

SMITH VOCATIONAL AND AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL
NORTHAMPTON, MA

MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday April 11, 2023
5:00 PM

PRESENT: Mr. Michael T. Cahillane, Dr. Julie Spencer-Robinson, Mr. Richard Aquadro(5:02pm), Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra(5:06pm) , Dr. Jannell Pearson-Campbell NPS Interim-Superintendent

ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATION: Superintendent Dr. Andrew Linkenhoker, Principal Mr. Joseph Bianca, Ms Crystal Fairman, School Business Administrator, Facilities Director Mr. Tim Smith

STUDENT REP: Absent.

Chair Michael T. Cahillane called the meeting to order at 5:00pm
Vice-Chair Dr. Spencer-Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Mr. Aquadro read the Mission Statement of the School.

Participation by the Public: None

Participation by the Trustees: Dr. Spencer-Robinson gave a brief overview of the services provided by the Collaborative for Educational Services (attached)

Dr. Spencer-Robinson reported she and Dr. Linkenhoker will be meeting tomorrow to discuss his evaluation which she will discuss

Mr. Aquadro reported he attended the FFA Awards Ceremony at the Sheraton in Framingham, many of our students won awards, very impressed with the students being awarded the Bay State Award. Additionally, had lunch with Rep Lindsay Sabadosa to discuss the status of our school, construction budget and the plans for the building project. Mr. Aquadro will keep the Board apprised.

Approval of Minutes: A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Spencer-Robinson and seconded by Dr. Pearson-Campbell to approve the minutes of the March 21st and April 4th, 2023 meeting.

APPROVED 4-0

School spotlight: FFA Presentation on the recent State Convention

Information and Proposals/Trustees Questions & Answers (Q&A):

Property Subcommittee Report – Mr. Aquadro briefly highlighted the first meeting of the OPM, RFQ/RFP for design services is next step in this process. Design Bid Build 149 Construction Management at Risk 149A

Facility Report – Mr. Smith briefly reported on the following projects: we are just about finished with REC building renovation; the pig barn will be demoed in order to build classroom. The AC project in C building, sidewalk project, apple barn renovation is all moving along. Mr. Cahillane thanked Mr. Smith for his multi-tasking many different projects that are currently happening on campus.

Negotiations Subcommittee Report – Dr. Spencer-Robinson briefly stated the committee reviewed pay scales for non-represented support employees, started with cafeteria employees to bring their pay up to minimum

wage which then increased the scales according, the average increase was a little over 3%. In addition, the committee discussed to increase longevity benefits for non-represented support staff, this recommendation is an item for action/vote.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Linkenhoker presented his report (attached).

Principal's Report – Mr. Bianca gave his report (attached). Student Rep report submitted (attached)

Business Report – Ms Fairman gave a brief update of the budget to date, FY24 budget documents sent to the city as required by the city charter, MUNIS upgrade is scheduled for next week, working on scholarships. FY24 capital improvements projects were awarded – C building AC management system and two hoods for culinary.

New Business:

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Pearson-Campbell and seconded by Dr. Spencer-Robinson to approve payment of an FY22 invoice to NAPA for \$24.13 from Automotive Revolving

APPROVED 5-0

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Spencer-Robinson and seconded by Mr. Aquadro to approve the recommendation from the Negotiations Subcommittee to adjust the longevity for all non-represented support employees to: 5 years \$500, 10-14 years \$750, and keeping 15-19 years \$1000, 20 years \$1200, over 25 years \$1500 for next fiscal year (FY24)

APPROVED 4-0-1 abstain

A **MOTION** was made by Mayor Sciarra and seconded by Dr. Spencer-Robinson to approve to surplus for resale from Advanced Manufacturing a DoAll Horizontal Band Saw model C916S

APPROVED 5-0

Discussion: Mr. Aquadro asked about this piece of equipment, Dr. Linkenhoker briefly explained in order to upgrade or replace equipment we need to surplus something to accommodate infrastructure.

A **MOTION** was made by Mayor Sciarra and seconded by Mr. Aquadro to establish a Building Committee

APPROVED 5-0

Discussion: Dr. Spencer-Robinson asked a parent would be on the committee. Dr. Linkenhoker replied it is possible.

Future Business:

May 16, 2023 Regular Board of Trustees meeting 5:00pm – Library

June 20, 2023 Regular Board of Trustees meeting 5:00pm – Library

Upcoming Events:

April 13, 2023 MAVA Outstanding Vocational Student Awards Banquet – Mechanics Hall Worcester

The Chair made a motion to enter into Executive Session, under Massachusetts General Law - Open Meeting Law chapter 30A, Sec.21 (a) (2) to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; the Special Education Director and to reconvene in open session for possible action. Dr. Spencer-Robinson seconded.

Mr. Cahillane – yes

Dr. Spencer-Robinson – yes

Mr. Aquadro – yes

Dr. Pearson-Campbell - yes

Mayor Sciarra – yes

APPROVED 5-0

At 6:30 pm the Board returned to open session.

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Spencer-Robinson and seconded by Mr. Aquadro to approve the contract with the Special Ed Director.

APPROVED 5-0

Adjourn:

At 6:37pm Mayor Sciarra **MOTIONED** to adjourn Mr. Aquadro seconded.

APPROVED 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Carver, Board Secretary

Hampshire County School Districts

July 2021 - June 2022

	Amherst-Pelham Regional	Belchertown	Easthampton	Gateway	Granby	Hadley	Hatfield	Northampton	Hampshire Regional	Williamsburg	Chesterfield- Goshen	Southampton	Westhampton	South Hadley	Smith Voc	Ware	Worthington
CES SERVICES																	
Strong Foundations for Young Children*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Enrichment Programs																	
After School (For cost + 21st Century Community grants)	X		X		X							X				X	
Migrant Education Program	X					X											
Connecting Activities (internships, school-to-work)	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X		
STEM Paid Internships	X				X	X		X	X					X			
Perkins Grants (Career-Technical Ed programs)	X		X	X										X			
Member Cost Sharing Programs																	
Cooperative Purchasing	X						X										

* Note: Starred services are offered in all of the communities checked, and have not necessarily been contracted for specifically by districts.

** Two stars indicates that the category includes both consulting contracts and individuals from the district attending open enrollment offerings in this area

Cooperative Purchasing is available to all districts, but displays only those contracts for which we have records. Most districts go directly to vendors.

FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS July 2021 - June 2022

CES SERVICES	Leverett	Shutesbury	Erving Elementary	Wendell-New Salem	Franklin Cty Tech	Frontier Reg	Conway	Sunderland	Deerfield	Whately	Gill-Montague	Greenfield	Mohawk Trail Reg.	Rowe Elementary	Hawlemont	Pioneer Valley Reg	RC Mahar	Orange
After School (For cost + 21st Century Community grants)											X	X				X	X	X
Migrant Education Program						X					X	X						
STEM Internships												X						
Connecting Activities (internships, school-to-work)																		
Perkins Grants (Career-Technical Ed programs)																		
Member Cost Sharing Programs																		
Cooperative Purchasing #			X										X					

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Superintendent Report

April 11, 2023

Submitted by
Andrew H. Linkenhoker, Ed.D

Highlights & Updates

- 2/20/23-2/24/23: NO SCHOOL: February Vacation
- 2/27/23: DESE CTE Update Call
- 2/27/23: Unit H Negotiations
- 2/28/23: SNOW DAY
- 3/1/23: DESE & MAVA Officers Check-In Meeting
- 3/1/23: Unit H Negotiations
- 3/7/23: *Mindfulness Session*
- 3/7/23: Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting
- 3/14/23: SNOW DAY
- 3/16/23: MAVA Officers, Board of Directors, & General Membership Meetings
- 3/17/23: Northampton St. Patrick's Day Breakfast
- 3/20/23: *Cyndi Weekes-Bradley Coaching Session*
- 3/21/23: Property Subcommittee Meeting
- 3/21/23: Board of Trustees Meeting
- 3/22/23: Program Advisory Dinner & Meetings
- 3/23/23: Career Fair
- 3/24/23: DESE & MAVA Officers Check-In Meeting
- 3/24/23: CVSR Luncheon

***BOLD** = Superintendent Goal Evidence*

**Italics* = Equity Focus*

Highlights & Updates

- 3/28/23: Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting
- 3/30/23: Hoisting License Update Meeting
- 3/31/23-4/2/23: MassCTE Conference
- *4/4/23: Equity Work w/ Cyndi Weekes-Bradley*
- 4/4/23: Health Technology CNA Celebration
- 4/4/23: Board of Trustees Budget Meeting
- 4/6/23: FFA State Convention & DESE Meeting
- 4/7/23: Grit & Wit Program
- *4/10/23: Cyndi Weekes-Bradley Coaching Session*
- *4/11/23: Equity Work w/ Cyndi Weekes-Bradley*
- 4/11/23: Property Subcommittee Meeting

***BOLD** = Superintendent Goal Evidence*

**Italics* = Equity Focus*

MassCTE Awards Highlights

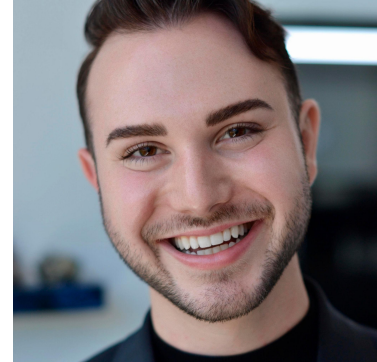


Horticulture Building Rebuild Update

- OPM Contract Finalized
- Recommendation for Official Building Committee:
 - Who makes up Committee?
 - Trustee
 - Superintendent
 - Business Administrator
 - Principal
 - CTE Director
 - Horticulture Instructor(s)
 - OPM
 - Industry Experts?
- Must go out to bid for design phase
- Must begin to finalize budget/next steps

Donations

- Ryan Sanger donated \$3,000 to Cosmetology.
 - From Ryan: Graduated in 2013 and received my Cosmetology License at 17 years old. I went directly to Boston and apprenticed at Mitchell John Salon under the Co-creator of Living Proof. Making \$8/hr minimum wage at the time + tips. Later moved salons and was a busy Commission Stylist doing color, cutting, & styling as well as being director of education at The Salon at 10 Newbury Street. I worked in Boston for 3 years. In 2016 I decided to move to Los Angeles. Not knowing anyone there, I rebuilt my clients in 7 Months and worked in Beverly Hills as a Salon commission Colorist. I worked at BOMANE Salon for 2 years & then Salon Kazumi for 2 years. I was Specializing in Hair Color & Hair Lingerie, Hair Extensions services, making over \$100,000/year at that time. I then decided to open my own Studio Salon exclusively specializing in Hair Lingerie, Luxury Hair Extensions because the feeling of euphoria and confidence it gives clients was unmatched to any other beauty service I had performed. Hair Lingerie extensions are also the highest payout per hour service and is the service I get the most enjoyment performing. I opened my Studio Salon in 2021 at 26 years old. Working behind the chair 3-4 days a week I personally grossed \$312,000 the first year open. (And remember I have ZERO student loans because of going to SVAHS cosmetology)



Looking Ahead

- 4/13/23: City DH Meeting
- 4/13/23: MAVA Outstanding Student of the Year Program
- 4/17/23-4/21/23: NO SCHOOL: April Vacation
- 4/24/23: MAVA Officers Meeting with Education Secretary Tutwiler
- 4/25/23: Equity Work w/ Cyndi Weekes-Bradley
- 4/28/23: MA SkillsUSA Competition & MAVA Board of Directors Meeting
- 5/3/23: Easthampton Chamber of Commerce Economy Event
- 5/4/23: MASC Day on the Hill Event
- 5/5/23: CVSR Luncheon
- 5/8/23: Cyndi Weekes-Bradley Coaching Session
- 5/9/23: Equity Work w/ Cyndi Weekes-Bradley
- 5/9/23: NEASC Steering Committee Work
- 5/10/23: MAVA Officers Meeting
- 5/12/23: Prom
- 5/16/23: Equity Work w/ Cyndi Weekes-Bradley
- 5/16/23: Board of Trustees Meeting

May Focus

- End of Year Preview

Contact Information

Andrew H. Linkenhoker, Ed.D

Super

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April 11, 2023

**Student Representatives Report
April 2023 Board Meeting**

Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School Board of Trustees:

Skills:

SkillsUSA will be sending 12 students to compete in the State Competition@Blackstone Valley, April 27-29th

Clubs:

Student Gov is hosting our Spring Spirit events this week

Fundraisers:

- 1) Criminal Justice Pasta Dinner - selling tickets to their annual Pasta Dinner on April 7th@6 - money raised will help with Criminal Justice student uniforms, field trips, events
- 2) Viking Runestone Advertising campaign - students and staff will sell advertisements to be published in the spring 2023 edition - money raised will help support publishing costs
- 3) Student Government Pie Eating Contest (apart of Spring Spirit events) - Student Gov is hosting a pie eating contest among the Smith community- money raised will help with costs of future Student Gov events and contributions to scholarships
- 4) Boys lacrosse Popcorn Sale - money raised will help team gear and events costs and support the program
- 5) Softball SnapRaise - using SNAP Fundraising to raise money through a 28 day Donation Campaign - money raised will help team gear and events costs and support the program
- 6) Softball Sponsorship Program - the Softball Team is selling sponsorships featured on their outfield wall and other displays for local business advertisements - money raised will help team gear and events cost and support the program

English, Math, Special Ed, Humanities:

The math and English departments are hosting hours over the summer for incoming 9th graders to take a placement test to determine which level math they should enroll in for the fall - students interested in advanced English 9 can test during these times too - any students who do not come during the summer will be able to test on freshman orientation day

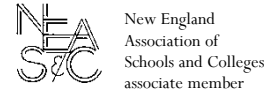
Respectfully submitted,

Jayanna Daniels and Mandy Wright
Student Representatives



Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School
80 Locust Street
Northampton, MA 01060-2094
Phone (413) 587-1414

Mr. Joseph C. Bianca
Principal



www.smithtec.org

April 11, 2023

**Principal's Report
April 2023 Board Meeting**

Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School Board of Trustees:

Student Representative to the Board:

Mandy Wright

Enrollment:

560 students

Admissions:

April 2022 = 320 applications (18.75% from Northampton)

April 2022 = 274 applications (20% from Northampton)

April 2021 = 272 applications

Graded all applications. Letters will be sent out to the top 150 for registration on April 14, 2023. Letters will be sent out to the remaining students notifying them that they are on the waitlist.

Grit N' Wit:

April 7, 2023 on the athletic field. Grades 10 and 12 went through this physical obstacles and mental challenges designed to build team work and perseverance. A great time was had by all participants.

Personnel:

Hired Adult Education Coordinator - Sara DeMaria

Agricultural Mechanics – posted due to resignation

Assistant Principal – posted

Health Technology Instructor – posted due to retirement

Graduation Prep:

We will be sending out the information for the Senior Salutes at the end of the week. Alicia Carter will produce them based on information shared by our graduates. They will be shared on social media starting May 1, 2023. Information around senior events will be shared first week of May with families.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Bianca
Principal

Founded in 1844 by Oliver Smith

SVAHS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, disability, religion or sexual orientation.