

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

Board of Trustees Meeting

September 23, 2021

700 Longwater Drive, Norwell, MA 02061

Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89099212038?pwd=WWtKbG9sdTRrek1MT1IPZTd0QzVldz09>

Meeting ID: 890 9921 2038

Passcode: 888684

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), Prue Goodale (Clerk), Heidi Aylward, Tiffany Brown-Grier, Katie Cianelli, Peter Farrell, Kathleen Trask, Katie Vecchione, Ken Poudrier

Remote participation: Tracy Deveau, Ken Poudrier, Kiki Fluhr, Natacha Julien

In absentia: Jody Regan, Vincent Walsh

Also in attendance:

Staff: Alicia Savage (Executive Director), Kristine Bingham (Director of Finance), Matt Tondorf, Kerri Doble

Audience: Michelle Rankin, Brittany Lofstand,

MOTION: H. Aylward moved to open the meeting. B. Smyth second.

Individual Voice Vote: H. Aylward, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, P. Farrell, P. Goodale, K. Trask, K. Vecchione, T. Deveau, K. Fluhr, N Julian Motion carried unanimously

Chair E. Rivera called the meeting to order at 7:31pm

Board Business:

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: B. Smyth to approve the minutes from the July Board Retreat/Meeting as presented. H. Aylward seconded.

Individual Voice Vote: H. Aylward, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, P. Farrell, P. Goodale, K. Trask, K. Vecchione, T. Deveau, K. Fluhr, N Julian Motion carried unanimously

MOTION: H. Aylward moved to approve the appointment of the Student Representative, T. Sullivan, to the Board. B. Smyth seconded.

Individual Voice Vote: H. Aylward, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, P. Farrell, P. Goodale, K. Trask, K. Vecchione, T. Deveau, K. Fluhr, N Julian Motion carried unanimously

School & Academic Report

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

- The school year opened on Tuesday, August 31 with a terrific start. Students are ready to be back. On August 30- 9th grade and K orientation was held

- School opened with an incorporation of the most recently updated health and safety protocols including the state mask mandate School will be running three testing programs: rapid test, pool testing, and test and stary. Nursing staff is oncall 24/7. Board would like to acknowledge the nursing staff for all their hard work
- DESE is holding to their decision to not provide remote learning. Should students need to be quarantined, SSCPS will provide asynchronous learning for students in grades 4-12 and students in K-3 will be provided with their learning bins
- Professional development was held in August with discussions of diversity, health and safety, and lesson designing, as well as mental health and academics
- Bus driver shortage FCC looking for bus driver, looking into other options for families. Transportation is really important to our school and families PA Chair and H. Aylward will continue to work on gathering information on transportation options for families

Enrollment

- Current enrollment is 1048.
- It has been more difficult to maintain enrollment.
- With more ins and outs due to COVID-19.
- Some families did not show up on the 1st day of school.
- Some families pulled out once the DESE/State mask mandate was announced.
- Transportation remains the number one issue for families.

Executive Director Goals

1. Professional Practice Goal: To work with faculty, staff, and families to improve student learning and reduce achievement gaps created by disrupted learning throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Professional Practice Goal: Targeted Professional Development
Ensure that all members of the faculty have the opportunity to engage in high quality professional development in the following areas:
 - Looking at student work, assessments, data analysis, and MCAS results and then using that data to inform instruction to improve student achievement,
 - Differentiated instruction for all learners in the classroom,
 - Goal setting and working towards those goals to meet the needs of all learners,
 - Curriculum development and standards alignment in ELA, mathematics, history, science, and world languages as learning is tailored to eliminating achievement gaps,
 - Social and emotional needs of students and how best to support students at risk throughout an ongoing pandemic.
3. Student Learning Goal: To support student achievement and college readiness for every student by ensuring that faculty and staff have appropriate opportunities to plan and analyze instruction despite pandemic challenges.
4. Student Learning Goal: Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Work with faculty and administration to support a school and classroom environment where students feel safe and are able to achieve.
5. Student Learning Goal: To identify possible learning gaps created from a year of disrupted instruction and to plan for remediation.

Committee Reports:

Faculty: K. Cianelli Reported

- Laurie wanted everyone to know we are hosting a community walk and picnic on Saturday Oct 2 at Wompatuck from 10-12. The event is open to the community and we have raised almost \$10k in donations from companies that have supported us over the years. General Dynamics has donated \$6k and we have many neighboring companies support like BC Electric, Younger U, Prudente Insurance, Ameriprise Financial, Mambos, ABA Alternatives, The Coastal Center, and Rosano Davis. We invite all board members to participate and if anyone ever has any leads for support please send them my way. Warm leads on referrals are always easy for me for outreach purposes.
- We are back, and happy to be with all our students again, some of whom have not been in school since March of 2020. Teachers for Levels III and IV greeted families tonight at back-to-school night. Level I and II teachers will host a back-to-school night next Wednesday. Middle school soccer and cross-country seasons have begun with strong interest from the students. Levels III and IV conducted student council elections after a week of active campaigning including candidate speeches via Zoom for the first time. We are off to a good start.
- At the high school, we are finding a groove, and getting back into a routine. Freshmen and Sophomores took a group bonding trip to Tree Top Adventures, a high ropes course. Today the seniors took their annual trip to Camp Burgess. In the past this has been an overnight, but due to COVID it was a day trip this year.
- If you haven't read Michelle's words in the Weekly Update, yet, what she wrote rings true for the majority of the high school teachers: it is noticeable that students have not been in school with role models to look up to in the grades above them. We all need to practice patience and kindness.

Students: written submission by T. Sullivan

- High school soccer, volleyball, and cross country have all started
 - Girls Volleyball won their first game
 - Boys and Girls Varsity soccer won their first games
- Middle School Soccer started
- GSA and BSU met on Monday the 20th
- First Student Board meeting happened on Monday the 13th
 - Discussed Prom, Color Games, and Field trips

Parents Association: K. Vecchione reported

- Library volunteers
- PA is working on the carpool connect and have 45 families signed up
- PA working on the Back-to-School Walk/Picnic. Several activities are being planned. Volunteers for the day are needed
- PA working transportation needs for families

Finance: K. Bingham reported

- The finance committee met on Tuesday and presented the most recent DESE tuition calculation rates based on FY21 enrollment and compared projections to FY22. Each of the schedules list the towns served by SSCPS and projected FTE. Based on pre-enrollment actuals will be presented after the October SIMS report is submitted. Comparison by town numbers will change when demographic are updated
- Reviewed balance sheets as of the end of August. Financial update throughout the month of August Tuition is \$16,412 is more than budgeted but FTE 1050 vs 1055 decrease in tuition money. We will receive additional COVID grant money which will help to offset overages. will help offset.
- FY21 audit. Update fiscal process and procedures will need to be updated at the October meeting

Development and Ad Hoc Facilities: H. Aylward reported

- The Development and Facilities committees had a joint meeting to begin goal setting
- H. Aylward has agreed to serve as Interim Chair on Development
- Development will work with A Savage and K. Vecchione to put together a multi-year plan for community engagement and to raise funds. Include Parents Association and alumni
- Facilities need to be thinking about purchasing the 700 Longwater Drive building; consider faculty, students, facility, parking, gym while looking at the needs at 100 Longwater Circle.

Governance: P. Goodale reported

- Governance met and discussed the goals for the year. Look at succession going forward. Need a formal way to elect officers and recruitment of members.
- Table the results of Board Assessment survey to the October meeting
- Committee Chair thanked Kathleen Trask for her work on the presentation at the July meeting and spearheading a Board mentoring program

Personnel: B. Smyth reported

- New members this year on the committee
- Committee will be working on the Executive Director's contract renewal. Committee will reach out to other committees for input. Finalize 3-year agreement by April.

Audience: Public Comment

There were no audience members and questions/comments in the Zoom chat.

MOTION: H. Aylward moved to adjourn the regular meeting. B. Smyth seconded

Individual Voice Vote: H. Aylward, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, P. Farrell, P. Goodale, K. Trask, K. Vecchione, T. Deveau, K. Fluhr, N Julian, K. Poudrier Motion carried unanimously

Meeting Adjourned at 8:39pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Algera

Approved by: Prue Goodale, Clerk