

Codman Academy Charter Public School
Board of Trustees

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

5:00pm

[Hybrid, join us via Zoom](#) or in Person

10 Epping St. Dorchester MA 02124

Meeting ID: 816 2055 4214

Passcode: board

Codman's mission is to provide an outstanding, transformative education to prepare students for success in college, further education, and beyond.

We educate the whole student: mind, body, and character. With the city and world as our classroom, we build a school community rich in rigorous academics and daily experiences of discovery. We continue to support our alumni in realizing their potential after graduation.

Board Members: Rick Holden, Bill Walczak, Ibrahim Wanu, Yves Solomon-Fernandez, Regina Campbell-Malone, Derrick Ciesla

Other Participants: Guy Fish, Tanesha Ryland, Amanda Rouillard, Amanda, Judy, Elizabeth Reynolds Lupo, Julia Bott, Soyica Jackson, Patrick White, Saniyah Washington, Teyvon Andervil, Isha, Adriena, Chetna, Kelsey Felder

Agenda

I. Call to Order

- Action Item: Approve minutes from [February 4, 2025](#)
 - Ibrahim Wanu First, Bill Walczak Second no discussion. Decision passed.
- Introduction Guy Fish, CEO of the Codman Square Health Center.
 - It has been a delight being here and being co-located with the Codman Academy. It is a pleasure to see young people being supported and growing. Yesterday when

II. General Public Comment

- Saniyah Washington Grade 9 - I believe that ending the school day at 3:15 would be beneficial because it would allow students to participate in extended enrichment activities but our hours make it hard. For example I go to Mass Art, but in order to do this I have to miss some of my academics because I have to leave at 3 which results in me missing 2 hours of academics each week to participate in this program
- Teyvon Andervil Grade 10 - The reason why we should end early is because we have excellent programs in marine bio and health, but limited opportunities in arts. I would like to

Codman Academy Charter Public School
Board of Trustees

participate in Artists for Humanity.

- Isha Grade 11 - Changing the school hours would be beneficial for the students. When I'm getting home it is really dark. I'm responsible for my siblings and getting them home in the dark feels dangerous. It also makes it challenging for me to work.
- Amanda Rullard, MLL - We need to have students to have more. The students are missing out on high quality educators, enrichments and athletics. We ask that you consider this for the community so that they can get more out of it
- Adriana Grade 11 - Shortening the school day we need wellness, enrichment and internship credits, by getting out earlier we would be able to find internships that fit better with our schedule.

III. Board President Report

- Request: We need one more board member to complete the survey linked below
 - [Board Effectiveness Diagnostic Survey](#)

IV. Head of School Report

- Welcomes the board in person
- Welcome to Guy Fish and thank you for joining us
- Thank you to our students for being here to speak about the length of the school day.
- We are here today collectively and while I'm in the position I want to say what an honor it is to be around such great minds and people who are committed to providing access and opportunities to our students.
- Shared some of the highlights of Codman enrichment
- Dr. Bott led the work around instructional rounds and implementation of research based instructional practices in the classroom. This translates to our Instructional team taking the data synthesizing the data and using that to inform our School Improvement Plan
- College and Career: Overview of acceptance rates, and early college programming starting in the Middle School. This year has been a lot of fact gathering and structure building to ensure that we can support them as they move on past Codman.
- Internships: When I first arrived we had a development team that is largely supported through grant funding. We have applied with Dr. Guy Fish to the SuccessLink grant to allow us to remove the barrier of choosing between jobs and internships
- We have all these partnerships that come to the school, these programs lead to a career and work for them in the future as they matriculate through these external partnerships.

Codman Academy Charter Public School
Board of Trustees

- Recruitment: We want to be a teaching school, so we want to bring the best possible candidates and then give them high quality professional development
- BESE Commissioners Report on Conditions
 - In 2018 DESE put academic achievement conditions on the school. The school made some great progress but we are charged with growing and sustaining that progress in both our Summative and Formative assessments. We are committed to the academic achievement of our students.
- Update on the Union Negotiations: Before I transitioned to Codman Academy there was a petition to unionize. We have made some great progress in a very collaborative process to gain momentum around determining what is needed for our students. We have come to tentative agreements around parts of the contract, and will keep working toward that. My hope is to get to an agreement by the end of the school year.

V. Finance Committee Report

- Dawn is not able to be in attendance. Rick is stepping in to provide the update
- We are in a good financial position. Thank you to Dawn and Derrick for the hard work in ensuring that.
- We are looking at the guardrails for next year and what is needed.
- Bill W. - We have a new president who seems determined to demolish the federal support, this could include Title 1. For the sake of this meeting we need to be focused on what could be sent our way and making sure we have a proactive contingency plan. It is a frightening time to have an organization that is dependent on these things
- Rick: I invite everyone to reach out to Dawn to share those opinions. Based on the last finance meeting those concerns were raised and the team is on guard for ensuring that we stay in good standing
- Regnia: Are there other larger groups of schools that are considering legal action?
- Bill: The state department of education is very focused on this, but non the less with the changing landscape, and with the current appointment of the new Secretary of the Department of Education, this may mean the department will stay but it is hard to know.
- Guy Fish - Most of our expenses are in the personnel line. How did we get to 13% under
- Derrick Ciesla: We have had a lot of transitions either due to transitions or not being able to fill positions. Right now we are understaffed in some positions

Codman Academy Charter Public School
Board of Trustees

- Rick: Some of this is made up in partnership
- Derrick: That is true for example when our College and Career advisor moved on to for other opportunities we did contract with an outside agency so this funding will

VI. Academic Committee Report

- [Quality Time Review Presentation](#)
- Dr. Julia Bott - I am representing the quality Time Review Committee. This has been a cross functional team between BTU and leadership and voice of the community. The focus tonight is to provide clarity on the proposed shift and how that impacts student outcomes. The proposed shifts in schedule and school day are not a shift from the original charter but are in service of the original vision.
- Our school day will stay 8 hours, however we will have 9 hours of programming available daily. The big shift is that we will run 8:15-4:15 across both schools.
- Clarification between enrichment and electives
- Our proposal is that most BTU members would all work a 7 hour day but we would propose some members have staggered starts to ensure proper supervision.
- We have some enrichments that are being piloted right now at Codman and are very successful.
- Shared mock schedules for both the Upper School and Lower School
- Shared data from student voice - Students are overall reporting that the day is not working because of the confines of the day preventing opportunity and blocking them out of what they need to develop their interests.
- Shared Parent Feedback that 85.3% were in favor of shortening the teacher facing time to include an enrichment
- 87% of our families are in favor of adjusting our start time.
- Ragina: Early release on Friday do they have enrichment.
- Julia: We have not built that out so they would be free to go.
- RL: Many students do use that time for Med Sci, Mass Art and Internships.
- Julia: This also allows us to open up more language opportunities.
- Bill: How does this differentiate from BPS
- Julia: We are still longer than BPS and BPS does not have built in Enrichment. Additionally they do not have the built in cohesive professional development.
- Rick: There is a lot of work and time that has gone into this. This is a full 360 Degree review of the benefits. That team really did a tremendous job. It appears that what we are doing is ensuring that the existing student body and families feel heard, additionally this will help with recruitment of future

Codman Academy Charter Public School
Board of Trustees

codman students and families.

- Charter School Schedule Amendment Vote
 - Regina motioned to accept, Yves seconded. Discussion 100% in favor.
 - The proposal for the charter amendment is approved
 - Congratulations to everyone and their work over the last few months.
 - Amanda: Some of our families struggle to have their children participate in the after school program. This will remove that barrier and all student needs will be met.



VII. New Business

- School Year Calendar Presentation SY25-26
 - Draft schedule for review
- Charter Enrollment Updated Policy Proposal
 - This proposal has one shift which opens the option to enroll past grade 9
 - Motion to approved Regina, Second Yve
 - 100% in favor.

VIII. Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn Regina and
- Adjourn 6:22

Enclosures

- Minutes from [February 4, 2025](#)
- [Quality Time Review Presentation](#)
- [BESE Feb Memo_Report on Conditions](#)
- [Draft School Calendar SY25-26](#)
- [Draft Save the Date SY25-25](#)
- [Draft Report Card Schedule SY25-26](#)
- [Draft Enrollment Policy Update](#)
-  CACPS_Finance_Memo.01.31.25.docx
-  Codman Academy_Jan_Financial Statements.xlsx
- [Board Effectiveness Diagnostic Survey](#)