

Wissahickon Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 20, 2026: 6:07 - 7:23 PM
Meeting held via Zoom Conferencing

Board Members Present: Erich Holland (Chair), Shauna Mace (Vice Chair), Allora Buckshon (Treasurer), Dan Pereira, Ohenewaa White, Michelle Alcaraz

Board Members Absent: Jason Manning (Secretary), Bryan McAllister, Ahsiya Posner Mencin

Staff Present: Kristi Littell (CEO), Jane Walsh (Director of Development), Ilana Lipowicz (Executive Assistant)

Guests Present: Annie Chen-Prashaw (Vertex), Sherita Bibbs (community member)

Erich called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

Welcome (Erich)

Erich reviewed the agenda with the Board.

Sherita Bibbs addressed the Board regarding a student and personnel matter.

Some Good News & Board Good News (Kristi)

Kristi shared about Staff Appreciation Week and the Board shared some good news.

Consent Agenda (Erich)

The Consent Agenda included the following items:

- April Board Meeting Minutes
- April Expenses
- Board Meeting Calendar 26-27
- School Calendar 26-27

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was led by Dan and seconded by Shauna. The Consent Agenda was unanimously approved by the Board.

Finance and Audit Committee Report (Allora & Annie)

Annie reviewed the financial statements for April. Cash, liabilities and ratio are healthy. For budget to actual, as in past months, main variance is that SD paid for fewer regular and more SPED students that budgeted for. KPI indicators on target to meet district benchmark.

Wissahickon Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 20, 2026: 6:07 - 7:23 PM
Meeting held via Zoom Conferencing

Kristi gave an update on building expenses. Building expenses were included in the 25-26 budget, so we are working to push through these expenses prior to the end of the fiscal year. Projects are moving ahead and costing less than expected.

A motion to approve the financial statements was led by Allora and seconded by Shauna. The Board unanimously approved the financial statements.

The budget will be officially voted on next month, but the salaries will be locked in this meeting so that salary letters may be sent out.

Annie reviewed the draft budget. Preliminary 4% increase to the district rates – a conservative increase as rates will likely be closer to 7-8%.

Salaries and benefits: Kristi shared the changes to the salary scales and hourly pay rate, an increase to the certification bonus, and an increase to AT salaries. AT roles are an effective pipeline to lead teaching roles and a way to diversify those roles. Medical insurance increased 5.69% which is less than usual. Most budget items will see a 3% increase.

Professional and Technical services: An additional \$30K was added for professional development for next year. Increases account for working with City Teaching Alliance and Bloomboard. These services help qualified employees complete their certifications. There is an increase in special education services correlating to an increase in special education enrollment.

Property services: This budget category will include building update costs. Everything else will see a 3% increase.

Development Committee Report (Jane)

After receiving a \$50K grant award, we have now achieved and surpassed our annual fundraising goal of \$775K in unrestricted funds. We have raised about \$802K.

Jane made a report on the Spring Event which can be reviewed in the Board folder. The auction raised \$11,000, less than past years. This was in part due to low attendance. Potential changes for next year may include holding the event in March, changing the auction format to a basket auction/penny raffle, and focusing more on event attendance and less on the auction.

Governance Committee Report (Shauna)

Wissahickon Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 20, 2026: 6:07 - 7:23 PM
Meeting held via Zoom Conferencing

Jason sent out a survey for CEO evaluation and will share the results at the next meeting. Kristi will also do an evaluation of the Board.

There are currently two great Board candidates in the pipeline. Juanita Nyce was the first Development Director at WCS and has been in the community for a very long time. Deana Davis is a clinical counselor for the school district. She has been part of the Phenomenal Women's Summit and did a presentation on herself and her work to students. With two promising candidates in the pipeline, we continue to recruit and network.

CEO Report (Kristi)

Strategic plan: A lot of the goals that were set out for year 2 are complete or well under way. Kristi is in the process of working with different committees to build out year 3 goals. Kristi is considering the best format to regularly share strategic plan progress with the Board.

EOY Events: There will be a celebration of learning at each campus showcasing student work. Graduations are coming up and every 8th grade graduate has a staff person making a personal speech about them. 100% of 8th graders are going to a HS of choice. Fun days are coming up as well.

Hiring: We are closing in on being fully hired for full time lead positions. This year we have fewer openings than usual. There are still a few hard-to-fill positions open in SPED and MS.

Magnolia: Consulting firm auditing our MTSS and Special Education systems has returned their report. This week they met with both campuses leaders to give a high level overview. All instructional leaders agreed that what was found in the audit resonated. The next step is to build out a 3 year plan to address issues.

The Board entered a closed session to discuss a confidential student matter legally allowably through PA State Sunshine Laws at 7:05 PM.

The Board exited the closed session at 7:22 PM.

A motion to approve the item discussed in closed session was led by Dan and seconded by Allora. The Board unanimously approved the item.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM.

Supporting Documents:

Wissahickon Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 20, 2026: 6:07 - 7:23 PM
Meeting held via Zoom Conferencing

- Meeting Agenda
- Draft Budget 26-27
- Draft Salaries 26-27
- Financial Statements
- DLD Resume

Action Items

- Take event survey if not already done so.
- Complete Doodle poll for August Board retreat date.