

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 12, 2020

Minutes of the meeting held March 12, 2020 via Conference Call

Notice of this meeting was sent to appropriate governmental agencies and press, and was published in the "South Shore Charter Public School Update".

Trustees:

In attendance: Edwin Rivera (Chair), William Smyth (Vice Chair), Vincent Walsh (Treasurer), Prue Goodale (Clerk), Leslie Alden, Heidi Aylward, Katie Cianelli, Ken Poudrier, Jody Regan, Honora Sullivan, Kathleen Trask

In absentia: Dan Falkner, Pete Farrell, Kiki Fluhr

Also in attendance:

Staff: Alicia Savage (Executive Director), Kristine Bingham (Director of Finance),

Audience: Marianne Buckley Curran, Joyce Dandrow, Christine White, Linda Macdonald, Jimmy Donovan, Sue Knineh, Colleen Leonard

MOTION: B. Smyth moved to open the meeting at 7:44pm. V. Walsh seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: B. Smyth moved to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2019 meeting. V. Walsh seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

School & Academic Report

State of the School Report: Alicia Savage, Executive Director reported

Student Achievement

- Planning for next year budgeting, curriculum decisions, soliciting feedback for next year
- Annual Parent Survey is active and reminders will be sent
- High School Step Team placed 2nd with an outstanding perform
- Congratulations to the High School Theater Workshop on their accomplishments at the METG Drama Festival

Congratulations to Bev Bruce and Nora Broderick for being selected to serve on the Massachusetts Literary Champion team. They will share their expertise as part of statewide literacy initiatives.

Student Enrollment:

- Current Enrollment as of March 6, 2020 is 1002
- January Open House was successful with many visitors
- Enrollment Lottery was rescheduled to Friday, March 6 due to power outage. We continue to review the school's growth plan. Reviewed the lottery and applications number as well as the applications by town. Discuss this further at the recruitment and retention plan.

MOTION: H. Aylward moved to add Recruitment and Retention as an agenda item at the next board meeting. B. Smyth seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Charter Renewal Update:

In January of 2020, SSCPS received the news that the charter has been renewed without conditions. Thank you to all for your support during this process.

MCPSA Update:

Discussion: new dues amount of \$36,000 or continue paying previous amount of \$20,000 Are we getting the benefits from the organization that warrants the increase in fees.

MOTION: B. Smyth moved to direct SSCPS to maintain payment of membership dues to the MCPSA at the prior rate and if MCPSA does not agree then SSCPS will leave the association. H. Aylward seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Student Report: H. Sullivan reported

- Basketball finalizing season; students planning for Prom

Finance Committee: V. Walsh reported

- DESE December tuition per pupil \$15,489
- FY20 budget has some savings due to mild winter. Field trip expenses are up but will even off
- Generators are still be researched
- FY21-FY23 Benefit and Compensation Proposal. FASA and Administration have met over the Fall/Winter and negotiated the Benefit and Compensation proposal. Added cost will be offset by additional student enrollment
 - Increase salary schedule grids to better align with sending districts
 - Increase school payment of health plan premiums from 65 to 70%
 - Continue to collaborate to offer additional benefit options
 - Agreed to allow buy-in sick bank every three years
 - Increase longevity payments for years of service
 - Para-professionals to join the Social Security system
 - Remove “early” from retirement from the Employee Handbook
 - All job descriptions shared on the google drive
- Finance committee recommends this proposal go forward at the May meeting

Faculty Report: K. Cianelli and J. Regan reported

- Level I EOM ongoing.
- Level II Say Something Week
- Level III/IV Spelling Bee: Ayira Cunningham moving on to the Regional Spelling Bee on March 24 in Lynn
- Level IV Mathcounts competition with 140 participants and 10 SSCPS students placed
- High School Faculty working on moving classes online. Gathering information as to students computer needs for remote learning. Working on a webpage linked to SSCPS website for communication to parents and to students

Parents Association: H. Aylward reported

- A Poudrier ran the PA meeting and discussion of fundraising and field trips
- Parents are concerned of the cost of field trips using fundraising to offset the cost
- Parents looking at transportation options to the students
- Parents are concerned about school closing and what it would look like. Thanked Alicia for the communication that has been sent out.

Development Committee: L. Alden reported

Auction has been cancelled. Working on alternatives including online bidding in May that will enable reaching wider community participation

Governance: P. Goodale reported

- Governance will recommend two candidates. Natacha Julian and Heidi Aylward have both agreed to service 3-year terms beginning July 2020. Board to vote in May at the Annual Meeting.
- Slate of Officers for FY21. Committee will reach out to current Officers in anticipation of proposing retaining current Officers for FY21. Slate of Officers will be presented for vote at the May Annual Meeting

Personnel: B. Smyth reported

Personnel matters covered in the Finance report

MOTION: B. Smyth moved to adjourn the regular meeting. L. Alden seconded, motion carried unanimously.

New Business: A. Savage reported

Expecting to participate in a conference call with DESE and will know more about the next steps. Emails have been sent to faculty and parents that all field trips will be cancelled going forward this school year:

- Newport RI
- Europe trip to Italy postponed for next April vote at May meeting
- All End of Year Field trips and events
- Saturday School
- Sporting Events
- Outside Community Service (NHS, Student Council, etc)
- Senior Trip to Canada
- 8th Grade Trip to Washington DC
- International Food Night
- Annual Auction
- IEP and 504 meetings to be held via conference calls

Anticipate school closure; teacher working on online learning

Some students will not have access and will receive computers to use at home; looking at issues with WiFi access; teachers will be flexible with due dates; 30% of families food insecure looking to see if there is a way to help provide food to these families State is considering the access and equity issue for families.

There will be ongoing information and updates will be sent via email to all community members.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:24pm

Respectfully submitted:
Pam Algera

Approved:
Prue Goodale, Clerk