but to review what was said in the beginning of the formation of Winterberry make some notes and some commentary. Anthony: Regarding information on the Open Meeting Act. If you are on the agenda—we need to have a statement/bulleted list written about what you are going to discuss, present, request....getting the process of dialog, discussion, consensus. Maybe the “compost pile” could be brought back. Shanna suggested a monthly conference call for a 3-body agenda setting.</li><li>B. Consensus item: Hybrid Program. Meg motioned to adapt the hybrid program description as revised and Della 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion—all twinkled.</li><li>C. Need help with recruitment committee. Committee members need to educate themselves about what is required to be on the “eligible to hire” list and then to reach out nationally and to try and find qualified teachers to hire.</li><li>D. Shanna has pursued a</li></ul>
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		loan from Rudolf Steiner for 3 million. Melissa expressed concerns about keeping within our budget. Meg offered that when we met with them, when we were in our other building, they were very impressive in their process.
Adjournment	8:45pm Next meeting: Thursday May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Meg moves. Della seconds.

Concerning Foreign Languages at Winterberry, At Faculty Meeting March 19, 2015

The faculty recommends pursuing Spanish as the foreign language of choice.

~Shanna reported that the head of HR and director of foreign languages have stated that we can't teach Russian anymore.

~ Meg read Language Teaching by Johannes Kiersch, an in depth look at Steiner's indications for the developmental stages in relation to how to bring foreign language to 7-14 year olds. Steiner clearly indicated that the choice of language is open, that it does not matter what languages are taught. The goal is to have 2 foreign languages. After reading this book, Meg will be a better resource for whoever is our new teacher.

~ Meg reported that one of the things that is important to note, from experience in discussions during trainings for the last 7 years is that even though there are guidelines given by Steiner about language teaching, language really seems to be the hardest area to support teachers in teacher training. Rudolf Steiner College now offers a Spanish Language Teacher training course that can be completed over the course of three summers. It includes Foundations Studies work as well as methodology and curriculum work. The faculty recommends supporting our new teacher to take advantage of that training, which can begin this summer.

~ Our Charter states that we teach 2 out of 3 languages being French, Spanish and Japanese.

~ Considering the community of Anchorage, there are a lot of Spanish speakers here. As the children get more fluent, there could be opportunities in the community for service and enrichment.

~ She believes that there would be more possibility for language integration because many of our teachers speak at least some Spanish.

~When writing in a foreign language begins in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, spelling in Spanish may benefit our students who are still working on phonemic awareness. Spelling in Spanish is so phonetically clear it could be a nice support for children.