

Walden Academy, Inc. Board of Directors' Meeting Agenda

Tuesday September 26, 2023, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Meeting

The meeting will be held at the Walden Main Campus Room 2, 1149 W. Wood Street, Willows, California

Call to Order and Attendance at:

Board Members

H. Geroy
S. Maben
M. Martin
J. Mercado
N. Michaud

Pledge of Allegiance

Review & Approval of Agenda

Public Comments:

- COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR - At this time any person wishing to speak to any item not on the agenda will be granted three minutes to make a presentation to the Board of Directors.
- COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – Any person wishing to speak to any item on the agenda will be granted five minutes to make a presentation to the Board of Directors.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting August 2023

Approval of Check Register: August

Approval of Financials:

Staff: Monica Michaud filling in for Cydnee Lausten while on maternity leave

Committee Developed Policy/Procedures: None

Administrator/Board Member Reports

Financial Update
Director's Report
PTC Update
Board Member Reports
Governance Committee
Planning Committee

Discussion/Action Items

- 1. Financial (M. Vanderwaal):**
- 2. Resolution 2023-24. Sufficiency of Instructional Material (A. Colanico).**
Board will review & take action as needed.
- 3. St. Monica's Church MOU Update (A. Calonico)** Board will review & take action as needed.
- 4. Update on future Staff Board Member (N. Michaud)** Board will review & take action as needed.
- 5. Food Service (M. Roach)** - Melissa will update the Board on what is

happening with food services. She will inform the Board on how they can best meet their goal on growing and developing the Walden's Food Service Program.

Pending/Upcoming Items

1. None

Announcements

1. Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday October 23, 2023

Adjournment

Vision: Creating a Confident Community Passionate About Lifelong Learning.

Mission: Walden Academy provides an innovative learning environment that extends beyond the classroom. Science and challenging academics encourage students to collaborate and excel in all aspects of life, as modeled by family, school, and community.

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS MAY BE CHANGED WITHOUT NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice.

REASONABLE LIMITATIONS MAY BE PLACED ON PUBLIC TESTIMONY

The Governing Board's presiding officer reserves the right to impose reasonable time limits on public testimony to ensure that the agenda is completed.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY

Pursuant to the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* and the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990*, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting of the Governing Board may request assistance by contacting Walden Academy at 1149 W. Wood Street, Willows, CA 95988, (530)361-6480, or smaben@waldenacademy.org. as

far in advance as possible, but no later than 24 hours before the meeting.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Walden Academy, Inc. Board of Directors' Meeting Agenda

Monday August 28, 2023, 4:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting

The meeting will be held at the Walden Main Campus, 1149 W. Wood Street, Willows, California

Call to Order and Attendance at: 4:01 PM

Board Members

H. Geroy Present

S. Maben Present

M. Martin Absent

J. Mercado Present

N. Michaud Present

Pledge of Allegiance Led by S. Maben

Review & Approval of Agenda

Public Comments:

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- COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – Any person wishing to speak to any item on the agenda will be granted five minutes to make a presentation to the Board of Directors.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting June 2023

Approval of Check Register: June and July

Approval of Financials: see Unaudited Financials

Staff: New Hires; Kimber Luna, Freddy Vargas, Ashley Lobsien, Marisa Velazquez.

Committee Developed Policy/Procedures:

H. Geroy made a motion to approve the consent agenda and N. Michaud 2nd the motion. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Administrator/Board Member Reports

PTC Update M. Michaud (Treasurer) J. Bell (Secretary) presented an update to the Walden PTC budget. Estimated expenses of 37,000 dollars. Presented plans to cover field trips to classes on an educational basis only. Reintroducing the Walden Spirit Stick for the 23-24 school year. Provided breakfast and lunch for staff for Welcome Back Week. Making updates to the school athletic uniforms.

Not going to have the Fall Fling for this year. Hopes are to replace with 4-5 smaller fundraisers to possibly include Pancake Breakfast, Drive thru Tri-tip dinner, See's Candy Event, Carnitas Dinner, and Easter Basket Raffle. Additional may include, Fun-Run, Turkey Trot etc.

Financial Update **Providing Financial update under Discussion and Action Items.**

Leadership Team Report

- 4 teachers without a clear credential who are currently enrolled in an induction program.
- Changing to Administrator's Report
- Updates being made to the campus and classrooms. Campus remains in good repair.
- Teachers now working in PLC's(Professional Learning Communities)
- Reassessing and focusing on LCAP goals. More focus to be made on test scores and pupil engagement.
- Current enrollment 187.

Board Member Reports **None**

Governance Committee **None**

Planning Committee **None**

Discussion/Action Items

- 1. Unaudited Financial Statements 22-23 (M. Vanderwaal):** The board will review and approve the 2022-2023 Unaudited Financial Statements to be submitted to GCBOE. N. Michaud made a motion to approve unaudited financials. J. Mercado 2nd the motion. **4 Ayes, 0 Nays.**
- 2. Retirement Plan Policy Update (M. Vanderwaal):** The board will review and approve as necessary. N. Michaud made a motion to amend and approve the retirement policy to **Year 1-5 5% 6+ years 7% match.** J. Mercado 2nd the motion. **4 Ayes, 0 Nays**
- 3. School Board Meeting Calendar for the 2023-24 School Year (Board Chair).** Open discussion on a new day and time for monthly meetings. Board will review and take action if needed. J. Mercado made a motion to amend and approve the Board Meeting Calendar for **23/24 school year to the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM in Room 2. December meeting exception to Dec. 12th, 2023.** H. Geroy 2nd the motion. **4 Ayes 0 Nays.**
- 4. School Board Goals (Board Chair) -** Discuss School Board goals for the upcoming school year.
 - Continue to grow the School Meals Program.
 - Navigate the Charter/GCOE relationship for school transportation. (Reach out to Ryan Bentz)
 - Contacting consulting firm (School Works or other firm) for a long term plan for Pacific Ave. Site.
 - Possibility of State/Federal Grants for building of new schools.
- 5. Calendar Update (A. Calonico)-** Discuss and Action changing October 27, 2023 from a full day to half day to accommodate Grandparents' Day. Board will review seat time minutes and take action. J. Mercado made a motion to approve the Calendar change for **October 27th, 2023.** N. Michaud 2nd the motion. **4 Ayes, 0 Nays.**
- 6. Safe Return to In-Person Learning (A. Calonico) -** Board will review the update and approve as necessary. N. Michaud made a motion to reapprove the ESSER III. H. Geroy 2nd the motion. **4 Ayes, 0 Nays.**

7. **Consolidated Application and Reporting System (CARS) (A. Calonico)**- The board will review and approve as necessary. J. Mercado made a motion to approve CARS. H. Geroy 2nd the motion. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.
8. **Staff Resignation (A. Calonico)**: Rene Cabral. The board will review and take action as necessary. H. Geroy made a motion to approve the resignation of Mr. Cabral. J. Mercado 2nd the motion. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays.
9. **Williams Quarterly Report-4th Quarter.**(Mrs. Calonico) Board will review and take action as necessary. N. Michaud motioned to approve. J. Mercado 2nd the motion. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays

Pending/Upcoming Items

1. None

Announcements

Next Regular Meeting: Monday September 25th, 2023 4:00PM
Amended to Tuesday September 26th, 2023 6:30PM

Adjournment 5:48PM

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Walden Academy
1149 W. Wood St.
Willows, CA 95988
(530)361-6480

Creating a confident community passionate about lifelong learning

Director's Report

September 2023

The mission of Walden Academy is to provide an innovative learning environment that extends beyond the classroom. Science and challenging academics encourage students to collaborate and exceed in all aspects of life as modeled by family, school, and community.

I. LCAP Goal 1: Through the implementation of state academic content, performance, and ELD standards, Walden Academy will provide engaging and challenging learning opportunities in a broad course of study emphasizing science and instructed by highly qualified professionals with sufficient instructional material on a well maintained campus.

Conditions of Learning

1. Basic

A. Credentialed teachers

Teachers possess appropriate credentials for their assignments. We have 4 teachers without a clear credential who are currently enrolled in an induction program.

B. Access to standards-aligned instructional materials

We continue to provide standards-aligned material to all Walden Academy students.

C. Facilities in good repair

Facilities remain in excellent condition.

2. State Standards Implementation---English language development standards and academic content & performance standards

A. Walk Through Data Summary (Based on 22 in-class observations):

Based on this data, most of the observations (12 out of 21) are related to Core Instruction (Tier 1), which suggests that the majority of students are receiving standard classroom instruction. Additionally, there are 8 observations related to Supplemental Instruction (Tier 2), indicating that some students are receiving additional support beyond the core instruction level. Finally, there is 1 observation of Intensive Support (Tier 3), suggesting that a smaller number of students require highly individualized and intensive interventions.

Data shows focus on ELA as the most frequently scheduled subject. Majority of students can explain the objectives while no instances show the objectives posted in the classroom. On a few occasions, only most students can explain objectives.

Diverse instructional methods used in the educational setting show focus on direct instruction and variations involving small groups, individual work, and other elements with curriculum generally delivered at a moderate pace, with some variations noted as slower (pacing rating of 2 out of 5).

Differentiation strategies include digital support, visual aids, individualized instruction, extra time, and more. Some responses indicate that certain students do not require specific differentiation, while others note the use of tools like fidget aides and strategic grouping to support students' diverse needs. There are several instances where no differentiation was evident.

Engagement strategies employed by educators to promote student participation and involvement in the learning process include "Calling on volunteers" being the most frequently used approach. Data shows educators check for understanding and ensure that students are making progress in their learning, with the most common approach being pausing during lessons to assess comprehension.

Overall, the majority of observations indicate that a high percentage of students are on task at 85%, but there are a few instances where the goal of 90% or higher is not met. These percentages likely reflect the level of student engagement and focus during the observed activities or periods.

Evidence of positive teacher-student relationships includes:

Teachers actively engage with students through high levels of interaction. Teachers maintain a calm and supportive classroom environment, offering appropriate corrections when necessary. Students feel comfortable approaching their teacher with questions or concerns. Teachers pay attention to students who are on task and behaving well. Positive praise is used to reinforce good behavior and effort. Teachers provide support to struggling students and effectively manage classroom behaviors. Incentives and discussions are used as part of building positive relationships. These elements collectively contribute to fostering a positive learning environment where students feel supported, respected, and encouraged by their teachers.

As a result of this data, Collaboration and PLC time focus will be on differentiation and engagement surrounding the diverse needs of our learners. Sara Manuel (school psychologist) and Chandra Kirby (ed specialist) will support this through mini lessons in PLCs and Collab.

3. Course Access---*broad course of study*

Broad Course of Study

- A. Students continue to receive a broad course of study in each classroom. The topic of returning the elective wheel for grades 4-8 was addressed. We are providing art for all levels, graphic art and journalism in middle school. Mike Graf will no longer be joining us, but we will be looking into supplementary STEM activities/labs to add to our curriculum.

II. LCAP Goal 2: Through the implementation of CCSS, Walden Academy will provide learning opportunities that result in increased academic achievement for all groups of students.

Pupil Outcomes

4. Student Achievement- *We are working towards our school and classroom goals. Students took the iReady Diagnostic test this week, and we are using the data to drive instruction.*

A. School Goals:

1. Walden will have 45% of students score on or above level on the CAASPP for the 2023/24 school year in ELA.
2. Walden will have 30% of students score on or above level on the CAASPP for the 2023/24 school year in Math.

III. LCAP Goal 3: A positive school climate with all stakeholders participating in activities which increase student engagement and parental involvement.

Engagement

5. Parent Involvement---*efforts to seek parent input in decision making & parent participation in programs for special need subgroups*

- A. I send out weekly newsletters to staff and to families each Friday. This is the River Hawk Weekly Review (staff) and the River Hawk Talk (families).
- B. I have sent a request for over 175 volunteer opportunities run through the school office. Volunteer work was encouraged at Back to School Night.
- C. We've been able to open the CARES store each Friday through the help of Parent Volunteers.
- D.

6. Pupil Engagement---*attendance rates/chronic absenteeism*

- A. **Attendance:** Monitoring has commenced at the start of the year. **We are averaging 94% daily attendance.**

7. School Climate---*suspension/expulsion, school safety & connectedness*

- A. **Connectedness:** We have begun our Staff Recognition program. We are using referrals and celebrating 4-5 staff members each month.
- B. **Behavior Management:** As of 9/18/23, we have 88 documented incidents of behavior. Biggest behavioral trend we are seeing is Disruptive behaviors at 32.3% and anger outbursts at 13.3%. We are seeing most behaviors in 2nd and 4th. Teacher intervention (29.2%), warning redirection (27.2%) and time-out to reset (14.3%) are the top three interventions used. Yet, there is also implementation of reflection sheets. (4.1%). We have out-of-school suspended two students.
- C. **Positive Behavior Intervention Support:** Students have earned over 531 CARES cash for overall positive behavior, and over 73 additional \$5 CARES cash for the specific CARES trait “Cooperation”. (Recorded by money spent in the CARES store).

Current Enrollment

- A. Current enrollment numbers for the beginning of the 23/24 school year is 187.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Calonico NBCT, MAT, M.Ed

**Walden Academy Charter School
Resolution Regarding Sufficiency of Instructional Materials
Resolution No. 2023-24. 03**

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Walden Academy Charter School, in order to comply with the requirements of Education Code Section 60119, held a public hearing on September 26, 2022, at 4:00 o'clock, which is on or before the eighth week of school and which did not take place during or immediately following school hours, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors provided at least 10 days' notice of the public hearing posted in at least three public places within the District that stated the time, place, and purpose of the hearing, and;

WHEREAS, Walden Academy Charter School encouraged participation by parents, teachers, members of the community in the public hearing, and;

WHEREAS, information provided at the public hearing and to the Board of Directors at the public meeting detailed the extent to which textbooks and instructional materials were provided to all students, including English learners, at Walden Academy Charter School, and;

WHEREAS, the definition of "sufficient textbooks or instructional materials" means that each pupil has a textbook or instructional material, or both, to use in class and to take home and;

WHEREAS, sufficient textbooks and instructional materials were provided to each student, including English learners, in mathematics, science, history-social science, and English/language arts, including the English language development component of an adopted program, consistent with the cycles and content of the curriculum frameworks, and;

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that for the 2023-24 school year, Walden Academy Charter School has provided each pupil with sufficient textbooks and instructional materials consistent with the cycles and content of the curriculum frameworks.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors, Walden Academy Charter School, this 25th day of September 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

I, Nate Michaud, Secretary to Walden Academy Charter School Board of Directors, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the said Board of Directors at a general meeting thereof held at its regular place of meeting at the time and by the vote above stated, which resolution is on file in the office of said Board.

_____ Nate Michaud, Secretary

AC
9/8/23

Memorandum of Understanding Between
St. Monica's Catholic Church Youth Faith Formation and Walden Academy
September 2023- December 31, 2023

Purpose: The following Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is being created to establish guidelines for St. Monica's Faith Formation Catechists and Walden Academy Teachers and volunteers to aid in the prevention of miscommunication and loss or damages to mutually shared classroom items.

Guidelines for Walden Academy Teachers:

1. Teachers will do the following prior to leaving Friday afternoon:
 - a. Will remind students to take home any items that may be of value from their desks.
 - b. If applicable, position desks so that the desks opening faces away from the student. Therefore, access to items inside the student desk is less convenient.
 - c. Will have classroom desks, tables, and countertops as clean and neat as possible to allow faith formation class to have full use of the room.
 - d. Will lock technological items such as laptops, Elmos, projectors, etc. in lockable cabinets.
 - e. Provide a clear area on the main white board for Faith Formation Catechist to use.
 - f. Take a quick inventory of the classroom environment.
2. The classrooms will be used by CFF from 8:00am-12:00pm on Sundays. St. Monica's janitorial service is scheduled to return on Sunday afternoons to clean the rooms/floors and empty trash.
3. Teachers in classrooms will make a small space available for CFF catechists to store supplies on a shelf through December 2023. The approximate size will not exceed 14"x14"x12" high.
4. In the event of an accident occurring to items in or outside the classroom, or if classrooms are not right please notify Mrs. Calonico at (530)361-6480

Guidelines for Faith Formation Catechists:

1. Catechists will do the following prior to students entering their classroom on Sunday morning:
 - a. Take a quick inventory of the classroom environment.
 - b. Will enforce the rule of **no students allowed in the classroom without adult supervision**. Students will NOT be permitted to unlock or lock up classrooms or open cabinets and drawers not designated for CFF.

ELB 9/8

9/10/23

- c. Will only use educational materials provided by the Faith Formation Coordinator such as paper pens, expo pens, crayons, scissors, etc., and furniture belonging to Walden. Walden's Teacher's personal furniture such as bean bags, pillows, and calm down corners should not be used. Playground equipment will not be used by CFF.
 - d. Will walk through their classroom with the Religious Director to identify the storage area.
2. Catechists will do the following prior to leaving their classroom Sunday morning:
- a. Ensure that all church relics and CFF materials are placed in the cabinet/desk provided in the classroom and that doors and drawers close completely.
 - b. Will return desks, chairs and other equipment to their original places if moved during class.
 - c. Will make an effort to clean-up, but cleaning services will be doing all the cleaning of classrooms in the afternoon.
 - d. Comply with latex allergies in the classrooms where Walden students/staff have latex allergies. CFF catechists will be notified if Walden Academy students or staff have any substance allergies.
 - e. Will not allow CFF students to eat in the classroom. (Snacks can be eaten outside of classrooms).
 - f. Will not store food in the CFF cabinet.
 - g. Will return the temperature of the classroom to the temperature posted next to the thermostat.
 - h. Will leave the white board in the same condition as was found.
 - i. Lock the door when they leave.

General Guidelines for CFF Director

- 1. CFF Coordinator will ensure that all classroom doors are locked prior to leaving for the day Sunday.
- 2. In the event of an accident occurring in or outside the classroom, please notify Maribel Palomino, Director of Religious Education at (530)774-7150

*** It is in agreement that within the month of December 2023, both parties will meet to discuss needed changes of this MOU for the year 2024.

ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREED TO:

Walden Academy

St. Monica Parish

By: 
 Title: Principal / Superintendent

By: 
 Title: Pastor

1149 W. Wood Street
 Willows, CA 95988

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 Willows, CA. 95988

218-978