



WALDEN

School of Liberal Arts

Walden Board of Trustees Minutes

Walden is a place where social, emotional, and academic growth are valued equally, a place where students see possibilities, make meaningful choices, take risks, and emerge with a stronger sense of identity, belonging and purpose. It is a place where critical thought, creativity and independence are nurtured; where empathy, cultural awareness and tolerance are valued. We champion student choice and autonomy, authentic research and project work. Our purpose is to develop competent, self-motivated learners dedicated to making positive contributions to society.

1/16/26
Friday
Electronic Meeting
9:00 P.M.

[Audio Recording](#)

Passcode: 10BbL.W7

Anchor Location: 4266 N University Ave, Provo, UT 84604

Invited: > Matt Turner > Jen Knapp > Camille Penrod > Jennie Sanders > James Duncan > Diana West > Lois Bobo > Sharon Beecroft > Rachon Duran (guest presenter) > Truedson Sandberg (guest resource)

Attending: Diana West, Lois Bobo, Sharon Beecroft, Rachon Duran, Truedson Sandberg, Jen Knapp, James Duncan, Camille Penrod, Matt Turner

Meeting called to order (start recording): 9:07 AM

- > **Public Comment:** Lois discusses the email received from Yvonne Russell regarding the proposed crosswalk on Canyon Road. Lois suggests a Walden rep attend the meeting. James inquires about any safety concerns related to this crosswalk

○ **Public Comment 1/16/26**

Director's Report: Lois

○ Annual Report to Board on Digital Citizenship

- Annual report to include how efforts are succeeding
- Admin recommendations on top priority
- A.O (HS student) accepted into the Springville Art Show
- Review of devices used at Walden. Primarily chromebooks and tablets (for younger students). We don't use them as much as other schools but every student has access.
- Information provided on sites most used and most blocked.
- Review of management programs used. Securly notifies administrators and others when a student search is blocked. Additionally, Aware notifies us of high alert key words ("gun" etc.)
- Onward is our IT support company. They assure the safety of our network
- Adlumen is the online app we use to ensure the security and safety of our network.
- A report was run and we are working on improving our network's health by eliminating stale accounts and passwords not changed in the las 90 days.
- Review of Administrative Digital Citizenship priorities.
- Comments/Questions: Diana notes that we have a robust number of PCs used for coding and more advanced classes. Camille asks about the top blocked searches-do they have any value?. Lois indicated that that students can ask to have legit sites unblocked

Approvals

- Approve Meeting [Minutes from 11/21/2025](#):

Discussion:

It is proposed that we approve the board meeting minutes from 11/21/2025.

- Proposed by: Jenn Knapp
- Seconded by: James Duncan
- Matt Turner:
- Jen Knapp: Yes
- Camille Penrod: Yes
- James Duncan: Yes
- Jennie Sanders:

- [Focused Graduation Pathway Policy – Rachon Duran](#)

- **Discussion:** Lois introduces Rachon. This program is for students who are Juniors or Seniors and credit deficient. It allows students to use the 4 areas of the GED to get credit in those specific areas. James asks about state oversight of the program. Getting the policy approved by the board is the first step in the process of getting the program approved. The program is limited to those students who can read at a 9th grade level.

It is proposed that we approve the Focused Graduation Pathway Policy.

- Proposed by: Jenn Knapp
- Seconded by: James Duncan
- Matt Turner:
- Jen Knapp: YES
- Camille Penrod: YES
- James Duncan: YES
- Jennie Sanders:

➤ LEA Specific License Approvals

- **Discussion:** The board is already familiar with this process. Katherine Warr is the only teacher new to us. She stepped in after Beka Hanks left us after maternity leave. The other teachers are teaching outside their endorsement areas. Lois highlights Carl Young and the classes he is teaching. Carl's woodworking is added.

It is proposed that we approve the discussed LEA Specific Licenses for 2nd Semester (highlighted in orange)

- Proposed by: Matt
- Seconded by: Jenn Knapp
- Matt Turner:
- Jen Knapp: YES
- Camille Penrod: YES
- James Duncan: YES
- Jennie Sanders:

➤ **Ongoing Policy Approvals — Lois and Truedson**

Policies for Approval

Discussion: Policy approvals and updating is an on-going process. It's a bit of a moving target. We have put together our own list of our policies and policies in progress. We would like to propose bringing 10 or more policies to our meetings, each time, for review. The idea is that we will have 10 policies to review each month. James requests that any changes be red-lined. Approval postponed to next month.

- **Monthly Board Financials** (for your information. . .no official action required) Diana feels like we are in a good place for this point in the year. We would expect to be right at 50% for expenses. Expenses start 10.100. The areas of concern are where we are considerably over 50% of our budget. Diana points out that Speech Services is over budget. We have more speech testing than we had predicted. Teen Center has put our budget over in some areas but that is covered by grants. Montessori training is over but that is money that will partially be repaid by employees over time.

[Profit and Loss](#)

[Balance Sheet](#)

[Budget vs. Actual](#)

- **First Read of [2026-27 School Calendar](#)**

- **Discussion:** We need at least two readings by the board before we can vote on the calendar. Discussion about Kindergarten start date. There will be a gradual start (½-full day). This is a generic calendar for k-12 for the state submission. Does not include individual program elements like walden walk.

Motion: It is proposed that the calendar be moved forward to the second review as discussed.

- Proposed by: Matt
- Seconded by: Camill
- Matt Turner: yes
- Jen Knapp:yes
- Camille Penrod:yes
- James Duncan:yes
- Jennie Sanders:

- **Meeting adjourned at: 10:21 AM**

2025-26 scheduled meetings:

- **Feb 20, 2025**
- **Mar 20, 2025**
- **Apr 17, 2026**
- **May 15, 2025** (if needed)
- **Jun 26, 2025 (4th Friday this month only)**

Board Members and Assignments

- Matt Turner — Board Chair
- Jennifer Knapp — Chief Financial Officer
- James Duncan — Compliance Officer
- Jennie Sanders — Board Appointee
- Camille Penrod — Board Parent Appointee
- Lois Bobo — Executive Director – non-voting member
- Diana West — Business Manager – non-voting member
- Sharon Beecroft — K-8 Director – non-voting member

The Walden Board of Trustees serves as the curriculum review committee and the School Land Trust committee

[Walden Board of Trustees Bylaws](#)



Sign Up for Public Comment (limit 3 minutes per person, 10 minutes total)

- 1.**
- 2.**
- 3.**
- 4.**
- 5.**

Public Notice to be posted in school entries 24-48 hours in advance



Walden Board of Trustees Agenda

1/16/2026

Friday

Electronic Meeting

12:00 P.M.

Lois's Zoom

<https://uetn-org.zoom.us/my/loisroom>

Members of the public who wish to attend may contact Lois Bobo for further support at lois@waldenschool.us. Those who wish more information on providing public comment may contact Lois Bobo at lois@waldenschool.us no less than 4 business hours prior to the start of the meeting.

Agenda:

- 1) Public Comment:
- 2) Approve Meeting Minutes:
- 3) Director's Report: Annual Report to Board on Digital Citizenship
- 4) Focused Graduation Pathway Policy
- 5) LEA Specific License Approvals
- 6) Ongoing Policy Approval and Tracking Plan
- 7) Monthly Board Financials
- 8) First Read of 2026-27 School Calendar
- 9) First Read of 2026-27 Fee Schedule