WISE Charter Society Board

Meeting Agenda

Zoom link

Thursday, February, 20th 6.45pm - 8pm

6.45 - 7.00pm

Shared WESE & WISE Board Book Study- "Leadership Development: Change from the Inside", Torin Finser

ESING MURRAY Secretary 20th Franch, 2025.

Action: Eoin and Keely to do chapter 10 & 11 of the book study.

The meeting was called to order at 1906.

1. Opening verse

Steve read the opening verse.

2. Treaty acknowledgement

Mary read the treaty acknowledgement.

3. Two-word check-in

The board completed a two word check-in.

4. Approval of January minutes.

Motion to approve the January minutes made by Steve, seconded by Eoin.

5. Approval of February agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by Steve, seconded by Margot.

6. Conflict of interest declaration

No conflicts were declared.



WISE Charter School Board work plan 2024/2025

7. <u>Superintendent Report</u>

Apryl has been working on priorities with the school's leadership, including salaries and retention as well as the new AERR.

8. Principal's report

Mary discussed the progress of the school's development in physical, social, emotional, intellectual, and community aspects. She mentioned that we have reached the goal for physical development and are working on self-assessments for grades 4 to 9. The school is also conducting a survey and implementing strategies for physical development. For social-emotional development, we have reached the goal for classroom behavior and are working on a self-assessment. They are also focusing on school attendance and incorporating FNMI into their block plans.

For intellectual development, we have achieved the goal for core subjects and are discussing curriculum implementation resources. Lastly, they are working on teacher training and faculty retention rates. We will conduct group placement assessments. The process has been developed in collaboration with faculty council.

We have also been developing a standard block rotation so that it fits in with the regular calendar. The previous process is that teachers could pick which blocks they worked on. We will also look at scheduling parent nights at the start of the year to bolster attendance.

We held a Junior High Open House and alumni panel.

We are working through a list of who is a class representative so that we can iron out communications.

The Chair of School Council has contacted Mary to say that we have been approved for registration so we will be able to access AGLC funding opportunities.

We also have been hosting meetings online which also encourages attendance. Volunteer interest forms have been distributed with the registration package. The Chair of School Council will work with administration to plan out budgets and fundraising targets.

Eoin asked a question about community engagement and the reasons for the decline in participation. A number of factors were identified as contributing to the decline, including Covid, SOGI, economic shifts, fractures in society.

Mark asked about the School Council's budget allocation for prioritisation of certain fairs. Mary identified that the first step is in assessing the monetary value while Alisa added that there is also a community and pedagogical value which events bring to the school.

There was a discussion about the importance of promoting parent evenings, the importance of linking parent nights to the pedagogy as well as the importance of teacher outreach. Mary will continue to discuss these issues with the School Council.

9. <u>Secretary-Treasurer's report</u>

There is a Parent Community engagement night on February the 27th hosted by the architect which will focus on the aspects of the school which are not meeting our pedagogical needs. There is also a special value scoping exercise on March 6 and 11 which Board members have been invited to.

We are working on a new cyber security policy and related insurance.

Re-registration packages have been sent out and received by February 14th. New registrants are expected to submit packages by March 14th.

The WESE open house takes place on March 1st. All Board members are welcome to attend and support, please contact Keely.

We have 3 Educational Assistant practicum students at the school due to a new arrangement with Grant MacEwan. This arrangement has arisen as a consequence of the ongoing strike by Educational Assistants in the mainstream public school system. This arrangement with Grant MacEwan is very welcome for our school.

Steve asked about the lease arrangement with WESE. The Finance Committee is looking into an extension of a one year lease with an option to extend in the future.

Eoin asked about the pre-capital grant from Alberta Education - we have not heard any news from the government.

Keely and Apryl attended the regional ASWNA meeting where the by-laws are under discussion. There will be a meeting in June to discuss a range of issues, including the question of WISE CS membership of ASWNA.

Budget principles document

Keely outlined key aspects of the budget principles, which is a new initiative in our school. The document prioritises recruitment and retention of students and support to teachers. There was a discussion regarding the items left out, including items such as transport.

Steve moved a motion to approve the budget principles. Eoin seconded the motion. All voted in favour.

10. Education Plan (2025-28) - Mid-Year Report

Mary presented the details of the report to the Board. Steve asked a question about parent engagement. Mary will communicate the Board priorities to the School Council and vice versa.

11. Marketing Initiative- OH 2025

Our campaign has been targeting parents for the Open House, and specifically focused on the charter school. Mark will also start to run another campaign which is inclusive of people who may be interested in early-years education.

Google reviews plan

Mark presented on the issue of Google reviews, recommending that the school respond to poor reviews and re-direct any complaints to the office, as would be the practise in any small business.

Eoin suggested that it was a matter for a board committee to work with administration.

Apryl also requested guidance on who can respond, and what the historical dimension of the issue is as well as ensuring we work with our community to promote positive reviews of the school. Steve and Mark will coordinate this through administration.

Board members are actively encouraged to promote good reviews. Actual conversations in classes will get results quicker. Steve will send the link to the board for distribution.

12. Annual stakeholder engagement re: Education Plan

Discussed under previous item, number 10 - Secretary Treasurer's report..

13. Annual board retreat.

Tabled until next meeting. Eoin will bring proposals to the next Board meeting.

14. In Camera session

The board entered its regular In Camera session.

Attendance

Name	Position	Present when meeting called to order	Notes (time of arrival/departure, online etc.)
Aleman, Raegan	Faculty Council	Ν	Non-voting observer
Barnett, Steve	President	Υ	
Bright, Margot	Treasurer	Υ	
Friere-Gibb, Sarah	Director	Υ	
McKenna, Mark	Director	Υ	
Murray, Eoin	Secretary	Υ	
Toews, Alison	Director	Υ	
Observers present			

Vaughan, Alisa	Director, WESE	Y	Online
Staff			
Conrod, Mary	Principal	Y	Online
Scott, Keely	Sec-Treasurer	Y	
Spolonz, Apryl	SI	Y	Online

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