

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL  
Board of Trustees Annual and Regular Meeting  
May 12, 2022  
700 Longwater Circle, Norwell, MA 02061  
and via [Zoom](#)

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:** William Smyth (Vice Chair), Vincent Walsh (Treasurer), Tiffany Brown-Grier, Katie Cianelli, Tracy Deveau, Kiki Fluhr, Pete Farrell, Natacha Julien, Ken Poudrier, Jody Regan, Tadhg Sullivan, Kathleen Trask

**Remote participation:** Edwin Rivera (Chair), Prue Goodale (Clerk)

**In absentia:** Heidi Aylward, Katie Vecchione

**Also in attendance:**

**Staff:** Alicia Savage (Executive Director), Kristine Bingham (Director of Finance), Matthew Tondorf (Director of Learning Services), Joe McSheffrey (Technology Support Specialist)

**Audience:** No in person

**Remote Audience:** A. Sobers, J. Juste, K. Doble, K. Cafourek, A. Greenidge, A. Pepin, D. Harper-Padula, L. Cook, N. Enyinnaya

**Meeting Documents:**

- Meeting Agenda
- Draft minutes from the February 10, 2022 meeting
- Document recording canceled March 10, 2022 meeting
- Mass.gov: Updated guidance on holding meetings pursuant to the Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures
- Executive Director Report
- Transportation Meeting slide presentation
- FY22 Annual Family Survey Results
- FY23 Budget Presentation
- Personnel Committee Meeting minutes from March 10, 2022
- Governance Committee Meeting minutes from March 10, 2022 and February 10, 2022
- Resumes for the two Board candidates being considered

Bill Smyth (Vice Chair) called the Annual Meeting to order at 7:34pm

**Board Candidates:** Kathleen Trask reported

- The Governance Committee recommends the appointment of: Jimmy Juste and Andrew Sobers each to a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2022.
- The Governance Committee recommends the reappointment of Ken Poudrier and Kiki Fluhr, each to a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2022.

**MOTION:** K. Trask moved to approve the appointment of Jimmy Juste to a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2022. K. Poudrier seconded.

**Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Fluhr, N. Julien, K. Poudrier, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, P. Goodale All in favor; motion carried unanimously

**MOTION:** V. Walsh moved to approve the appointment of Andrew Sobers to a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2022. K. Poudrier seconded.

**Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Fluhr, N. Julien, K. Poudrier, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, P. Goodale All in favor; motion carried unanimously

**MOTION:** V. Walsh moved to reappoint Kiki Fluhr to a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2022. K. Poudrier seconded.

**Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, N. Julien, K. Poudrier, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, P. Goodale All in favor; motion carried unanimously

**MOTION:** V. Walsh moved to reappoint Ken Poudrier to a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2022. K. Fluhr seconded.

**Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Fluhr, N. Julien, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, P. Goodale All in favor; motion carried unanimously

**Slate of Officers:** Kathleen Trask reported

The Governance Committee recommends the following slate of officers for the 2022-23 school year: Edwin Rivera, Chair; Bill Smyth, Vice Chair; Vincent Walsh, Treasurer; Kathleen Trask, Clerk.

**MOTION:** J. Regan moved to approve the slate of officers as presented. K. Fluhr seconded.

**Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Fluhr, N. Julien, K. Poudrier, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, P. Goodale All in favor; motion carried unanimously

**Motion:** V. Walsh moved to adjourn the Annual Meeting and convene the May regular meeting. K. Trask seconded

**Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Fluhr, N. Julien, K. Poudrier, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, P. Goodale All in favor; motion carried unanimously

Bill Smyth (Vice Chair) convened the Regular Meeting at 7:43pm

**Board Business:**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION:** V. Walsh moved to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2022 meeting as presented. K. Fluhr seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Fluhr, N. Julien, K. Poudrier, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, P. Goodale All in favor; motion carried unanimously

**School & Academic Report:** Alicia Savage, Executive Director reported

**State of the School**

- Thinking of Susan Knineh and her family. Susan is greatly missed by our school community.
- Signs of the end of the school year are appearing with EOM's, the Senior Debates, planning for field days, and the return of the Fashion Show. The Seniors' last day is tomorrow.
- Advanced Placement Exam, SAT and PSAT testing, MCAS ELA in March and next week Math testing begins, with Science to follow in the next weeks.
- Graduation of the Class of 2022 is scheduled for Friday, June 3 at 6pm. We have seven Fraternity of 13 students and seven National Honor Society students in the class.
- Annual Survey - 213 responses which is 32% of the SSCPS families. We thank the respondents for such a good response rate. Reviewed the results. The Board will look at more details of the results at its July meeting.

### **Student Enrollment:**

- A successful Enrollment Lottery was held on March 4, 2022. The lottery ran smoothly. Reviewed the lottery numbers.
- Reviewed the current FY22 enrollment number. Reviewed the number of students either declining or who withdrew due to transportation.
- Reviewed the FY23 Projections.
- More data, including the year-to-year applications statistics, will be reviewed at the July meeting.

### **Transportation**

- Reviewed the challenges of enrollment and retention in regard to transportation.
- Reviewed the transportation timeline, drafted bid proposal; bid proposal meeting

### **COVID Update**

- Last meeting the Board voted to make masks optional
- We are experiencing a COVID uptick with 34 cases this week
- Testing program will continue through the end of the school year
- Thank you to the Health Office and the nursing staff

### **Finance:** Vinnie Walsh reported

- The Finance Committee met this evening and reviewed the FY23 draft Budget and current FY22 status.
- Reviewed with the Board the three draft FY23 Budget proposals.
- The committee recommends Option B which includes the entire cost of a transportation program with no offsetting revenue. That revenue would be included in the FY24 budget of an estimated 80% reimbursement estimate.
- Transportation bid is a 3-year contract. School needs to amend the Enrollment Policy with approval from DESE.
- Questions arose regarding the need and timeline of the state approval
- There is teacher and parent support for transportation. Providing transportation would take the burden off the staff and teachers that spend an enormous amount of time doing dismissal.

P. Goodale called the vote:

#### **Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, K. Fluhr, P. Farrell, N. Julien, K. Poudrier, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, P. Goodale, T. Deveau All in favor; motion carried unanimously

**MOTION:** P. Farrell moved that the Board submit a proposed amendment to the School's Charter, Enrollment Policy, or any other necessary documents or other materials pertaining to regional transportation beginning the 2022-23 school year. K. Poudrier seconded.

#### **Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, K. Fluhr, P. Farrell, N. Julien, K. Poudrier, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, P. Goodale, T. Deveau All in favor; motion carried unanimously

### **FY23 Budget Presentation:** K. Bingham reported

The proposed FY23 Budget slide presentation was reviewed.

**Motion:** V. Walsh moved to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee and approve the FY23 Budget as outlined in Option B as presented. P. Farrell seconded.

#### **Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, K. Fluhr, P. Farrell, N. Julien, K. Poudrier, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, P. Goodale, T. Deveau All in favor; motion carried unanimously

## **Committee Reports:**

**Faculty:** J.Regan and K. Cianelli

K-8 - Jody Regan

- Uptick in COVID cases these past weeks with many teachers out. The flexibility of our terrific staff is once again evident. We have worked to make the absences as low a disruption as possible. Shout out to the nurses.
- National Honors Society students have been present at the K-8 building.
- There are several cross-level activities. Level IV Theater Project has written and performed puppet plays for the lower levels. Level III World Performance Project will be celebrating Haitian Flag Day to Level I.
- The 5th graders will present its Wax Museum on May 20th.
- Level IV Art Project is creating a 6x6 mural for the library with the theme “celebrating diversity”.
- Some concerns:
  - From multiple teachers the need for more class space for subject teachers
  - With the increasing number of students on IEP’s and 504’s there is a need for the Learning Services Faculty in every subject area (not just ELA and Math).
  - Clearer accountability and discipline consequences for students.
  - Teachers are now digging into their sick time for COVID outages as the stay home is 5-10 days and the EPSL has expired. Teachers are asking for thoughts on this as we move forward.

High School - Katie Cianelli

- Students just completed AP exams. Most of the students claimed the exams were easier than their courses. Students seemed prepared for the exams.
- Seniors are done with their classes tomorrow and start their two week internships
- There have been some challenging disciplinary situations at the high school. Teachers are hoping to discuss things at the end of this year in order to problem solve and improve for next year.
- The high school is celebrating diversity as displayed throughout the building.
- The Art Workshop’s Fashion Walk is tomorrow.
- The National Honor Society hosted two blood drives this year and the school qualified for a Red Cross scholarship for a graduating senior.

**Students:** T. Sullivan reported

- AP exams took place this week and last in the high school
- Prom tickets for juniors and seniors were sold this week and last
- Track and boys volleyball seasons are both happening
- Track had a meet last week
- The boys volleyball team lost first two games but won 2 games in earlier this week and won today
- BSU, NHS, and GSA continue to meet

**Parents Association:** Alicia Savage read a prepared message from K. Vecchione

- PA self nominations are open
- The PA Bylaws are in final draft
- PA Fundraising is ongoing with information available on the PA website
- Note from Alicia: Thank you to all that have sponsored a Senior

**Development:** reported

- The Board received a letter from Heidi Aylward who regrettably resigned effective immediately

**Governance:** Kathleen Trask reported

- Welcome to the new Trustees.
- Will be looking for Committee Assignment request so they as be forward the the Board Chair
- Mentoring program will be starting and the Committee is looking for volunteers to assist
- Thank you to Prue who has been a champion for Governance and the School.

**Facilities:** Ken Poudrier reported  
Nothing new to report

**Personnel:** Bill Smyth reported

**MOTION:** B. Smyth moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of contract negotiations and requested Kristine Bingham and Pam Algera be invited. T. Brown-Grier seconded

**Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, K. Fluhr, N. Julien, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, T. Deveau, P. Farrell, P. Goodale, K. Poudrier, All in favor; motion carried unanimously

**Additional Comments from Board and Audience:**

No comments

**MOTION:** T. Brown-Grier moved to adjourn the regular meeting. K. Fluhr seconded

**Vote by individual roll call:**

B. Smyth, V. Walsh, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, K. Fluhr, N. Julien, J. Regan, T. Sullivan, K. Trask Remote: E. Rivera, T. Deveau, P. Farrell, P. Goodale, K. Poudrier, All in favor; motion carried unanimously

Meeting Adjourned 8:59pm

Respectfully submitted:  
Pam Algera

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Approved by: Prue Goodale, Clerk