

**SMITH VOCATIONAL AND AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL
NORTHAMPTON, MA**

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday May 18, 2021
Virtual Meeting via Zoom - 5:00 PM**

PRESENT: Thomas M. FitzGerald, John E. Cotton, Mayor David Narkewicz,
Dr. John Provost, NPS Superintendent

ABSENT: Michael T. Cahillane

ADMINISTRATION: Superintendent Dr. Andrew Linkenhoker, Principal Joseph Bianca
Business Manager Crystal Fairman

STUDENT REP: Tyrese Cordova, absent

Vice- Chair Thomas M. FitzGerald called the meeting to order at 5:00pm and read the Mission Statement of the School.

Participation by the Public: none

Participation by the Trustees: Mr. FitzGerald complimented the Facilities Director Tim Smith and his crew for keeping the campus looking good.

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. John Provost and seconded by Mayor Narkewicz to approve the minutes of the March April 13, 2021 meeting.

Thomas M. FitzGerald - yes

John E. Cotton - yes

Mayor Narkewicz - yes

John Provost - yes

APPROVED 4-0

Information and Proposals:

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Linkenhoker gave his report in a PowerPoint presentation (attached).

Principal's Report – Mr. Bianca gave a brief report (attached).

Business and Facilities Report:

Facilities Director Tim Smith gave an update on current and summer planned projects. Gathering bids and material for nurses' suite renovation.

Business Manager, Crystal Fairman gave a brief update on the finances to date. Working on closing out the fiscal year.

New Business:

A **MOTION** was made by John E. Cotton and seconded by Dr. Provost for **Discussion and Possible Action/Vote** to approve a Superintendent's Award.

Mr. FitzGerald asked Dr. Linkenhoker to speak on this item. Dr. Linkenhoker gave a brief background on this annual award, and the purpose of his proposal of giving an award to all faculty and staff except himself.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Provost stated he loved this idea, and acknowledged the hard work all superintendents across the state have done particularly this year, felt the superintendent should be included. Mr. FitzGerald thanked Dr. Provost and stated his agreement.

Mayor Narkewicz added he would like to hear Dr. Linkenhokers' reaction to Dr. Provost's comment. Dr. Linkenhoker replied he is appreciative of the acknowledgement, ethically he would not want to be a recipient of his own award. Dr. Linkenhoker added he is publicly stating his job this year was easier than many of his colleagues thanks to the faculty and staff.

Thomas M. FitzGerald - yes

John E. Cotton - yes

Mayor Narkewicz - yes

John Provost - yes

APPROVED – 4-0

A **MOTION** was made by John E. Cotton and seconded by Dr. Provost to approve *to not participate* in school choice for the 2021-2022 school year

Thomas M. FitzGerald - yes

John E. Cotton - yes

Mayor Narkewicz - yes

John Provost - yes

APPROVED – 4-0

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Provost and seconded by Mayor Narkewicz to approve the 2021-2022 Student Handbook Updates

Thomas M. FitzGerald - yes

John E. Cotton - yes

Mayor Narkewicz - yes

John Provost - yes

APPROVED – 4-0

A **MOTION** was made by John E. Cotton and seconded by Mayor Narkewicz to approve a one-day outside of school year out of state field trip August 3-5 for the Agriculture Mechanic students to attend the Empire Farm Days in Seneca Falls, NY

Thomas M. FitzGerald - yes

John E. Cotton - yes

Mayor Narkewicz - yes

John Provost - yes

APPROVED – 4-0

A **MOTION** was made by John E. Cotton and seconded by Mayor Narkewicz to approve updates to the Agriculture Program/Farm Policy

Thomas M. FitzGerald - yes

John E. Cotton - yes

Mayor Narkewicz - yes

John Provost - yes

APPROVED – 4-0

A **MOTION** was made by Mayor Narkewicz and seconded by Dr. Provost to amend the vote of October 30, 2020, to declare as surplus the easement area shown on the sketch plan prepared by Tata and Howard entitled “Proposed Approximate PRV Project Easements Northampton, MA” for the purpose of assigning care, custody and control over such easement area to the Department of Public Works for construction of the PRV building.

Thomas M. FitzGerald - yes

John E. Cotton - yes

Mayor Narkewicz - yes

John Provost - yes

APPROVED – 4-0

A **MOTION** was made by John E. Cotton and seconded by Mayor Narkewicz to approve the following *surplus for resale*:

From Automotive 1 DSP9001 Hunter Wheel Balancer and 1 Hunter R-611 Alignment Machine

Thomas M. FitzGerald - yes

John E. Cotton - yes

Mayor Narkewicz - yes

John Provost - yes

APPROVED – 4-0

Future Business:

June 15, 2021 Regular Board of Trustees meeting 5:00pm – Virtual

A **MOTION** was made by John E. Cotton and seconded by Mayor Narkewicz to approve FY22 meeting schedule.

Thomas M. FitzGerald - yes

John E. Cotton - yes

Mayor Narkewicz - yes

John Provost - yes

Adjourn: Dr. Provost **MOTIONED** to adjourn 6:00pm

Thomas M. FitzGerald - yes

John E. Cotton - yes

Mayor Narkewicz - yes

John Provost - yes

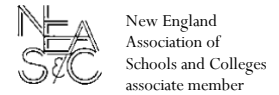
APPROVED 4-0

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Carver, Board Secretary



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

May 18, 2021

**Principal's Report
May 2021 Board Meeting**

Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School Board of Trustees:

Enrollment:

526 students

Admissions:

May 2021 = 300 applications, with 63 (21.0%) of them from Northampton.

April 2021 = 272 applications

March 2021 = 238 total applications in our system, with 48 (20.1%) of them from Northampton. Year over year increase of 13.3%

100 students enrolled to date already for next year. This is our highest number of registrations at this period in the process ever.

Athletics:

Spring Season is underway. We are offering Softball, Boys and Girls Lacrosse, Baseball, and Wrestling

Senior Events Upcoming:

1. **May 28, 2021 (rain date May 27, 2021): Senior Picnic BBQ – Smith Vocational Football Field**
2. **June 1, 2021: Graduation Rehearsal – Smith Vocational Football Field**
3. **June 2, 2021: Senior Awards Night - Smith Vocational Cafeteria 6:00 pm**
4. **June 3, 2021: Graduation - Smith Vocational Football Field (rain location will be the SVAHS Cafeteria)**
 - * Group #1 is at 4:30
 - * Group #2 is at 6:30
5. **June 7, 2021 - Senior Prom, Log Cabin**

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Bianca
Principal



Deborah Carver <dcarver@smithtec.org>

Fwd: [WARNING: EXTERNAL] High School Diploma for an elderly person

1 message

Deborah Carver <dcarver@smithtec.org>

Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 8:31 AM

To: Joe Bianca <jbianca@smithtec.org>, Andrew Linkenhoker <alinkenhoker@smithtec.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kirsten Pasterczyk** <K.Pasterczyk001@umb.edu>

Date: Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 8:27 AM

Subject: [WARNING: EXTERNAL] High School Diploma for an elderly person

To: info@smithtec.org <info@smithtec.org>

Hello,

My name is Kirsten Pasterczyk. I am a nurse practitioner student at UMass Boston, currently doing a practicum with Mercy Life PACE program in West Springfield, MA. Yesterday afternoon I saw a participant in the Northampton area. She mentioned to us that she has a goal since she was 16 years old-to graduate high school. She is now 86 years old. She went to Smith, but her father made her quit school to work on the family farm because "she didn't need an education to wash diapers." She tried to get her GED in her 50s, but she was unable because she had to go back to work to be the main provider for her family. She is adamant about continuing to try to get her diploma or GED. I was wondering if there was anyone I would be able to get in contact with about this to try to get her an honorary high school diploma from Smith Vocational. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Pasterczyk

K.Pasterczyk001@umb.edu

AGNP Track

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Deborah Carver

Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School

80 Locust Street

Northampton, MA 01060

413-587-1414 x 3406

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Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School

80 Locust Street
Northampton, MA 01060-2094
Telephone (413) 587-1414

Dr. Andrew H. Linkenhoker
Superintendent

www.smithtec.org



June 10, 2021

Dear Ms. Rita Laprade:

On behalf of the Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School Board of Trustees I am honored and humbled to present this Honorary High School Diploma to you. We missed seeing you and celebrating with you during our formal graduation ceremony, but you were in our thoughts and minds. Your determination and pursuit of your education is admirable and I hope many students can learn from you and your story.

The Trustees and I welcome you back to the SVAHS community and wish you and your family the best.

Congratulations!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Linkenhoker".

Andrew H. Linkenhoker, Ed.D
Superintendent

Founded in 1844 by Oliver Smith

Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, disability, homelessness, religion or sexual orientation.