

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL  
Emergency Board of Trustees Meeting  
March 25, 2024  
3:30pm

Virtual Zoom Meeting

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:**

**Remote participation:** Jimmy Juste (Chair), Vinnie Walsh (Vice Chair), Ken Poudrier (Treasurer), Natacha Julien (Clerk), Tiffany Brown-Grier, Raeven Charles, Katie Cianelli, Tracy Deveau,, Kathleen Sullivan, Kate Trowbridge, Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst

**In absentia:** Kiki Fluhr, Andrew Sobers

**Remote Staff:** Alicia Savage (Executive Director), Joe McSheffrey (Technology Support Specialist), Pam Algera (Director of Admissions)

**Remote Audience:** Meeting Attendees:

Aayah Zaynounge	Deb Sloan	Maheen ?
Alan Dandrow	Harjar ?	Maliha's Phone ?
Ali Chaudhry	Heather Brems	Matt Tondorf
Alicia Dupuis	Jenn Johnson	Megan ?
Amira ?	Jenna Brink	Melissa Freitas
Amy Koskoski	Jennifer Phone ?	Mike Dupuis
Angel St. Germain	Jess Zaval	Nikeshia Whitman
Angie Williamson	Joyce Dandrow	Paul Hanlon
Annette Golden	Karen Boyle	Pete Luizzi
Barbara Folan	Kathy Sobol	Stephanie ?
Bushra Irfan	Kristine Bingham	Tom O'Connell
Charlene Salmone	Kelly McDonald	William Tramontana
Dan Fish	Kerri Doble	Zach Johnston
Danni Lopez	Kim Williamson	
Darlene Parker	Krista Cafourek	

**Meetings documents:**

Meeting Agenda

**Opening of Meeting:** J. Juste (Chair) called the meeting to order at 3:33pm

**Individual roll call:** J. Juste, V. Walsh, K. Poudrier, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, R. Charles, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Sullivan, K. Trowbridge **Joined meeting after roll call:** A. Uhlenbrock-Furst

**FY24 Calendar:** J. Juste reported

Modification for Inclement Weather on February 13, 2024

At the March 14, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting, the Board was presented a proposal to amend the calendar changing April 10, 2024 from a full Professional Development day to a half day for students. Members of the Board discussed that members of the community (faculty and students) would like to keep April 10 as is and add Monday, June 17 to the schools calendar. The Board voted and approved to amend the FY24 School Calendar to add Monday, June 17, 2024 as an early release last day of school for the 2023-24 school year. This change was to

add a day of school for the inclement weather day on February 13, 2024. Since that vote, the Board received feedback from the community including faculty, students, and families. Some of the feedback from the students/families were in support of the calendar change. Some of the feedback from the faculty was that they opposed the change in adding June 17 as a day of classes and that they did not feel their voices were heard. Any change to the school's calendar would need a Board vote. It will not be possible for the outcome to accommodate everyone's preferences.

The Board Chair opened the meeting up to all attendees for discussion and invited any comments. He also noted that all Board meetings are open to attend and he welcomed all to participate.

**Audience:** Public Comment

Several members of the Faculty commented that the communication prior to the Board's meeting was to change April 10 to a half school day so it came as a surprise that the Board voted for a different change to the calendar. It was pointed out that in past years the school had amended calendars to change other religious observance days when inclement weather days needed to be made up. There was concern that a whole group of faculty at 100 had no knowledge that the additional day was being considered.

Board members expressed that this is a great opportunity to hear from the teacher community and that this was not the intention of the Board to not value or hear the Faculty's views. The Board highly appreciates the entire Faculty/Staff. The Board was acting in good faith to support and in the best interest of the school community

Additional members of the Faculty were in support of the Board vote adding June 17 as a day of classes as they had received feedback from students who expressed their disappointment that the April 10 Eid holiday would now be a day of school. Students were looking forward to the school embracing multiculturalism.

A student commented that as a Muslim student the experience was that students would miss lessons in order to observe their holidays. The student read a statement prepared by the Student Board Representative and member of the Board of Trustees in favor of observing Eid and the March 14 Board vote.

Jenn Johnson: FASA rep. concern that the faculty opinions were not taken into consideration and there was no prior communication that there was a movement to change the proposal. If there was a vote of FASA taken prior to the Board meeting with the counter proposal to keep the April 10 holiday that was presented to the Board the outcome may have been different.

Parent, Ali Chaudhry, expressed gratitude for the work of the Board to balance the needs of the community. The Muslim community would like to push for a full day off on April 10 to support inclusivity and equity in the school community.

Kate Trowbridge, one of the Faculty Representatives to the Board: was unable to attend the Board meeting and was unaware that there would be a different proposed motion presented.

The Board Chair commented that there are two conversations happening at the same time. One is the calendar change and the other is the sense that the faculty/staff are not heard. The Board has the purview to address these. The Chair called for a Board member to make a motion to change the March 14 Board vote if they see fit.

**MOTION:** K. Trowbridge moved to amend the calendar and change April 10 to be a half day of school with an early release. V. Walsh seconded.

Individual Voice Vote: J. Juste (Nay), V. Walsh (Nay), K. Poudrier (Nay), N. Julian (Nay), T. Brown-Grier (Nay), Raeven Charles (Nay), K. Cianelli (Nay), T. Deveau (Nay), K. Sullivan (Nay), K. Trowbridge (Yea), A. Uhlenbrock-Furst (Nay). 10 opposed; 1 in favor. Motion denied.

**MOTION**: A. Uhlenbrock-Furst moved to adjourn the regular meeting. N. Julien seconded

**Vote by individual roll call**: J. Juste, V. Walsh, K. Poudrier, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, R. Charles, K. Cianelli, T. Deveau, K. Sullivan, K. Trowbridge, A. Uhlenbrock-Furst All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:18pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Algera

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Approved