

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting
November 17, 2022
7:30pm

Meeting held at 700 Longwater Drive, Norwell, MA 02061
Meeting available via Zoom

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

Trustees:

In attendance: William Smyth (Vice Chair), Vinnie Walsh (Treasurer), Kathleen Trask (Clerk), Tiffany Brown-Grier, Katie Cianelli, Tracy Deveau, Pete Farrell, Natacha Julien, Jimmy Juste, Ken Poudrier

Remote participation:

Jimmy Juste, Kiki Fluhr, Cindy Lyons

In absentia: Edwin Rivera (Chair), Andrew Sobers, Tadhg Sullivan

Also in attendance:

Staff: Alicia Savage (Executive Director), Kristine Bingham (Director of Finance), Joe McSheffrey (Technology Support Specialist), Pam Algera (Director of Admissions)

Audience:

JP Marcellus (5-8 Assistant Principal and High School Athletic Director), Shawn Connors (High School English Teacher and Middle School Athletic Director)

Remote Audience: Tochi Anuonyemere (Student), Kate Trowbridge (Faculty/Staff Representative, pending approval)

Meetings documents:

- Meeting Agenda
- Draft Minutes from the October meeting
- Executive Director Report
- Draft School Calendar 2023-2024
- MIAA Membership Proposal
- Year-to-Date Financials

Opening of Meeting: Bill Smyth (Vice Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:35pm

Board Business

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: V. Walsh moved to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2022 meeting. K. Poudrier seconded.

Vote by individual roll call:

William Smyth, Vinnie Walsh, Kathleen Trask, Tiffany Brown-Grier, Katie Cianelli, Tracy Deveau, Pete Farrell, Kiki Fluhr, Natacha Julien, Jimmy Juste, Cindy Lyons, Ken Poudrier

11 in favor; 1 abstention Motion carried

Board members: Approval of the Faculty Representative - Kate Trowbridge

MOTION: V. Walsh moved to approve Kate Trowbridge as a Faculty Representative to the Board for a three-year term. K. Poudrier seconded.

Vote by individual roll call:

William Smyth, Vinnie Walsh, Kathleen Trask, Tiffany Brown-Grier, Katie Cianelli, Tracy Deveau, Pete Farrell, Kiki Fluhr, Natacha Julien, Jimmy Juste, Cindy Lyons, Ken Poudrier

All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

School & Academic Report

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

[Full report may be viewed here](#)

- John and Abigail Scholarship - the school is proud to announce that 24 of the Class of 2023 (31%) have been named recipients. Ten of the students will be joining the Fraternity of 13 at graduation in June. This award recognizes high performance on the 10th grade ELA and Math MCAS in the spring of 2021.
- National Merit Scholarship- Congratulations to Tadgh Sullivan who has been recognized as a Commended Scholar by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation
- MCAS Data - Last month the school received the MCAS results from the spring 2022 administration. Reviewed the student growth percentiles as compared to the top three sending districts. Reviewed the Comparative Data versus the top three sending districts.
- Enrollment - current enrollment is 1062 which has increased from 1043 in October. Reviewed the reasons for withdrawals. An Open House was held on November 3 and was very well attended with 191 visitors at 100 and 71 visitors at 700. Applications for the 2023-2024 school year opened on November 1 with 133 applications received so far. Scheduling Talk to Us Tuesday in January and February for prospective students and their families. Application deadline is February 27, 2023 and the lottery is scheduled for March 3, 2023. Reviewed a two year comparison of the reasons that students withdrew.
- Transportation Update - the waitlist has been exhausted. A bus stop changed in Kingston due to construction. School bus safety was held in October by First Student and will be held again in the spring
- School Calendar - 2023-2024 was presented. Board vote in December
- Site Visit - January 31, 2022. More information will be provided in December

SSCPS Athletics Program - presentation by JP Marcellus (5-8 Assistant Principal and High School Athletic Director), Shawn Connors (High School English Teacher and Middle School Athletic Director)

- The Athletic Directors presented the state of the program
- The program has grown substantially over the past years and the importance of sports in student academic performance
- Some challenges regarding transportation and venues
- Budgeting needs for additional transportation options and distance of sporting venues
- Proposed the establishment of Sports Booster Club
- Proposed membership in the MIAA
- Student comment: T. Anuonyemere thanked the Athletic Directors for their hard work

MOTION: K. Poudrier moved to approve membership into the MIAA as presented. K. Trask seconded.

Vote by individual roll call:

William Smyth, Vinnie Walsh, Kathleen Trask, Tiffany Brown-Grier, Katie Cianelli, Tracy Deveau, Pete Farrell, Kiki Fluhr, Natacha Julien, Jimmy Juste, Cindy Lyons, Ken Poudrier

All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Faculty: K. Cianelli reported

At 100:

- Some of the K-8 Teachers made book wishlists on the storybook cove website. All families have to do is go to <https://www.storybookcove.com/> , scroll down to "find a wish list" on the right hand side of the webpage, and type the teacher's email address to see if they made a wishlist.
- 3rd grade and 5th grade went on our first (post-covid) field trip back to Plimoth Patuxet this past week. The weather was beautiful and the kids really enjoyed the opportunity for experiential learning. They got to hear a lot about how the Pilgrims lived, and got to go inside a longhouse and see a mishoon being carved.
- In addition to PATHS, Level 2 is working on a character trait each month. November has been Responsibility. Students have talked, among other things, about how to show responsibility in class and when doing work. They have also talked about taking responsibility for actions and behavior. Apologizing, changing behavior, and thinking ahead have all been emphasized.

At 700:

- This past month, we opened the new Therapeutic Academic Support Center (TASC) program. The TASC provides students struggling with social/emotional or attendance challenges access to a therapeutic space as they transition fully back into school. Families participate in an intake meeting, set individualized goals and expectations, and periodically meet to monitor progress on those goals. The TASC is modeled after similar programs at other local schools designed to improve mental health and attendance outcomes amongst students facing significant barriers.
- NHS field trip to Cradles to Crayons went really well. Please check out the pictures in this week's update.
- Anecdotal evidence of how much teachers are liking Smartpass Nurse has reported decreased (unnecessary) visits and student lingering. Students have adopted Smartpass easily 94 student encounters have been prevented in the hallways in the last 2 weeks.
- Coach Jenn Johnson wins her 2nd COTY award since becoming the SSCPS volleyball coach back in 2013. Gabby Louis and Aditi Suryawanshi were named MCSAO All Stars, as the girls team finished with a 5-3 record and a MCSAO playoff berth.
- Adanna Eze, Sarah Paul, JJ Facey, Ali Bouih and Nat Jocelyn were named MCSAO All-Stars for soccer.

Students: T. Sullivan emailed report, T. Anuonyemere presented

- BSU, GSA, NHS, along with a new club MSA (Muslim student association) continue to meet and chess club
- The NHS went to the cradles to crayons warehouse and helped sort and send donated clothes
- The soccer, volleyball, and cross country seasons have all ended
- We had a total of 7 student athletes named MCSAO all-stars for their fall season sports
- The basketball season will begin soon
- There is a winter dance for the high school at the beginning of december

Parents Association: C. Lyons presented

- The November PA meeting was replaced by a presentation by Dr. Elizabeth Englander, Bullying, Cyber Bullying, and the Social Impact of the Pandemic
- The PA Fundraising chair is working on receiving the O'Connell Ice Rink in Weymouth for our students to skate free of charge during the afternoons of Professional Development early release days

Finance: V. Walsh reported

- Committee met this evening
- Looked at projected student enrolment
- Discussed the increase in health insurance costs
- Reviewed the current financials

Development: K. Poudrier reported

- Working on short, medium, and long term goals
- Set goal to raise \$50,000 through fundraising this school year
- Potential to hold an Art Show event

Governance: K Trask and N. Julien reported

- By laws were reviewed for versions
- Interest from a potential new Board member
- Two Board members will be attending the December PA meeting for recruitment

Personnel: B. Smyth reported

- Committee discussed a Bylaw provision
- FASA negotiable have begun
- Discussed next steps for the Executive Director Evaluation

Audience: Public Comment

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

MOTION: V. Walsh moved to adjourn the regular meeting. K. Trask seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Vote by individual roll call:

William Smyth, Vinnie Walsh, Kathleen Trask, Tiffany Brown-Grier, Katie Cianelli, Tracy Deveau, Pete Farrell, Kiki Fluhr, Natacha Julien, Jimmy Juste, Cindy Lyons, Ken Poudrier

All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:12pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Algera

Approved by: Kathleen Trask, Clerk