

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

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday June 7, 2022
5:00 PM**

PRESENT: Michael T. Cahillane, Dr. Julie Spencer-Robinson, Richard Aquadro (5:03pm)
Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra, Dr. John Provost, NPS Superintendent

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

STUDENT REP: absent

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

Participation by the Public: Cyndie Ouimette Unit D Rep spoke briefly in regard to recent events around safety, which prompted a renewed review of our school's safety. Ms Ouimette thanked the Board for working together with the faculty. Mr. Cahillane thanked Ms Ouimette adding school safety is a priority.

Hilltown Community Health Center presentation – Eliza Lake, Chief Executive Officer gave an overview in regard to a collaboration with Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School. Spoke about the Gateway Regional School District program that began 23 years ago, it is an incredibly successful model. This past winter the state identified priority schools in the area, SVAHS was identified as a priority school, applied for the grant for SVAHS also for Gateway, have received in writing assurances for both sites. Ms Lake briefly listed services that would potentially be available with the School Based Health Center. Next steps are fundraising and constructing a building, approx. 3000sq ft. This Friday SVAH Administrators will visit Gateway to view their program and services. Ms Lake added they are looking at the beginning of 2024 for beginning to see clients.

Dr. Spencer-Robinson stated she is very excited about this opportunity and asked why was SVAHS marked as a priority school. Ms Lake replied the state had a long list (about 40 items) of criteria, high needs being one of the criteria, SVHAS high needs population are twice the number of the state.

Mr. Aquadro asked if this will be open year-round? Ms Lake replied that it could be, the current school-based health center in Gateway doesn't run during the summer.

Mr. Cahillane added he is looking forward to the student participation in the construction and thanked Ms Lake for presenting and looks forward to working together on this project.

Northampton Fire Department presentation – Chief Jon Davine

Dr. Linkenhoker spoke on behalf of Chief Davine who couldn't attend the presentation due to an emergency, regarding the recent fire. The response and decision by a student certainly saved the fire from spreading.

Mr. Bianca introduced Grace Kokosa and her parents Chris and Bonnie. Mr. Bianca reviewed the chain of events of the fire in horticulture and Grace's actions during the event.

Mr. Nevin agreed with Mr. Bianca's explanation of Grace's actions.

Participation by the Trustees: Dr. Spencer-Robinson last Thursday first SVAHS graduation as parent and Trustee, very happy with the whole event. Thanked all who work to make this an amazing event. Also reported that CES used funds to pay off two properties and that Brad Jackson, a retired superintendent from Shawsheen Voc. Tech. was appointed as treasurer.

Mr. Aquadro added as a new trustee he enjoyed the recent events he has participated in.

Mayor Sciarra added she enjoyed graduation very much and would like to take this opportunity to

recognize Dr. Provost on his last meeting as a Trustee after serving for the past eight years. Dr. Provost replied thank you, it has been a pleasure.

Approval of Minutes:

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Spencer-Robinson and seconded by Mayor Sciarra to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2022 meeting.

APPROVED 5-0

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

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

Brief discussion regarding the assessment to sending district tuition and past application through MSBA to the state for a new ag complex, it appears to still be in que.

Brief discussion regarding the ESSR Grants and how money was spent.

Dr. Linkenhoker highlighted the donations received to date to the horticulture building, \$9350 in checks and gift cards as well as numerous tools and supplies.

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

Business Report – Business Administrator Crystal Fairman briefly reported on the finances to date, working on collecting the last of the tuition billing, student activity accounts, and compiling a job description for a grant writer.

Facility Report - Facilities Director Tim Smith gave an update on current projects, a few projects are still delayed due to supply chain issues. Mr. Aquadro asked when the window project will take place? Mr. Smith replied it is scheduled for the winter.

New Business:

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Provost and seconded Mr. Aquadro to approve an out of state overnight trip to Indianapolis Indiana, October 24-29, 2022 for the National FFA Competition

APPROVED 5-0

A **MOTION** was made by Mayor Sciarra and seconded Dr. Spencer-Robinson to approve the use of two school buses for travel to the New England Ag Teacher's conference in Burlington Vermont June 26 – 29, 2022 and to transport attendees on scheduled tours in the Burlington area.

APPROVED 5-0

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Spencer-Robinson and seconded Mr. Aquadro to approve the payment of the Smithsonian invoice \$2,461 and Culinary invoice \$65.00 from the Trustees unrestricted account.

APPROVED 5-0

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Provost and seconded Mayor Sciarra to approve the purchase of a 14-passenger bus not to exceed \$75,000 from tuition revolving

APPROVED 5-0

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Spencer-Robinson and seconded Dr. Provost to approve the cost of repairs to the lower barn: \$15,757.11 from Elm St account, remaining cost to come from Cell Tower account not to exceed \$150,000.00

Discussion: Mr. Aquadro asked for more detail on this repair. Mr. Smith explained the repairs needed for this building.

APPROVED 5-0

A **MOTION** was made by Dr. Provost and seconded Mr. Aquadro to approve applying for the Skills Capital Grant
APPROVED 5-0

Future Business:

July 19, 2022 Board of Trustees Planning Retreat 12:30 – 4:00pm - Library
July 19, 2022 Regular Board of Trustees meeting 5:00pm – Library
August 16, 2022 *TENTATIVE* Regular Board of Trustees meeting 5:00pm – Library

Upcoming Events:

June 8, 2022 Retirement Celebration 3:00 – 7:00pm Beaver Brook Country Club, Haydenville

The Chair moves to enter **Executive Session**: Under Massachusetts General Law C. 30A, Sect. 21 (a)(3) to conduct collective bargaining sessions with Unit D and Unit H and to reconvene in open session for possible action.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Cahillane – yes
Dr. Spencer-Robinson – yes
Mr. Aquadro – yes
Dr. Provost - yes
Mayor Sciarra – yes

Adjourn:

At 6:50pm Dr. Provost **MOTIONED** to adjourn Mayor Sciarra seconded.
APPROVED 5-0

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Carver, Board Secretary

Superintendent Report

June 7, 2022

Submitted by
Andrew H. Linkenhoker, Ed.D

Highlights & Updates

- 5/19/22: FFA Chapter Banquet
- 5/20/22: Prom
- 5/22/22: Severe Storm ripped portion of D Building roof off
- 5/23/22: E Building suffered major fire damage
- 5/25/22: G.A.C Meeting
- 5/26/22: Senior Class Meeting (Graduation Location)
- 5/26/22: Senior Class Picnic
- 5/27/22: DESE Senior Associate Commissioner Cliff Chuang Conversation

Highlights & Updates

- 5/27/22: Staff Appreciation Lunch
- 5/30/22: NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)
- 5/31/22: Senior Banquet
- 6/1/22: Senior Awards Program
- 6/2/22: Graduation
- 6/6/22: MAAVA Officers Meeting with Commissioner Riley
- 6/6/22: Faculty Meeting & Superintendent Award Presentation
- 6/7/22: Property Subcommittee Meeting

COVID-19 Updates

- Weekly Positive Cases:
 - 5/18/22: Students = 11 & Staff = 1
 - 5/25/22: Students = 26 & Staff = 3
 - 6/1/22: Students = 16 & Staff = 5

D Building Roof

- 5/22/22: Severe storm blew portion of roof over Electrical shop off
- 5/23/22-5/25/22: D Building inaccessible for shops and classes
 - Temporary spaces made available
 - D Building reopened midday on 5/25/22
- 5/25/22: All necessary repairs completed

Horticulture Building Fire

- Financial Update:
 - Insurance Status:
 - Building is insured up to \$1.5 Million
 - Equipment is insured up to \$238,000
 - Still waiting for approval to demolish portions of E Building
 - Active Skills Capital Grant:
 - Using open Automotive contract
 - Replacement of zero-turn mower: \$15,000
 - Donations:
 - Share spreadsheet later in report

Horticulture Building Fire

- Financial Update (Continued):
 - New Skills Capital Grant:
 - Application deadline is 7/13/22
 - \$1.0-\$2.5 Million Award Amounts
 - Up to 30% of award can be applied to remodeling infrastructure
 - Spoke to EOE: May apply for Companion Animals to leverage available funds to assist with Horticulture.
 - May apply for some Horticulture equipment
 - Upcoming Skills Capital Grant:
 - Application available this summer
 - \$2.5-\$5.0 Million Award Amounts
 - Up to 70% of award can be applied to infrastructure
 - Priority is to increase capacity and enrollment

Horticulture Building Fire

- Financial Update (Continued):
 - Summary of Potential Revenue for Rebuild:
 - Building Insurance: \$1,500,000
 - Estimated Equipment Replacement Insurance: \$100,000
 - Estimated Skills Capital Grant for Infrastructure: \$450,000
 - Estimated Fall Skills Capital Grant for Infrastructure: \$2,100,000
 - TOTAL: \$4.15 Million
 - Potential Legislative Economic Bond Bill?
 - Fundraising?
 - Other?

Horticulture Building Fire

- Rebuild Options:
 - Option 1: Rebuild damaged back garage, office, & 1 classroom
 - 2,970.5 sq. ft of rebuild
 - EOE estimates construction costs: \$500-\$800/sq. Ft.
 - Rebuild: \$1.485-\$2.376 Million
 - Does not address other existing building concerns
 - Option 2: Rebuild entire E Building (maintain total square footage)
 - 6,457.5 sq. ft of rebuild (maintain current greenhouse)
 - Rebuild: \$3.228-\$5.166 Million
 - Addresses existing building concerns, but no future expansion vision

Horticulture Building Fire

- Rebuild Options:
 - Option 3: Rebuild entire E Building (increase total square footage)
 - Opportunity to create future vision
 - Expanding horticulture options?
 - Centralized Agriculture Cluster?
 - Repurpose existing Agriculture space?
 - Must identify potential funding sources
 - How do these funding sources impact other priorities?
 - SBHC?
 - D Building?

ESSR Spending Summary

- ESSR I - Received \$86,175 (all funds were expended in FY21)
 - Stipend \$10,080 - teacher/instruction staff prof days
 - Supplies \$37,618.84 - PPE, COVID-19 supplies
 - Tech Equip \$38,476.16 - chromebooks for remote learning
- ESSR II - Received \$338,669.00 (\$88,232.26 was expended in FY21, \$68,663.38 to date FY22)
 - Salaries/Professional \$21,633.75 - social worker
 - Stipend - \$6,689.50 - teacher/para tutoring
 - Contracted serv - \$13,525.00 - student recovery services
 - Maint supplies - \$13,789.75 - supplies to sanitize school, PPE
 - Gen class supplies - \$7,024.68
 - Instruct tech - \$74,941.95 - chromebooks, zoom license & hot spots
 - Rent/lease - \$12,871.51 - trailer & storage units

ESSR Spending Summary

- ESSR III - Received \$767,132.00 (Expended \$92,464.58 to date FY22)
 - Salaries/Professional - \$56,304.47 - COVID-19 nurse
 - Custodial - \$15,844.31 - COVID-19 custodian
 - Bldg maint/repair - \$16,230.80 - lunch tables, ventilation
 - Other \$4,085.00 - student transportation/homeless

Donations

- Horticulture Program Donations:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1aQSpEMSNh3LgvxRqB5rCbeviEsP13TdYFdSly3Y12pg/edit?usp=sharing>

In the Press...

Daily Hampshire Gazette - 05/31/2022

A LOOK BACK

By JIM BURCHMAN
For the Gazette

10 Years Ago

50 Years Ago

■ South's School Trouble Shuttered was the state's response to the school's financial mismanagement. The school's financial mismanagement was the state's response to the school's financial mismanagement.

■ A proposal to build an 80-unit apartment complex in the South End with every apartment unit set aside for the state's financial residents generated the Zoning Board of Appeals with a petition, signed by 88 persons, to "redefine a zoning ordinance" for the building site. The complex would include a 100,000-sq-ft building on Devonport Road near Leonard Street.

25 Years Ago

■ The Johnson's Wisconsin convention will be the largest convention in the state this summer, but not the largest event. The annual Teddy Bear Rally set for Aug. 9, is expected to attract 1,000 people to the state's largest convention in one day.

■ Dr. Stanley Orestis A. Kucharski, 61, is a neurosurgeon, one of the most successful in the state for over 30 years. She will open a new business, Sowers and Clark, on the site of the former Sowers place on Main Street. Kucharski is retiring the space that now houses Powers & La Cella.

■ The state's three largest towns of the Three County Region are generating more rental revenue than originally estimated, officials said. The towns are generating even more revenue than the long-planned development of one of the city's largest venues in a state economic investment. "We're encouraged by the situation we're seeing happening as a result of Phase 1," said John Burks, vice president of the Western Massachusetts Economic Development Council.

■ Northampton's second round of recycling will be set for Saturday at South's School on Leonard Street. Karen Braggion, waste management supervisor for the Department of Public Works, is hoping that instead of throwing equipment, building supplies or packaging materials away, people will bring them to the table.



EXPERIENCE THE FLORENCE HEARING

Audiologists Dr. Jennifer Sowards and Dr. Anna Niemi work together to support and guide patients through their hearing health journey. Florence Hearing Health Care was founded with the belief that relationships are more important than sales. We're here to help you find the best solutions for you and your communications partners so that you may lead your best life!

Looking Ahead

- 6/8/22: Final COVID-19 test distribution
- 6/8/22: Retirement Celebration
- 6/9/22: Gateway Regional SBHC Tour
- 6/9/22: Athletic Banquet
- 6/10/22: SBHC Fundraising Meeting
- 6/13/22: DESE CTE Update Call
- 6/14/22: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
- 6/20/22: Campus Closed: Juneteenth
- 6/21/22-6/24/22: National SkillsUSA Competition (Atlanta, GA)
- 6/29/22-6/23/22: Connecting for Success Conference
- 7/4/22: Campus Closed: Independence Day
- 7/12/22-7/14/22: MASS Conference
- 7/19/22: Board of Trustees Planning Retreat
- 7/19/22: Board of Trustees Meeting

July Focus

- Horticulture Program Update
- 2022-2023 Objectives

Contact Information

Andrew H. Linkenhoker, Ed.D

Super

Email: alinkenhoker@smithtec.org

Office: (413) 587-1414 x3406

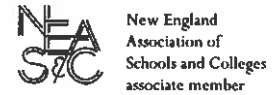
Fax: (413) 587-1405



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



June 7, 2022

**Principal's Report
June 2022 Board Meeting**

Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School Board of Trustees:

Student Representative to the Board:

Jayanna Daniels
Mandy Wright

Enrollment:

529 students

Admissions:

We have current enrollment of 140 students, 26 from Northampton (18.57%).
An additional 3 students have registered to come into 10th grade next year (1 Northampton).

MCAS

Testing in Science MCAS June 7 and 8, 2022.

Personnel:

Animal Science – Hired
Automotive – Hired
English – Hired
History – Hired
PE – Interview phase
Carpentry – Interview phase
Health Vocational Assistant – posted
Long Term Sub Biology – Hired

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Bianca
Principal