

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting
December 5, 2024
5:30pm

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), Katy Sullivan (Vice Chair), Ken Poudrier (Treasurer), Natacha Julien (Clerk), Tiffany Brown-Grier, Tracy Deveau, Jerry Ford, Bruce Frost, Rowena Samuels, Kate Trowbridge, Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst

Remote participation: Willow Shinney-Kalafatas

In absentia: Andrew Sobers

Also in attendance:

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

Audience: Keisha O'Marde

Remote Audience: Dan Egerton, Deborah Noe

Meetings documents:

- Meeting Agenda
- Draft Minutes from prior meetings
- [FY26 Draft School Calendar](#)
- [Executive Director Report](#)
- FY24 [DESE CSEOFYR](#) Financials
- Field Trip Proposal - Senior Trip to Spain

Opening of Meeting: J. Juste (Chair) called the meeting to order at 5:36pm

Individual roll call: Jimmy Juste, Katy Sullivan, Ken Poudrier, Natacha Julien, Tiffany-Brown-Grier, Tracy Deveau, Jerry Ford, Bruce Frost, Rowena Samuels, Kate Trowbridge, Alish Uhlenbrock-Furst, Willow Shinney-Kalafatas

Board Business

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: Katy Sullivan moved to approve the minutes as amended from the November 9, 2024 Board Meeting. Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst seconded

Individual roll call: Jimmy Juste, Katy Sullivan, Ken Poudrier, Natacha Julien, Tiffany-Brown-Grier, Tracy Deveau, Jerry Ford, Bruce Frost (abstained), Rowena Samuels, Kate Trowbridge, Alish Uhlenbrock-Furst, Willow Shinney-Kalafatas (abstained)

FY26 Academic Calendar Update - Review

Reviewed the proposed calendar.

MOTION: Rowena Samuels moved to approve the FY26 School Calendar as presented. Kate Trowbridge seconded

Individual roll call: Jimmy Juste, Katy Sullivan, Ken Poudrier (abstained), Natacha Julien, Tiffany-Brown-Grier, Tracy Deveau, Jerry Ford, Bruce Frost, Rowena Samuels, Kate Trowbridge, Alish Uhlenbrock-Furst, Willow Shinney-Kalafatas

Enrollment Communication Plan:

Ad Hoc Communication and Growth Committee Update

- Attendance 21 - lasted two hours
- Breakout groups - What do you hope to get out of this meeting and what is your understanding of why the school is considering growth and enrollment
- Timeline - six weeks
- Dec 13 - public comment closes for DESE
- Feb 24 - DESE decision
- Refer to the Enrollment Communication Plan packet for the detailed graphs

Executive Director School & Academic Report

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

[Executive Director Report](#)

- Received a \$5,000 grant the Mass Cultural Council for the Holly Hill Farm program
- Reviewed Spring 2024 MCAS results for 7th and 8th grade
- Reviewed Spring 2024 PSAT and SAT scores
 - Refer to the Executive Director report for the detailed graphs
- Current Enrollment, Withdrawal and Admission Updates

Parent Association - Alish Uhlenbrock-Furst reported

- Two new leaders - Stephanie Innis (LIII, LIV co-chair) and Keisha O'Marde (LI and II co-chair)
- Pod parents have been reinstated
- Successful Raise Craze - Acts of Kindness \$21,627 and \$930 in corporate sponsors
 - buses for field trips
 - enrichment opportunities
- Restricted for PA use per Kristine Bingham - setting up bank accounts

Committee Reports:

Faculty: J. Ford and K. Trowbridge reported

Level I:

- Level 1 will be making Kindness Bags this Friday as part of our Kindness Project. These bags will be dispersed at the Rockland Food Pantry to help local families in need. We are hoping this will become an annual tradition on the level!
- The first grade held their annual SSCPS Balloons over Longwater avenue parade. Students learned all about how balloons work and about the puppeteer. Based on the book Balloons over Broadway.

Level II:

- Third grade is beginning to learn division in math. They're writing fictional narratives in ELA after reading historical fiction about immigration.

Level III:

- Narrative writing with Gingerbread realty ad.
- Sixth graders spent the last few weeks examining the concept of courage, what it means to them and how it has been demonstrated in their lives. They then crafted an essay about courage that will be entered into the Max Courage writing competition in January.

- **Community outings:** Just went to visit the Winsome Riding academy in Randolph, where the students had the opportunity to see the horses, pet, brush and feed them, and then many of the students were able to take a short ride on a horse or pony in their indoor track.
- Raise the Craze-students loved it and really got involved- they were incentivized to do the acts of kindness and they really rallied behind their pods to win extra recess time.

High School Happenings

- Learning Services' Winter market place is up and running. Gifts, such as tote bags, mugs, cups and ornaments are available to purchase. All items are produced by learning services students. Gift wrapping is also available. Gifts should be dropped off with Luke Heffernan or Michelle Gallagher with a sticky note for instructions.
- The National Honor Society is presenting Holiday Rooms again this year. On December 19th from 5-7 pm High school classrooms will be decorated representing various holiday traditions from around the world. There will also be holiday food and activities available in each room. The event is open to all families at SSCPS from K-12.

Students: Willow Shinney-Kalafatas reported

- Homecoming is coming up!
- Lock in for upper classroom - planning has begun
- Move up day for 8th grade students
- Coat Drive running to the beginning of Jan.
- Alumni event- very successful

Finance: K. Poudrier reported

- Financial reports into a DESE format. Recommending to be approved.
- Kristine Bingham reviewed
- Refer to the Finance report for the detailed graphs

MOTION: Katy Sullivan moved to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee to accept the FY24 DESE CSEOFYFR report as presented. Natacha Julien seconded

Individual roll call: Jimmy Juste, Katy Sullivan, Ken Poudrier, Natacha Julien, Tiffany-Brown-Grier, Tracy Deveau, Jerry Ford, Bruce Frost, Rowena Samuels, Kate Trowbridge, Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst, Willow Shinney-Kalafatas Motion carried unanimously

Development: A. Uhlenbrock-Furst reported

- Continuing to work on "stuff"

Governance: K. Sullivan reported

- Recommending Keisha O'Marde-Jack a representative for a two-year term
- Special Board meeting will be held

Personnel: T. Brown-Grier reported

- Making sure everything is ready for the Executive Director's contract which ends June 30, 2025
- Salary structure and the grid

Ad Hoc Field Trip Committee: Kate Trowbridge reported.

- High School would like to plan a trip to Spain

MOTION: Ken Poudrier moved to approve the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Field Trip Committee and approve the Senior Spanish Trip as presented. Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst seconded

Individual roll call: Jimmy Juste, Katy Sullivan (abstained), Ken Poudrier, Natacha Julien, Tiffany-Brown-Grier, Tracy Deveau, Jerry Ford, Bruce Frost, Rowena Samuels, Kate Trowbridge, Alish Uhlenbrock-Furst, Willow Shinney-Kalafatas Motion carried

Ad Hoc Facilities: K. Poudrier reported

- No report

Audience: Public Comment

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55pm

Respectfully submitted:
Karen Boyle

Approved: 02/06/2025