

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting
February 6, 2025
5:30pm

Meeting held 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 (remote): Jimmy Juste (Chair), Katy Sullivan (Vice Chair), Natacha Julien (Clerk), Tiffany Brown-Grier, Tracy Deveau, Jerry Ford, Bruce Frost, Rowena Samuels, Willow Shinney-Kalafatas, Andrew Sobers, Kate Trowbridge, Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst

Remote participation: In absentia: Ken Poudrier (Treasurer)

Also in attendance:

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

Audience: NA

Meeting documents:

- Meeting Agenda
- Draft Minutes from prior meetings
- FY26 School Calendar
- Executive Director Report
- FY25 Year to Date Financials
- Year 30 Summary of Review
- Field Trip Requests: Washington DC and Jr/Sr Lock In

Opening of Meeting: J. Juste (Chair) called the meeting to order at 5:35pm

Individual roll call: J. Juste, K. Sullivan, N. Julien, T. Brown-Grier, T. Deveau, J. Ford, B. Frost, R. Samuels, W. Shinny-Kalafatas, A. Sobers, A. Uhlenbrock-Furst

Board Business

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: R Samuels moved to approve the minutes as amended from the December 5, 2024 Board Meeting. N. Julien seconded

Individual roll call: J. Juste, K.Sullivan (Abstain), N.Julien, T. Brown-Grier, T. Deveau, J. Ford, B. Frost (Abstain), R. Samuels, W. Shinney-Kalafatas, A. Sobers (Abstain), K. Trowbridge, A. Uhlenbrock-Furst

FY26 Academic Calendar Update

Reviewed the amended FY26 school calendar. Amended to reflect the correct dates for February vacation and Good Friday. No vote needed

Executive Director School & Academic Report

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

[Executive Director Report](#)

State of the School/Student Achievement

- The second half of the school year has officially begun. Winter athletics are in full force. Mid-year

assessments are being completed.

- Celebrations on our calendar include some impressive events from students in the AP African American Studies course, the Cultural Diversity Workshop, and the Black Student Union.
- BSU Historical Wax Museum: February 24
- African Diaspora Read Aloud Week: February 12- 14, 2025
- African Diaspora Night: February 27, 2025

Mid-Year Goal Review

Goal 1 | Student Learning

By the end of the 2024-2025 academic school year, the South Shore Charter Public School shall demonstrate sustained or improved academic achievement in the humanities in at least four of twelve grades by successful year-two implementation of new and sustaining curricula.

Reviewed the progress towards the goal. Reviewed the MCAS and PSAT data.

Key Actions Completed: Analyze statewide assessment data. (MCAS Fall 2024) Analyze PSAT and SAT data. (Fall 2024)

Benchmarks Completed: Presentation on MCAS data school-wide. (Fall 2024) Board presentation on PSAT and SAT data. (Fall 2024)

Goal 2 | Student Learning

By the end of the 2024-2025 academic school year, the South Shore Charter Public School shall demonstrate sustained or improved academic achievement in mathematics and science in at least four of twelve grades by successful year-two implementation of new and sustaining curricula.

Reviewed the math and science progress towards the goal.

Key Actions Completed: Analyze statewide assessment data. (MCAS Fall 2024) Analyze PSAT and SAT data (Fall 2024)

Benchmarks Completed: Presentation on MCAS data school-wide. (Fall 2024) Board presentation on PSAT and SAT data. (Fall 2024)

Goal 3 | Professional Practice

A. By the end of the 2024-2025 school year, SSCPS will have identified and developed a plan of key strategies for new teacher mentorship and retention; B. By the end of the 2024-2025 school year, identified teachers in the science department will participate in the NOAA BWET Community of Practice; C. By the end of 2024–2025, faculty and staff will have participated in follow-up strategic planning focus groups to evaluate institutional growth.

Reviewed the progress towards the goal.

Key Actions Completed: Continue to develop and enhance partnerships with the Center for Student Coastal Research Community of Practice. (Fall 2024, Winter 2025, Ongoing)

Benchmarks Completed: NOAA/BWET Workshop October 17, 2024, NOAA/BWET Workshop January 4, 2025, Open Way Learning Slides, January 23, 2025

Key Actions Completed: Engage faculty and staff in a mid-year review of Strategic Planning progress and institutional growth. (Completed January 17, 2025.)

Benchmarks Completed: Conduct and analyze Faculty and Staff Focus Groups in Winter 2025.(Completed January 17, 2025.) Strategic Planning Revisited Faculty & Staff Slides, January 17, 2025

Goal 4 | District Improvement

Throughout the 2024-2025 school year, the South Shore Charter Public School shall continue to engage in culturally responsive and collaborative engagement, and communication practices that welcome every family to participate in the classroom and school community as the Board of Trustees explores institutional growth. Continuation of Strategic Planning Focus groups to conduct a one-year review of progress towards

beacons and objectives.

Key Actions Completed: (Ongoing)

- Maintain a calendar of school-wide events on the school website that encourage all SSCPS families to participate: Back-to-School Nights, SSCPS Road Race, SSCPS Open House, Craft Day, Fashion Show
- Maintain multilingual communication for all families.
- Continue to write monthly for the Weekly Update. (11 Weekly Updates 2024-2025)
- Continue to edit and monitor content for the Weekly Update newsletter each week. (40 Weekly Updates 2023-2024)
- Develop systems and processes to enhance community service.(Fall 2023)

Benchmarks Completed: (Ongoing)

- Communicate systems for improved Community Service data tracking implemented in Fall 2023.

Weekly Update/Communication Examples:

[Weekly Update | October 2, 2024](#)

[Weekly Update](#)

[October 30, 2024](#)

[Weekly Update | January 8, 2025](#)

[Community Service/Family Survey/Upcoming Events | January 24, 2025](#)

Goal 5 | District Improvement

The South Shore Charter Public School will continue to implement the highly successful regional transportation program, with targeted and ongoing improvements to improve success in school and community.

- SSCPS continues to work with First Student to optimize bus stops and routes;
- Although the bus routes experienced some overcrowding due to new students enrolling in the fall, bus routes were modified to accommodate the needs of as many families as possible;
- Families have been asked to provide feedback through the SSCPS Family Survey;
- The number of modifications to each afternoon's pick up continues to be high largely due to after school tutoring, the new enrichment program, and the music program;
- This year's Intent to Return form again includes a place for families to indicate whether or not they will be using transportation services next year. This practice assisted with the return of last year's forms;
- This information is essential to the school and First Student;
- Planning for next year's routes and stops is scheduled to begin in April. Families who indicate their transportation preferences on the Intent to Return form will be given first priority for next year's transportation services.

Enrollment

- Applications for the 2025-2026 school year have been open since November 1, 2024.
- SSCPS has received 513 applications as of January 31, 2025. This includes 167 applications for Kindergarten.
- *Talk to Us Tuesday* - January/February 2025
- Application Deadline - February 28, 2025
- Enrollment Lottery - March 7, 2025
- Accepted students will receive an acceptance package and an invitation to attend an accepted student event in the spring.

Board Recruitment - Check In

- K. Trowbridge added that her term is up and FASA will discuss selecting the next

- J. Juste sent out a social media kit to use for recruitment. Looking for Financial expertise as well as marketing/development

Charter Renewal Summary Review

Briefly reviewed the 30 Year Summary of Review

Enrollment Growth Check-in

- In negotiations with Fox Rock are ongoing
- Have not received a response from DESE on the enrollment increase
- What is the communications to the community regarding the change of the timeline

Committee Reports:

Faculty: J. Ford and K. Trowbridge reported

Level I:

- First graders have been learning about animal habitats and the ways each survives in their habitats, i.e. hibernation, adaptations, and migration. They will present their learnings to their peers in kindergarten and second-grade classes at a date to be determined.
- First graders are taking a Winter Walk at Holly Hill Farm next week. Children will have the opportunity to view the farm in a different season since they were last there.
- We had World Read Aloud Day, Yesterday and several staff members took time out of their day to read to the lower levels.
- Our Kindergarten students also celebrated their 100th day of school this year! They celebrated by collecting 100 signatures from students and staff in the building as well as arts and crafts activities and songs and dances regarding the number 100!

Level II:

- The third grade team has been busy implementing Effective Effort awards weekly for one student in each class who has put forth effective effort in academics and social/emotional relationships. In addition, the third-grade team has also begun Jaguar Awards. One student from each class is given the award for best exemplifying the Jaguar trait of the month. December was "A Jaguar is Joyful" and January was "A Jaguar is Accepting." Students get recognized in a grade-level assembly and get a certificate and special SSCPS t-shirt. Students have responded positively to this initiative, and we've gotten great questions and feedback from staff on other grade levels as well!

Level III/IV:

- Bridgewater State University's MARC Association held a 'Friends and Conflict' presentation with grades 5-8.
- Bridgewater State University also held chemistry lesson in the lab with our 5th graders
- King Arthur Flour Company conducted a science lesson through the steps to bake bread. Each student was able to take home their canvas bag with ingredients to make their own at home!
- BSCES Model Bridge Contest at Wentworth College! Students from grades 5-8 have been hard at work over the past few weeks, constructing their bridges using only Elmer's glue, popsicle sticks, and 6-inch rulers. SSCPS students had a strong showing at the competition, bringing home a trophy! Three Level IV students (Zuhayr Ali, Jack Gould, and Nolan Deveau) won 3rd place overall in the middle school division for the aesthetic design of their bridge, *The Wooden Wonder*. This same bridge also placed 5th overall for efficiency, successfully holding an impressive 55 pounds.
- Community outings continue this month with a trip to Michaels Craft store to practice money skills and to make Valentines for loved ones. This group is looking to find some grant/fundraising ideas.

High School:

- During Black History Month, Patrizio's Spanish classes are learning about the contributions of African Heritage in the Spanish speaking work of Latin America. Focusing on Historical Context, Afro Latin

American Voices and How the African Diaspora has enriched the Spanish Language and Cultural identity of Latin America.

- The English department held their Poetry Out Loud competition. Senior Daniel Olajumoke is our school-based winner of the National Poetry Out Loud competition. Daniel will be representing the school at the MA regional finals at the beginning of March. Daniel is a strong competitor, and we wish him the best for the next round of competition. Stay tuned!

Ad Hoc Field Trip

The Ad Hoc Committee met and recommended approval of the 8th grade trip to Washington DC.. Looking at ways to assist students with financial needs.

MOTION: T. Deveau moved to approve the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Field Trip Committee and approve the 8th grade trip to Washington DC as presented.. N. Julien seconded

Individual roll call: J. Juste, K.Sullivan, N.Julien, T. Brown-Grier, T. Deveau, J. Ford, B. Frost , R. Samuels, W. Shinney-Kalafatas, A. Sobers, K. Trowbridge, A. Uhlenbrock-Furst

Parent Association - A. Uhlenbrock-Furst

- Fundraising dollars are being used for field trips

Students: No report

Finance: K. Bingham reported

- FY25 YTD Financials July -January
- Review FY26 Tuition Revenue projections
- Review 7 year summary of tuition history. to inform the decisions for FY26
- Updated on the lease negotiations

Development: A. Uhlenbrock-Furst reported

- Research on other educational foundations

Governance: K. Sullivan reported

- Recruiting is a priority
- Still plugging away on the By Law revisions; draft By Laws are in the folder for all members to review

Personnel: T. Brown-Grier reported

- Discussion to establish the process and protocols for the Executive Director Contract. Present to Board in May. Drafted timeline for future negotiations

Ad Hoc Facilities - no update

Audience: Public Comment

Meeting Adjourned at 6:34pm

Respectfully submitted:
Pam Algera

Approved: 03/06/2025