

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

Board of Trustees Meeting

December 7, 2023

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: Jimmy Juste (Chair), Vinnie Walsh (Vice Chair), Ken Poudrier (Treasurer), Natacha Julien (Clerk), T. Brown-Grier, Katie Cianelli, Tracy Deveau, Kathleen Sullivan, Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst, K. Trowbridge

Remote participation: Andrew Sobers, Raeven Charles

In absentia: Kiki Fluhr

Also in attendance:

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

Remote Staff: Pam Algera (Director of Admissions), K. Doble

Audience:

Remote Audience:

Meetings documents:

- Meeting Agenda
- Draft Minutes from the November meeting
- Executive Director Report
- FY25 Draft Calendar
- FY23 CSEOFYR

Opening of Meeting: J. Juste (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:34pm

Individual roll call: J. Juste, K. Poudrier, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Sullivan, T. Trowbridge, A. Uhlenbrock-Furst, R. Charles, A. Sobers

Board Business

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: K. Poudrier moved to approve the minutes from the 11/09/2023 meeting. T. Deveau seconded.

Vote by individual roll call: J. Juste, V. Walsh, K. Poudrier, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Sullivan, K. Trowbridge, A. Uhlenbrock-Furst, R. Charles, A. Sobers

School & Academic Report

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

Student Achievement:

- Winter concert was held and it was a wonderful event. Outstanding music department.
- Half Day Craft Day will be held on December 21

- Notification of awarding of Teacher Diversification Pilot Program grant of \$107,005 Thank you to the faculty/staff who work on the submission. The grant will support initiatives such as the new high school pathway program, financial incentives to recruit and retain classroom teachers, financial assistance for college graduates, and school culture support.

PSAT Data: Executive Director Report

- Received scores from October 2023
- Charts I and II mean scores
- 73 juniors took the test, all students who were present took the test
- Online administration
- Chart I - mean total score 933 decline from last year which is typical for this class, 25% with accommodations
- Chart II - english. reading, writing and math
- Reviewed the demographic characteristics of the students

Transportation Update:

- School administration continues to receive positive feedback from the parent community regarding the transportation program.
- After school tutoring, an increase in after school music programs, the new after school enrichment program, the athletics program, childcare programs, and day-to-day changes can result in 80-100 modifications to the afternoon pickup routine.
- We ask families to be patient and to notify the school as soon as they are able if a change in their family schedule requires a transportation change in the afternoon.
- The School will be asking families for specific feedback when sending out the SSCPS Family Survey this winter. Families may offer feedback during strategic planning focus groups in January and February.

Strategic Plan

- The Strategic Planning Committee has met three times; October 24, 2023, November 21, 2023, December 5, 2023
- The Committee has identified Curriculum and Instruction as the forefront goal
- School documents, the Annual Report, the School Improvement Plan, and the current Strategic Plan, have been reviewed
- Annual Family Survey data has been reviewed
- Ongoing planning for Focus groups reaching out to all constituents will be held in January and February
- The Strategic Planning Committee will continue to meet until spring 2024

Enrollment:

- Current enrollment 1059
- Waitpool Lottery December 12
- Current enrollment plan at 1075 as of August of 2016
- Open House held November 2 with Talk to Us Tuesdays in January and February
- Application deadline February 29 with lottery to be held March 8

FY25 Draft Calendar

- Reviewed and discussed the draft FY25 calendar for vote. There was some discussion regarding the day before Thanksgiving break, a request regarding adding another day off for Yom Kippur, and the number of Professional Development days before the start of school. There were no changes to the calendar from the previous month's meeting. Those items will be discussed at the FASA negotiation meetings.

MOTION: V. Walsh moved to approve the FY25 school calendar as presented. T. Deveau seconded.

Vote by individual roll call: J. Juste, V. Walsh, K. Poudrier, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli (Abstain), T. Deveau, K. Sullivan, T. Trowbridge (Abstain), A. Uhlenbrock-Furst, R. Charles, A. Sobers. Motion carried.

Ad Hoc Field Trip Committee: K. Cianelli reported

The Ad Hoc Field Trip Committee met and discussed three out-of-state/overnight field trip requests: Ski Club to New Hampshire, A. Golden will be the staff person in charge with several Saturday trips in January, February, March. Students responsible for cost; High School Lock-In - February 9th at 100 Longwater Circle, Junior/Senior Community Event. Food/Activities \$20/student. Chaperones are all set.; 8th grade Trip to Washington DC. JP Marcellus and N. Kerrigan are coordinating the trip. Cost of \$1,227 student responsible for cost of \$1,227 for the four day/three night trip May 20-23. There will be activities/field trips for any students who do not attend. The committee is recommending all the requests.

MOTION: K. Cianelli moved to approve the Ski Club to Ragged Mountain, New Hampshire. V. Walsh seconded.

Vote by individual roll call: J. Juste, V. Walsh, K. Poudrier, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Sullivan, K. Trowbridge, A. Uhlenbrock-Furst, R. Charles, A. Sobers

MOTION: K. Poudrier moved to approve the High School Junior/Senior Lock-In. K. Sullivan seconded.

Vote by individual roll call: J. Juste, V. Walsh, K. Poudrier, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Sullivan, K. Trowbridge, A. Uhlenbrock-Furst, R. Charles, A. Sobers

MOTION: V. Walsh moved to approve the 8th grade trip to Washington DC. K. Poudrier seconded.

Vote by individual roll call: J. Juste, V. Walsh, K. Poudrier, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Sullivan, K. Trowbridge, A. Uhlenbrock-Furst, R. Charles, A. Sobers

Committee Reports:

Faculty:

100I: K. Trowbridge reported

- K's have had weekly readers come in from our school community to read to us about a "Woman of the Week". My students love learning about different women throughout history who have made an impact on the world and have also enjoyed meeting teachers from other levels. Also we have Level III students come in on Fridays. This is a part of Laura's project.
- Grade 2 is starting a science unit on the water cycle and erosion. Last week, my students watched a demonstration on the process of the water cycle and we made it "rain" in a bowl. This week students will learn about rapid and slow changes to the earth and watch a "volcanic eruption" demonstration and observe a slow change. In Wonders we are learning about fables through classic stories like the Hare and the Tortoise and The Boy Who Cried, Wolf!
- Level II is learning about voting in ELA. Students campaigned (including writing paragraphs and making posters) for one of 3 candy candidates, and then students voted on their favorite candy. It was a fun mini-unit that got the students excited about voting and about writing argumentative texts!
- In 5th grade ELA we're working on expository essays. Students are choosing something about themselves to tell me, and turning these from a thought web, into an outline, then into an essay. They will revise and edit these, then complete peer editing before they submit them for an assessment grade.
- Grade 5 Spanish - Winter Unit with focus on making connections to holidays such as Christmas and Hanukkah - learning about Sephardic Jews and holiday traditions in Spanish-speaking countries
- Grade 6 Spanish - (Same as holidays above) Students are working on a Hobbies Unit with a solid foundation in verbs. (not terribly exciting but important!)
- Level III Project: Art of the Puppet today where Sarah and Dan's students wrapped up their Unit on articulated shadow puppets with short performances by our talented young puppeteers. At 700 our Art Workshop students are wrapping up their Fashion Show creations for early January. Their EOMs will consist of a round of presentations to a panel of judges, a photoshoot, a pre-show walkthrough of 100, two

Fashion Show performances on January 11th in the PE Space, and finally ending with a two-page essay on their experience to close out the Semester on January 23.

- Community outings continue at the elementary and middle school. This month, our special education students will be traveling to Target to shop for their secret santa. They will practice their money management skills and conversational skills while at the store.
- Music Department: Yesterday, our music department had their Winter Concert. During the day, the lowest levels performed in our gym space and at night, the upper levels performed at the Hingham Middle School Auditorium. Both events were well attended.
- Craft Day at 100:Parents are currently signing up for our Annual craft day, which is always a big hit for levels 1-3. This takes place on the last day before winter break.

At 700: K. Cianelli reported

- NHS is hosting a Holiday Rooms day on Friday, December 15th. You can come and learn about different holidays and make arts and crafts. Please join us!
- NHS is also hosting what they've named South Shore Thrift Store. Everyone is welcome to donate teen/adult clothing, and for three days we will host a thrift store for the high school population. Any leftover clothing, we will donate to a charity.
- In the Personal Training Workshop:Students are working on a December Push-up Challenge. If collectively the group achieves at least 10K-20k push-ups, Pete is throwing them a pizza party before Christmas break. Prior to that, students completed a sugar project, researching some of their favorite drinks and designing a visual of how much sugar is in each drink that they consume on a daily basis.
- In Geometry Topics:Students are working on pythagorean theorems. Students are going to design a poster based on information learned on PT and how they can use this tool in real life situations!
- In Communications, the latest installment of Humans of SSCPS is up. Please check it out to learn more about the people who make up our community. All you have to do is Google, Humans of SSCPS, and you'll see it on Tumblr. You won't regret it.
- The day before break the high school is gearing up for door decorating by Advisory, with some fun activities to get us in the holiday spirit. At the same time, the 8th graders will have their move-up day, where they will be in the high school, learning about what we do and judging the door decorating.

Students: R. Charles reported

- Varsity Basketball season started today with games for boys and girls
- Student Board planning Lock-In plan
- Questions raised about field trips and buses. What are the steps to utilize the buses? Field trip request form to be completed and submitted to K. Doble

Parents Association: No report

Finance: K. Poudrier reported

- DESE FY23 year end report reviewed schedules and included the transportation reimbursement form. The report uses the independent audit report to complete the schedules required by DESE and puts in into a detailed report that the state format

MOTION: V. Walsh to approve the recommendation of the Finance committee and approve the FY23 CSYEFR as presented. A. Uhlenbrock-Furst seconded

Vote by individual roll call: Juste, V. Walsh, K. Poudrier, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Sullivan, K. Trowbridge), A. Uhlenbrock-Furst, R. Charles, A. Sobers

Development: A. Uhlenbrock-Furst reported

- Committee met earlier and discussed the vision to engage development and support the school. Community engagement and help support events. Help with planning of events

- The second area of need is for Institutional growth. Where is SSCPS going and how can the Development Committee best support it? Where do goals come from? Looking at where goals come from and the Strategic Planning process may be the place where the goals are formed. The Strategic Plan is set to be complete by the end of the school year.

Governance: N. Julien reported

- Discussed the updating bylaws. A draft will be available at the next meeting and will share with the committee and the full board
- Discussed recruitment of new board members. Looking for members to bring forward candidates. Interview in February for information at the March meeting with a vote in May for a July start.

Personnel: J. Juste reported

- Negotiations have started. Building rapport. Looking to agree on a 3-year salary grid as well as benefits, time-off, etc. by the end of January/beginning of February. Two meetings will be scheduled in January.

Ad Hoc Facilities: K. Poudrier reported

- Sub lease is coming up and align with rest of building
- Hire architecture to look at wall behind building at 100

Board Business: J. Juste informed the Board of the need to schedule a Special Meeting / Executive Session for the purpose of potential legal action. Remote meeting to be held Tuesday, December 12 at 11:15 am - 11:45 am

Audience: Public Comment

MOTION: V. Walsh moved to adjourn the regular meeting. K. Poudrier seconded

Vote by individual roll call:

J. Juste, V. Walsh, K. Poudrier, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Sullivan, K. Trowbridge), A. Uhlenbrock-Furst, R. Charles, A. Sobers

All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Algera

Approved 2/8/2024