

OFFICIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES  
PROCEEDINGS AND VERBATIM DISCUSSIONS OF  
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SUFFOLK  
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ON THE 17TH DAY  
OF FEBRUARY 2022, VIA IN-PERSON & ZOOM  
VIDEOCONFERENCE

PRESENT:

EDWARD J. BONAHOUE, President

GORDON D. CANARY, Trustee  
GEMMA DELEON-LOPRESTI, Trustee  
ZACHARY FROST, Student Trustee  
KEVIN M. O'CONNOR, Trustee  
THERESA SANDERS, Trustee  
PRISCILLA ZARATE, Trustee

E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY, Chairperson  
JAMES MORGO, Trustee/Vice Chairperson  
SHIRLEY E. COVERDALE, Trustee/Second  
Vice Chairperson

(The following transcript was transcribed  
using a pre-recorded audio-video file.)

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 CHAIR MURRAY: I'm going to ask  
3 Gordon to lead us in the Pledge.

4 [AFTER RECITATION OF THE PLEDGE  
5 OF ALLEGIANCE, THE MEETING OF THE BOARD  
6 OF TRUSTEES OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY  
7 COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY  
8 THE CHAIRMAN, E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY.]

9 CHAIR MURRAY: Do we have any  
10 guests to acknowledge?

11 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Are there any  
12 guests who are not unusually with us?  
13 Can you identify yourselves?

14 Mr. Chairman, I don't think we  
15 have any guests today.

16 CHAIR MURRAY: Okay.

17 If someone is online, welcome.

18 So at this point in time I'm  
19 going to ask for a motion to adjourn the  
20 Board of Trustees meeting and call the  
21 Board of Directors meeting to order.  
22 Do I have a motion?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

24 CHAIR MURRAY: Second?

25 VICE CHAIR MORGO: Second.

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 CHAIR MURRAY: All those in  
3 favor?

4 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

5 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND  
6 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED. THE  
7 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
8 SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAS  
9 ADJOURNED AND REOPENED.]

10 CHAIR MURRAY: So we're now back  
11 into the Board of Trustees meeting.

12 At this point I would like to  
13 request a motion for the approval of the  
14 minutes of the December 16, 2021, Board  
15 of Trustees meeting. Would someone like  
16 to make that motion?

17 VICE CHAIR COVERDALE: So moved.

18 CHAIR MURRAY: Second?

19 TRUSTEE ZARATE: Second the  
20 motion.

21 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you.

22 All those in favor?

23 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

24 CHAIR MURRAY: Any opposed?

25 (No response.)

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 CHAIR MURRAY: Motion is carried.

3 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND  
4 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

5 CHAIR MURRAY: At this point I  
6 would like to introduce Vice President  
7 for Business and Financial Affairs,  
8 Dr. Mark Harris, to present the  
9 College's budget and college financial  
10 records.

11 VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: Thank  
12 you, Mr. Chair, members of the Board of  
13 Trustees, and all present today.

14 Just wanted to give an update on  
15 the Fiscal 21 year-end. Last meeting we  
16 had we indicated that our goal was to  
17 have the fiscal audit or the financial  
18 audit completed and presented hopefully  
19 during this month's meeting, but  
20 unfortunately we were not able to get it  
21 completed, primarily because there are  
22 some outstanding items that the external  
23 auditors are waiting to get  
24 verification, primarily from the County.

25 So the audit is about 95 percent

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           complete. We're still working with them  
3           to finalize those few items with the  
4           intention of having it completed and  
5           ready to be presented to the board at  
6           the next meeting.

7                   In terms of the Fiscal 22 updates  
8           on our operating budget, the financial  
9           statements that we included capture the  
10          month of January. And again, we made  
11          some assumptions based on revenue costs,  
12          based on what actually came in, and  
13          based on what some of the projections or  
14          the obligations are with respect to  
15          that.

16                   As you recall, when we presented  
17          the budget last year, we included the  
18          use of fund balance for almost \$5  
19          million, about \$4.95 million, and also  
20          included in the revenue projection was  
21          the use of about \$10 million, a little  
22          bit less than \$10 million from HEERF,  
23          specifically HEERF II funding.

24                   But based on where we're trending  
25          right now given where enrollment is and

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 based on what we were able to draw down,  
3 we're about \$2.6 million shy of that \$10  
4 million. So when we look at our revenue  
5 slash our fund balance projection, it  
6 seems as if we were supposed to close  
7 today, we were going to be using about  
8 7, \$7.6 million, give or take, of fund  
9 balance, but I caution that we are still  
10 in the very early stages of the budget.  
11 There are still a lot of moving pieces.

12 One of the factors that we need  
13 to reconcile is what our spring numbers  
14 will be in terms of FTE and then do a  
15 calculation based on the revenue loss  
16 model that we developed to see how much  
17 of that revenue we can recapture, and  
18 then also look at some additional  
19 auxiliary revenue from Workforce  
20 Development and the Continued Education  
21 Program, and then see from the HEERF  
22 funding how much of that we can really  
23 capture.

24 So as we progress through the  
25 fiscal year, we will keep the board

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           updated as to the financial position,  
3           mainly on the use of fund balance with  
4           the goal of hoping that it will be  
5           significantly lower than what we  
6           budgeted, if at all.

7                   With respect to the Fiscal 23, we  
8           are in the process. We have completed  
9           most of the budget reviews with the  
10          departments. I believe we have one or  
11          two left.

12                   So the next step in the phase is  
13          really to look at those items that have  
14          been submitted, specifically those that  
15          are tied to Student Success, with the  
16          caution, of course, that we are not able  
17          to fund every single project given where  
18          enrollment projections may be, but also  
19          where we may be fiscally. We're working  
20          with the OPIE department to look at  
21          those factors that may influence our FTE  
22          enrollment.

23                   In terms of one of the  
24          assumptions that we used -- and early  
25          March we're going to be meeting with the

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           Budget and Finance subcommittee to  
3           really lay out those assumptions. For  
4           the Fiscal 23 component of our revenue  
5           really includes the State, and based on  
6           what the governor has proposed if the  
7           legislature passes that, then it would  
8           mean that we would get flat funding from  
9           last year which would be good for us  
10          especially in light of any decreases.

11                 And then the other factor which  
12           is a significant portion of our  
13           revenues, really the funding from the  
14           County. And we're not sure where they  
15           would come in in terms of increase,  
16           whether or not it would flat or whether  
17           or not they will be generous and give us  
18           3 percent, 4 percent. That would be  
19           good.

20                 So we'll be meeting with the  
21           Budget and Finance Subcommittee around  
22           the first week of March and really lay  
23           out those assumptions and then get some  
24           guidance from the members on how to  
25           finalize the budget. And once we have



1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2 done that, tie that budget nicely and  
3 then present it to the board around  
4 April.

5 Cash flow we have done  
6 exceedingly well last year and this year  
7 primarily because of some of the cost  
8 mitigation steps that we have taken, but  
9 also we have benefitted tremendously  
10 from the cash itself from HEERF. So a  
11 combination of cost mitigation and then  
12 some additional influx from HEERF.

13 We're still able to meet those  
14 short-term obligations so we are working  
15 on keeping it that way so that we're  
16 able to make payroll, those category  
17 deductions, and those other committed  
18 costs that we have.

19 Before I get to resolutions I  
20 would just like to talk a little bit  
21 more about HEERF. So as you recall, we  
22 as a college received quite a bit of  
23 funding from US Department of Education.  
24 So from the last go-around which is,  
25 ARP, the American Rescue Plan, we have

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           about 13 million that we're eligible to  
3           drawdown on behalf of students. And  
4           then we have about \$10 million leftover  
5           to be drawn down provided that we have  
6           those eligible expenses and we have the  
7           lost revenue calculations to drawdown as  
8           well.

9           So Dr. Munsch and I have been  
10          working and doing a no-cost extension  
11          for one year specifically to give us a  
12          little bit more latitude on how we use  
13          the institutional funds with respect to  
14          say mental health support, but also in  
15          the event that we have to continue the  
16          COVID testing beyond spring of 2022. So  
17          we should have some additional  
18          information from US Department of  
19          Education once they have reviewed that  
20          no-cost extension for us. So we're  
21          hoping that takes place.

22          Before I move on to the three  
23          resolutions that I will present, I just  
24          wanted to find out whether or not there  
25          are any questions based on the

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 financials that have been presented.

3 CHAIR MURRAY: The fund balance  
4 at the end of last fiscal year, what was  
5 that?

6 VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: So fiscal  
7 2020 we had a little bit over \$20  
8 million. So we're waiting to get final  
9 calculation or approval from the  
10 auditors to see what Fiscal 21 will be.

11 CHAIR MURRAY: Okay. Do you have  
12 an estimate because I thought it was --  
13 would the fund balance be increasing?

14 VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: We  
15 anticipate that it will increase.  
16 Again, until we have finalized what the  
17 numbers are because there are some  
18 numbers that they need to verify. So we  
19 should know very shortly what that final  
20 number will be, but yes, the number will  
21 be higher than Fiscal 20.

22 CHAIR MURRAY: So even in the  
23 worst case scenario of having to tap in  
24 at 5 and then another 2.5, we're still  
25 going to have a relatively healthy fund

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 balance.

3 VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: Yes. So  
4 one of the things I would like to stress  
5 with that as well, so especially the  
6 past fiscal year the step that really  
7 helped us -- so the HEERF did one thing.  
8 It reimbursed us for lost revenue. So  
9 it made us whole from that respect.

10 But in terms of being able to add  
11 money to fund balance, it's really going  
12 through and looking at some of these  
13 positions. And I know we have had  
14 discussions with multiple areas about  
15 positions especially after attrition,  
16 retirement, whatever steps those were,  
17 and we went through the process of  
18 evaluating what positions were needed,  
19 were critical, but more importantly,  
20 what the college needed to do to ensure  
21 that every single employee who was  
22 employed at the time remained employed.

23 And that when, you know, college  
24 aids, full-time, part-time, all the  
25 employees that we had starting

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           pre-pandemic who decided to stay, we  
3           were able to keep but also make payroll  
4           every single two weeks. So the  
5           personnel line in terms of really  
6           assessing what we must have versus what  
7           we can delay, but what really helped us  
8           add some money to fund balance.

9           VICE CHAIR MORGO: So you would  
10          say the federal program worked?

11          VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: The  
12          federal program worked.

13          CHAIR MURRAY: Does anyone have  
14          any other questions for Mark?

15          (No response.)

16          CHAIR MURRAY: So there are some  
17          resolutions?

18          VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: Yes. The  
19          first resolution is the standard  
20          resolution dealing with employee health  
21          insurance. Just to note that for the  
22          month that we're presenting, for  
23          December costs, it's about 800,000 lower  
24          than what it normally would have been  
25          and 2 reasons, 2 factors that are

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 driving that.

3 One, the quarterly Medicare  
4 payment that we receive normally from  
5 the County is about \$365,000. And then  
6 there is an additional \$390,00 that we  
7 received from the County for the IRMAA,  
8 which I indicated they were about 2  
9 years behind.

10 So based on that the amount that  
11 we're presenting to the board for review  
12 and approval to be paid to the County  
13 for the month of December is  
14 \$2,760,235.68.

15 And in item number 2 are the  
16 budget transfers. The first -- the  
17 total of the transfer that we're asking  
18 for review and approval is for \$366,000.  
19 And really what we're doing is really  
20 funding telephone and equipment  
21 maintenance and purchases for the IT  
22 department.

23 And then there is one item for  
24 \$22,932 that is included in that which  
25 is really supporting our energy

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2 efficiency through the charging station  
3 for the electric vehicle.

4 And then the third item that I  
5 have, the third resolution, is the  
6 agreement between the college and the  
7 Guild Administrative Officers for the  
8 period of September 1, 2019, to  
9 August 31, 2023. The original term was  
10 September 1, 2019, to August 31, 2022.

11 So the 1-year extension just on  
12 base would be about \$315,000, but when  
13 we look at the contract over the 4-year  
14 period just on base, it's a little bit  
15 over \$1.2 million, \$1,229,567.

16 So those are the 3 resolutions  
17 I'm putting forth for review and  
18 consideration.

19 CHAIR MURRAY: Any other  
20 questions?

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you, Mark.

23 VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: Thank  
24 you.

25 CHAIR MURRAY: Prior to going to

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           the resolutions, I'm going to ask --  
3           since one of them revolves around the  
4           capital projects, capital program, I'm  
5           going to ask Jim to give his report for  
6           the Facilities Committee.

7           VICE CHAIR MORGO: I will give  
8           the whole thing but I'll emphasize the  
9           ones that we're going to vote on today.

10           The Facilities Committee met  
11           yesterday morning via Zoom. Trustee  
12           Canary, Trustee deLeon-Lopresti along  
13           with Lou Petrizzo, Paul Cooper, Jon  
14           Demaio, Ben Zwirn, and Gail Kenehan were  
15           all participating.

16           The meeting focused on capital  
17           projects and was divided into three  
18           distinct types of capital projects. The  
19           proposed, those are the ones we have to  
20           vote on today to include in our capital  
21           program, the advancing, and the  
22           existence.

23           I should tell you, all are  
24           detailed comprehensively in this  
25           booklet. So it's more interesting than



1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           you might think when you see some of the  
3           things that were done with the budget  
4           and what had to be done because of  
5           contingencies.

6           Jon began with a review of the  
7           two new proposed capital programs, the  
8           Caumsett Hall partial renovation and the  
9           South Cottage renovation. Both of these  
10          are on the Grant Campus. They are item  
11          6 among the resolutions today.

12          The Caumsett Hall project will  
13          reconfigure and relocate 21,600 square  
14          feet of existing space to centralize  
15          critical students services. And without  
16          getting into all the details, it will  
17          make the student entering experience  
18          streamlined and we will be more  
19          welcoming at Caumsett Hall.

20          Gemma asked during the discussion  
21          what about the two other campuses, and  
22          we were told that they already have  
23          these processes there.

24          The South Cottage renovation will  
25          transform the now vacant building into

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           the campus Health and Wellness Center  
3           and the emphasis here will be on mental  
4           health issues so that they could be done  
5           with confidentiality and privacy.

6           Obviously I think we all know,  
7           some of us from personal experience with  
8           children and grandchildren, that the  
9           pandemic has caused severe mental health  
10          problems with our kids. The South  
11          Cottage will be transformed so  
12          professionals can deal with our students  
13          in privacy and with confidentiality.  
14          Those are the two that are going to be  
15          voted on.

16          I asked Chris if I should keep  
17          going through the report, and he said I  
18          should. The advancing capital projects  
19          are the ones that are going to be before  
20          the legislature. They are more topical.  
21          They are going to be coming up before  
22          the legislature and these are the  
23          projects that were discussed at the  
24          Advocacy Committee but Priscilla will  
25          probably talk about the advocacy of

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 them.

3 There are three. One is the  
4 infrastructure project which is ongoing,  
5 appropriate infrastructure.

6 The second is the Automotive  
7 Technology Center here on the Grant  
8 Campus. The signed funds are included  
9 in 2022 and construction equipment funds  
10 in '23. State aid has already been  
11 approved, and you know State pays half,  
12 we pay the other half. I mean the  
13 County pays the other half, posts bond  
14 for the other half to be precise. No  
15 changes are being requested.

16 The Workforce Development and  
17 Technology Center expansion on the Grant  
18 Campus is the third one. Design funds  
19 have been appropriated, construction  
20 funds are currently scheduled for this  
21 year, State aid is included.

22 The State has come through again.  
23 And the governor's proposed budget, they  
24 are included in the budget. If the  
25 budget passes, they will be included,

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2 but the legislature has already approved  
3 the half. No changes are being  
4 requested.

5 Ben Zwirn, who was at our  
6 meeting, opined that he thought those  
7 three should not face much difficulty  
8 with the County legislature but one  
9 never knows, does one?

10 The Automotive Technology  
11 particularly, these are design funds and  
12 if the design funds are committed, then  
13 it would be difficult to draw back from  
14 that.

15 The third type of capital project  
16 that Jon spoke about were the ones that  
17 are existing that are going forward, but  
18 these are the ones we can see the real  
19 impact, tangible impact going on now.

20 The Renewable Energy and STEM  
21 Center on the Grant Campus started  
22 construction in '21. The site is  
23 cleared and secured behind fencing and  
24 sewer piping and the first floor  
25 interior framing are complete.

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2 The roof is weathertight,  
3 plumbing, electrical, and mechanical  
4 rough-ins, exterior framing, insulation,  
5 and windows are in progress, weather  
6 permitting. The entire building should  
7 be weathertight by next month.

8 The project continues to track  
9 within budget which may allow for  
10 additional solar energy generation  
11 further reducing operating costs. That  
12 is actually very good news. The current  
13 schedule estimates substantial  
14 completion in August 2022.

15 There was some debate whether it  
16 would open in the fall semester of '22,  
17 although with all the things going on,  
18 not the least of which is supply chain  
19 issues, we may be looking at the spring  
20 semester.

21 A construction -- a second one, a  
22 construction contract has been executed  
23 for the plant operation building on the  
24 Grant Campus. The contractor has  
25 mobilized, completed mock-ups, the site

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           has been cleared and is secured with  
3           fencing. Excavation work has begun.

4           Due to the ongoing supply chain  
5           issues, the pre-engineered building lead  
6           time is an estimated 11 months. Based  
7           on the critical path items, substantial  
8           completion of the facility is estimated  
9           in the summer of '23.

10           The next one, the warehouse  
11           building on the Eastern Campus was the  
12           most perplexing. As Jon said a number  
13           of times, this should be a simple  
14           building, steel. It is not complicated.  
15           It is not large. A design contract was  
16           awarded in November of 2018. Bids were  
17           opened in 2021. And here's the bad  
18           news. The lowest bid exceeded the  
19           budget by 126 percent. No a lot was  
20           made from the bid.

21           I have to say, and I think Gordon  
22           and Gemma would agree with me, Jon and  
23           his team have shown incredible  
24           creativity in their approach. It's only  
25           4,000 square feet with no finishes or

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2 plumbing. The College has -- is  
3 analyzing potential cost savings from  
4 completing the bulk of the requested  
5 on-site work through a combination of  
6 inhouse and using existing County  
7 contracts thus reducing the installation  
8 of the pre-engineered building.

9 You know, I should say something  
10 in regard to the one we're going to vote  
11 on today. Because of this experience,  
12 the contingency item of the budget, line  
13 item in each budget, and the inflation  
14 are higher than they normally are. 8  
15 percent for the contingency, which is  
16 usually a 5, and 5 percent for inflation  
17 which is like 2, and 3 so they are  
18 adjusting.

19 Finally, the renovation of  
20 Kreiling Hall on the Ammerman, the  
21 renovations are complete. The building  
22 was issued a C of O, certificate of  
23 occupancy, in October of last year.  
24 This has been a success story.

25 Some of us -- I think when Gordon

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           was chair of this committee -- toured  
3           it. It was in immutable condition. I  
4           haven't been there now, but I'm told it  
5           really is outstanding. So that one,  
6           Kreiling, is a success story.

7           A number of trustees commended  
8           Jon and Paul Cooper and all those  
9           involved for their thoughtful, agile,  
10          comprehensive approach during these  
11          times of uncertainty and change.

12          That that's my report,  
13          Mr. Chairman.

14          CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you so much.  
15          Does anyone have any questions  
16          for Jim?

17          TRUSTEE CANARY: Just a  
18          statement. Again, we want to thank Jon  
19          and his team. They do an outstanding  
20          job in very difficult circumstances to  
21          say the least.

22          PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: Please stand.

23          VICE CHAIR MORGO: I didn't know  
24          you were here.

25          TRUSTEE CANARY: What I wanted to



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2 also say and stress is that this is by  
3 no means unique to Suffolk Community  
4 College. This is happening everywhere  
5 in the Northeast, the entire north --  
6 probably the entire country where this  
7 phenomenon is happening with supply  
8 chain problems, with contractors now  
9 being so busy, not having enough  
10 workforce, not being able to put in  
11 enough time and effort to these  
12 projects, and it reflects in the bid  
13 prices. And these are intangibles. You  
14 can't gauge. It's like you just got to  
15 wait to open up those bids and go oh, my  
16 God. Look what is happening now.

17 So again, guys, thank you for  
18 that. We're going to continue to try to  
19 come up with unique approaches and try  
20 to pair these down. I mean I understand  
21 you even took the gold leaf overhead  
22 doors off at the storage unit. That was  
23 a tough one to lose.

24 But no, seriously again just the  
25 statement that this is something that is

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           happening everywhere and it's just  
3           something we have to wrestle with and  
4           deal with.

5           CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you, Gordon.

6           TRUSTEE DELEON-LOPRESTI: Chair  
7           Murray, I just have a clarifying  
8           question.

9           CHAIR MURRAY: Sure. Go ahead.

10          TRUSTEE DELEON-LOPRESTI: The  
11          one-stop center, that very important  
12          significant project that we plan for  
13          Caumsett Hall, it was my understanding  
14          that a similar project needs to be done  
15          at the Selden Campus; is that correct?  
16          I just wanted to clarify that.

17          VICE CHAIR MORGO: That is  
18          correct, Gemma, sorry.

19          TRUSTEE DELEON-LOPRESTI: Okay.  
20          Great. Thank you.

21          PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: You're  
22          exactly right, Trustee Lopresti. And  
23          Dr. Rios and I have been having some  
24          conversations about that. The idea of  
25          the one-stop center is that it will

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           bring all of the student support  
3           services together in a very visible way  
4           so that students can access all of those  
5           services easily.

6           Right now they are all housed in  
7           the Ammerman building. It's not as  
8           tricky as Caumsett Hall to go up and  
9           down stairs and find your way into the  
10          Byzantine hidden depths of the building,  
11          but we do need the same type of approach  
12          to services at Selden as well so thank  
13          you for that.

14          VICE CHAIR MORGO: That was  
15          mentioned yesterday morning, wasn't it?

16          PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: Yes, that's  
17          right. That's right. And we are, I  
18          believe, in the current budget we're  
19          thinking of this strictly at the  
20          planning level and we're going to be  
21          working with Paul and Jon on the  
22          conceptualization. We're not ready to  
23          recommend it as a capital project yet.

24          TRUSTEE CANARY: One more thing  
25          if I could?

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 CHAIR MURRAY: Sure.

3 TRUSTEE CANARY: Again, it's been  
4 a long time coming and we've we said  
5 this before, we'll say it again, the  
6 first experience our new students should  
7 have on their campuses should not be  
8 frustration and just shaking their head  
9 and like how do these people have this  
10 place set up? This is ridiculous to go  
11 to this floor, to that floor, back up to  
12 this floor.

13 It really should have a much  
14 better flow and it will have it when we  
15 get this all done, but again, just the  
16 point that we recognize how critically  
17 important it is to have our students  
18 have that first good experience on the  
19 campuses, and like I said, this has been  
20 a long time coming so the sooner we can  
21 get this done the better. So we really  
22 need to press our sponsors to support  
23 this and get it done.

24 VICE CHAIR MORGO: I had it for  
25 four years, but okay.

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 TRUSTEE CANARY: Here, here.

3 CHAIR MURRAY: Any other  
4 questions on either the facilities or  
5 capital or any of the other resolutions?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIR MURRAY: So if I can get  
8 motions requesting approval of the  
9 College's Resolution Number 2022.01  
10 through 2022.07?

11 VICE CHAIR MORGO: So moved.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

13 CHAIR MURRAY: All those in  
14 favor, please say aye.

15 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

16 CHAIR MURRAY: Any opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 CHAIR MURRAY: Motions are passed  
19 and the resolutions are approved.

20 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND  
21 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

22 CHAIR MURRAY: At this point we  
23 would like to go to committee reports.  
24 I know Budget and Finance we're  
25 scheduled March 3rd or something like

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 that. Is there anything to add at this  
3 point?

4 TRUSTEE O'CONNOR: No, I do not  
5 believe so, no.

6 CHAIR MURRAY: Student Success?

7 TRUSTEE FROST: How are you? I'm  
8 going to be presenting for Trustee  
9 Belinda.

10 CHAIR MURRAY: Okay.

11 TRUSTEE FROST: So the  
12 subcommittee meeting was held on  
13 Tuesday, February 15th. We reviewed the  
14 status of the discussions. Ms. -- let's  
15 see. Actually -- I'm sorry.

16 So essentially the County's  
17 Department of Social Services will  
18 establish a presence on the Grant Campus  
19 starting the beginning of March. Zoom  
20 access will also be available for  
21 students on the Eastern and Ammerman  
22 campuses.

23 The portal is going to be created  
24 to coordinate student referrals to the  
25 Department of Social Services. We will

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 need to develop an efficient intake  
3 process from start to finish so that is  
4 still in the works.

5 We would need a central point of  
6 oversight to ensure that we are  
7 delivering and administering in a case  
8 management style. A student portal will  
9 be available behind an access login to  
10 ensure privacy and to make sure that our  
11 own students are using these services.

12 Areas such as housing are  
13 challenging and we know, we discussed  
14 this last month during our board  
15 meeting. There are a few good answers  
16 to the problem but we're working on  
17 that. We are going to get some  
18 resources together.

19 Access to mental health and  
20 wellness resources services will be  
21 critical to this so we're going to be  
22 putting a resource list for that  
23 together as well.

24 Student Government will assist  
25 with reaching out to students so we're

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           going to utilize the three different  
3           student government associations and kind  
4           of use them to help us do some outreach  
5           with this to make sure the students know  
6           these services are available and they  
7           are utilizing them and even just to  
8           serve as guides.

9           We're also going to be drafting a  
10          request form and confirmation of  
11          submission that will enable us to direct  
12          students to resources within the college  
13          and the County. The college's website  
14          features a link to an extensive list of  
15          student resources so any new resources  
16          will be added to that by forwarding  
17          contact information and details of that  
18          to the Office of Institutional  
19          Advancement.

20          If a student has financial needs,  
21          Financial Aid and/or Registrar are  
22          automatically contacted so they will be  
23          cc'd and they will be made accessible to  
24          the student.

25          So for some next steps we'll be



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2 focusing on is creating or is utilizing  
3 the academic alert system to reach out  
4 to students to determine if there are  
5 any underlying issues. So if a student  
6 misses a few assignments or classes,  
7 faculty could address the academic  
8 issues and assess if there are other  
9 factors involved and then kind of relay  
10 that information from there. So if  
11 there is a lack of transportation or a  
12 pattern of couch surfing that is  
13 affecting the student, that academic  
14 alert system is going to be a good  
15 starting point for us.

16 A student may write about their  
17 personal experience. Students sometimes  
18 write about their personal experiences  
19 on assignments or they might talk about  
20 it in class. So that will also provide  
21 an opportunity for faculty to reach out  
22 at this time -- at that time.

23 We need to get students feeling  
24 comfortable about asking for help.  
25 That's going to be a cultural thing

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           amongst the campus. So if we can  
3           establish a culture of it's okay to ask  
4           for help and it's okay to talk to your  
5           professors that you are having trouble  
6           getting to class or you're having  
7           trouble eating. If we can foster that  
8           environment, I think we'll be in a  
9           really good position.

10           Also mental health services, it  
11           would be great if their staff can visit  
12           classes and clubs. I think this is  
13           already happening, but if we can make  
14           this more widespread and if they can  
15           visit the classes and clubs amongst the  
16           different campuses to talk about the  
17           different resources and explain the  
18           resources and support that is available  
19           to them.

20           Students studying at Stony Brook  
21           University and LIU Post, they need to  
22           get internship hours in so we are  
23           looking into having them support our  
24           college and the staff here so they can  
25           fulfill their hours while also assisting

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 our students.

3 And then developing support  
4 materials and helpful information for  
5 college faculty. I think we all know  
6 the faculty, they are our eyes and ears  
7 and they have the chance to see all the  
8 different students and meet with all the  
9 students. So if they know about our  
10 resources that we have available, I  
11 think they will relay that to the  
12 students in combination with the student  
13 government, talking to other students,  
14 and get them from all different angles.

15 And I think we have to remember  
16 too that a lot of students, they don't  
17 feel comfortable asking for help. They  
18 always think there is someone else who  
19 is in worse shape than they are so they  
20 say to themselves, I don't need  
21 anything, but we have the resources here  
22 and just making sure that they know that  
23 they can use it.

24 So that's Student Success.

25 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you so much.

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 Any questions?

3 TRUSTEE ZARATE: I have a brief  
4 question. Zach, thank you so much for  
5 sharing that and I think that all those  
6 structures that are being put in place  
7 to support our students are very  
8 important especially when it comes to  
9 social and emotional support and  
10 trauma-informed practices.

11 The platform that you mentioned  
12 that is going to capture student needs,  
13 is that going to be based on student  
14 input or both student and faculty input?  
15 And is it going to be able to provide  
16 data in terms of, you know, what are the  
17 support services that are being provided  
18 or given to students?

19 TRUSTEE FROST: Dr. Munsch, can I  
20 put this question on you? I'm not too  
21 sure how the data is coming in, but I  
22 think Dr. Munsch is very involved in  
23 this.

24 TRUSTEE ZARATE: Thank you. And  
25 I guess tied to that the question is,

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           are there going to be tiered  
3           intervention services that are going to  
4           be set in terms of meeting the needs of  
5           those students?

6                   INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNSCH:

7           So to your first question, the survey,  
8           intake survey the students will be doing  
9           has been developed in draft form. It's  
10          being reviewed by our student government  
11          associations now to identify if we have  
12          missed any critical points. The draft  
13          was made by our mental health team  
14          because they are the ones who have the  
15          most understanding in terms of what  
16          needs are coming in.

17                   Once that survey has been  
18          completed, the student will get an  
19          outreach call and the appropriate  
20          appointment will get made on behalf of  
21          the student, either with the Department  
22          of Social Services via Zoom or on campus  
23          with our mental health team or  
24          potentially the Financial Aid office.

25                   Once the process is underway, the

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           next step again is this bigger picture  
3           and this potential opportunity to use  
4           grant funding to grow this into what I  
5           think Trustee Zarate is talking, kind of  
6           a more robust system.

7           This is our first step in trying  
8           to identify this work and how we can use  
9           this in a way to support students more  
10          fully and completely while we get  
11          everything organized to do something in  
12          a holistic manner.

13          I'm not sure if I answered all of  
14          your questions, but that is kind of the  
15          outline of where we're going.

16          TRUSTEE ZARATE: Yes, thank you.  
17          And that is my goal in terms of asking  
18          that question because these students  
19          have gone through so much during the  
20          past two years that this is going to be  
21          a long process of support needed for  
22          these students. So it's great that  
23          you're definitely structuring this  
24          long-term support.

25          The other question that I had

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2 was, are we going to make this survey  
3 accessible in other languages for  
4 students that may still be acquiring the  
5 second language?

6 INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNSCH:  
7 We can certainly make the survey  
8 available in more than one language and  
9 we can work with our departments to have  
10 it accessible in more than one format.

11 We do have mental health  
12 counselors and the department of social  
13 services staff working in a bilingual  
14 way. So we will be able to service  
15 students with both English or Spanish  
16 speaking.

17 So we will have services  
18 available in both languages, but we can  
19 certainly make the survey available in  
20 both languages as well.

21 TRUSTEE ZARATE: Thank you very  
22 much.

23 INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNSCH:  
24 Sure.

25 CHAIR MURRAY: Gordon?

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 TRUSTEE CANARY: The statement I  
3 wanted to make was just that in my  
4 capacity as the chief of staff for a  
5 state senator, I'm seeing an uptick in  
6 our district office of people reaching  
7 out for help. And it's greatly  
8 concerning because federal stimulus  
9 money is not there anymore, unemployment  
10 extensions are not there anymore.  
11 Eviction moratorium has been lifted.

12 And we are now starting to see  
13 the results of all this and people are  
14 probably in worse shape now than they  
15 were before COVID hit. And we  
16 definitely have a great need for this  
17 type of service for our students.

18 Zach, thank you for that report.  
19 And it's very encouraging to see us  
20 really grappling with this, really  
21 taking this to task and providing this  
22 kind of assistance because it is going  
23 to be desperately needed, absolutely.

24 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you, Gordon.

25 PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: If I could,



1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 Mr. Chairman, we heard from Trustee  
3 Frost how the Department of Social  
4 Services will place a case worker at the  
5 Suffolk campus which is most welcomed.

6 I've also been in communication  
7 with Commissioner Rosalie Drago about  
8 also placing a job developer from the  
9 Department of Labor at the Suffolk  
10 Campus.

11 So our hope is that we will be  
12 able to not only work on this  
13 constellation of issues ranging from  
14 basic needs of food insecurity and  
15 housing insecurity and mental health,  
16 but also to employment in ways that can  
17 connect our students no matter what  
18 their background, no matter what their  
19 involvement with the college with those  
20 kinds of services.

21 CHAIR MURRAY: Great.

22 Any other questions?

23 (No response.)

24 VICE CHAIR MORGO: Did she agree  
25 to have a representative?

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: We have  
3 agreed in principle, Trustee Morgo. And  
4 so as you know, the devil is always in  
5 the details. And we're meeting with  
6 Carol Wickliffe-Campbell. She's been  
7 good enough to arrange a meeting for us  
8 for next week.

9 CHAIR MURRAY: Gordon, I know  
10 Governance did not meet.

11 TRUSTEE CANARY: No, sir.

12 CHAIR MURRAY: Personnel, I don't  
13 believe met. Is that correct, Gemma?

14 TRUSTEE DELEON-LOPRESTI: We  
15 haven't met but I do want to note that  
16 beginning in April and May the  
17 stakeholder feedback process will  
18 commence and so I would like to schedule  
19 a meeting with the Personnel Committee  
20 sometime in March.

21 CHAIR MURRAY: We're staying in  
22 the flow which is good.

23 Advocacy, I know Priscilla you  
24 met.

25 TRUSTEE ZARATE: Yes. Thank you,

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 Trustee. I'm sorry, Chair.

3 So the Advocacy Committee meeting  
4 was held on February 14th at 12:30 via  
5 Zoom teleconference. Present were  
6 myself, Trustee Morgo, Trustee  
7 Pagdanganan, Drew Biondo, Ben Zwirn, and  
8 Carmen Torres.

9 During this meeting I shared an  
10 overview of the State of State Budget  
11 Address meeting which I attended on  
12 January 28th. Herein Secretary of State  
13 Robert Rodriguez presented the  
14 governor's plans for the state budget  
15 which highlighted proposed funding and  
16 upgrades throughout Long Island.

17 Ben Zwirn, college legislative  
18 affairs, discussed the governor's budget  
19 which was an overall positive outlook  
20 for community colleges.

21 A key component outlined in the  
22 governor's budget which differs from  
23 previous years was a floor funding.  
24 With floor funding the college would be  
25 held harmless from enrollment

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 reductions. So SUNY will attempt to  
3 move to a pre-pandemic enrollment  
4 baseline instead of the current pandemic  
5 year outline which would allow the --  
6 which would allow for approximately  
7 38 million in additional aid across the  
8 entire SUNY system.

9 Childcare funding was another  
10 area included in the budget which had  
11 not been in the past. So ongoing  
12 capital projects within the college will  
13 receive funding. Three of those were  
14 already mentioned by Trustee Morgo which  
15 are the infrastructure, the Workforce  
16 Development, and expansion of the  
17 automotive center.

18 In terms of the advocacy,  
19 Mr. Zwirn suggested presentations before  
20 the Legislative Education Committee with  
21 some of the college's specialty programs  
22 such as cybersecurity, culinary, and  
23 automotive to inform legislators of the  
24 various program options at the college.

25 At the state level, requests to

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           Assemblyman Fred Thiele and Senator Jim  
3           Gaughran asking for their support of the  
4           governor's proposed budget have been  
5           made. The committee held a discussion  
6           and agreed that once all budgets were in  
7           and decided on the committee will have a  
8           better understanding of where the areas  
9           of focus should be.

10                   The committee will reconvene in  
11           the next month with a date and time to  
12           be determined. Thank you.

13                   CHAIR MURRAY: Any questions for  
14           Priscilla?

15                   (No response.)

16                   CHAIR MURRAY: Hearing none,  
17           we'll go to -- Facilities we've done so  
18           Foundation?

19                   EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DIAZ: Good  
20           afternoon everyone, Sylvia Diaz,  
21           Executive Director of the Foundation.  
22           I'm covering for Bell who is actually at  
23           her retirement party this evening.

24                   Thank you all. Very excited.  
25           Speaking of Bell, National Grid has

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           recently awarded \$60,000 to the  
3           Foundation to acquire and install a  
4           solar tree at the Veterans' Plaza at the  
5           Ammerman in Selden in response to a  
6           request made to the Foundation by  
7           students in the Environmental Club. Led  
8           by faculty advisors Melanie Morris and  
9           Carol Malley, our students delivered a  
10          great appeal to a panel of National Grid  
11          experts and they were spectacular,  
12          weren't they, Dr. Bonahue?

13                   PRESIDENT BONAHE: Absolutely.

14                   EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DIAZ: Dr.  
15          Bonahue was also on the call. I guess I  
16          would like to take these students with  
17          me everywhere I ask for support for  
18          projects at Suffolk, but they are just  
19          spectacular.

20                   And their enthusiasm was praised  
21          by National Grid's experts. And of  
22          course again, thanks to Trustee  
23          Pagdanganan for seeing the connection  
24          between our students' passion and this  
25          wonderful funding opportunity.

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 Once installed the National Grid  
3 solar tree will be the first of its kind  
4 on the SUNY campus and the first to be  
5 installed on Long Island. The solar  
6 tree will collect the sun's energy and  
7 return to the grid and provide unlimited  
8 charging access for electric devices  
9 like cell phones, laptops, tablets, and  
10 more. So that's very, very exiting.

11 The New York State Supreme Court  
12 has ruled and with the support of the  
13 New York State Attorney's Charities  
14 Bureau has now authorized the transfer  
15 of the charitable gift endowment held by  
16 the former Dowling College to the  
17 Suffolk Community College Foundation.  
18 The transfer of this generous restricted  
19 scholarship endowment was the subject of  
20 extensive litigation that was informed  
21 by myself, Vice President Mary Lou  
22 Araneo, Kristie David, in my office, as  
23 well as Christopher Williams.

24 We reviewed hundreds of documents  
25 including the former Dowling scholarship

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           agreements that then needed to be  
3           aligned with the current offerings at  
4           Suffolk and presented to the court.

5           Dowling College's legacy of  
6           excellence continues now at Suffolk and  
7           we will certainly -- this will certainly  
8           benefit our students for generations to  
9           come.

10           With sincere -- I sincerely  
11           appreciate the work of Trustee Kevin  
12           O'Connor who really played a critical  
13           role at the very beginning of this  
14           process and stayed with us throughout.  
15           So much appreciation to Kevin for doing  
16           a fantastic job and supporting us in  
17           this. Thank you.

18           TRUSTEE O'CONNOR: Thank you.

19           EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DIAZ: The  
20           Foundation is also happy to announce the  
21           establishment of a new scholarship in  
22           environmental science forestry program  
23           students on their pathway to success.  
24           And the Three Village Garden Club  
25           founded over 100 years ago, is providing



1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           an annual generous gift of \$5,000 to our  
3           students in that program. The members  
4           of Three Village Garden Club support the  
5           Arboretum in Setauket and provide  
6           meaningful scholarships to students also  
7           at Farmingdale and Melville High School.

8                     With spring around the corner,  
9           feels like it today, I would like you to  
10          warm up and join the college for a  
11          virtual wine tasting on Thursday,  
12          February 24th at 6:00 p.m. with Del Vino  
13          Vineyards, Northport. And the cost is  
14          only \$150 per person. This is a  
15          continuation of some of our virtual  
16          events which have been fairly  
17          successful. And I think it will be  
18          something that we continue to add to our  
19          portfolios as things evolve.

20                    You can participate in this event  
21          by registering online. I think the  
22          deadline is tomorrow at close of  
23          business but we look forward to having  
24          your participation. Of course our  
25          participants must be 21 years and older.

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2 The Retirees Association has  
3 recently established a legacy fellowship  
4 providing support annually to one or  
5 more creative members of our college  
6 community who proposes a project or  
7 activity not currently provided by the  
8 college that will enhance the  
9 educational experiences of our students.

10 The retiree membership will  
11 review those proposals and award a  
12 \$1,000 stipend on an annual basis to  
13 help the RSVP fellow advance to the  
14 student centered project.

15 RSVP is of course a collegial  
16 volunteer organization whose members  
17 share the common experience of active  
18 retirement from Suffolk County Community  
19 College, and the RSVP legacy fellowship  
20 is the first of its kind in the SUNY  
21 community college system and further  
22 connects our active retirees with the  
23 mission of the college.

24 Thank you very much.

25 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you.

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DIAZ: Any  
3 questions?

4 (No response.)

5 CHAIR MURRAY: That's great.  
6 Thank you.

7 Student Trustee, Zach?

8 TRUSTEE FROST: I'm just going to  
9 go over a few things. So February 7th  
10 to March 5th there is a -- Suffolk's  
11 Eastern Campus faculty and staff, they  
12 have an art exhibit going on. That's  
13 February 7th through March 5th. That is  
14 out in Riverhead.

15 Also on March 5th at 2:00 p.m.  
16 there is going to be a canine cabaret at  
17 the Van Nostrand Theater right here at  
18 the Grant Campus called Mutts Gone Nuts  
19 which is a canine cabaret. General  
20 admission is \$15, discounted for  
21 veterans and students under the age of  
22 16 and free admission for Suffolk  
23 students.

24 Also, our cybersecurity program  
25 here at Suffolk County Community College

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           was recently awarded NSA designation.

3           And finally, at the end of the  
4           month on February 28th I am going to be  
5           participating in a meeting with all of  
6           the trustees from every community  
7           college here in New York. So if anyone  
8           has any questions or anything that they  
9           would like me to relay, then let me  
10          know, you can email me, but I look  
11          forward to reporting on that next month.

12          CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you. Any  
13          questions?

14          TRUSTEE CANARY: Yeah, Zach, just  
15          clarification. You're meeting with  
16          student trustee representatives from all  
17          the colleges?

18          TRUSTEE FROST: Correct, yes.  
19          I should have said that, student  
20          trustees, yep.

21          TRUSTEE CANARY: Got it. That's  
22          what I thought. Okay. Thanks.

23          CHAIR MURRAY: Anybody else?

24          (No response.)

25          CHAIR MURRAY: If not, I'm going

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           to the chair's report which is going to  
3           be very quick because I don't really  
4           have anything to report, but I do want  
5           to just thank all the trustees for, as  
6           you see everyone is working and  
7           contributing and it's great. It makes  
8           things a lot easier. So that's my  
9           report, the chair's report. So next  
10          will be the president's report.

11                 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Thank you,  
12          Mr. Chairman and trustees. Thank you as  
13          always for your contribution of time and  
14          service. It's truly impressive all the  
15          time that you're putting in for the  
16          benefit of our students so thank you  
17          very much.

18                 Let me take this opportunity to  
19          thank Dr. Ciampa for hosting the meeting  
20          today here at the Grant Campus. Let me  
21          also recognize our association and  
22          governance leaders. Professor Tat Sang  
23          So from the Grant Campus Assembly is  
24          here. We do not -- I don't see  
25          Professor Lizzy McCormick or Professor

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 Nina Acquavita but we thank them for  
3 their service.

4 Dante Morelli and Courtney Brewer  
5 are here from the Faculty Association.  
6 Thank you for being here. Also  
7 Professor Sean Tvelia from the  
8 Administrator's Guild, thank you, Sean,  
9 whose contract we've just extended.  
10 Congratulations. Good job.

11 (Round of applause)

12 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: And I also  
13 see Josephine Makowski from AME. And  
14 have I missed anyone? No. Thank you.

15 All of us, we got a little card  
16 for Trustee Pagdanganan, and Sylvia Diaz  
17 is going to run literally from here to  
18 her retirement party at National Grid.  
19 So if anyone would like to sign the  
20 card -- is it going around? That's  
21 great.

22 Thanks to -- I just want to thank  
23 our association and governance leaders  
24 again as we move into strategic planning  
25 and the next semester of strategic

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           planning and discussion of enrollment  
3           and instructional practice. Their  
4           contributions are always invaluable.

5           Trustees, as I let you know on  
6           Friday, our enrollment as we began the  
7           spring semester was down between 10 and  
8           11 percent, but with a late start term  
9           beginning on March 3rd, you may remember  
10          in the fall we regained 2 percent of our  
11          enrollment in the late start term.

12          And just before this meeting  
13          actually, Professor Tvelia from the  
14          science department informed me that all  
15          the courses he had loaded up for late  
16          start, they were snapped up. So, Sean,  
17          maybe more courses and keep up the good  
18          work because the late start courses do  
19          serve quite a lot of students and it's a  
20          good way of allowing students not to  
21          have to wait until the beginning of  
22          summer, but they can get started right  
23          now in March.

24          As I mentioned a couple of weeks  
25          ago, no SUNY community colleges are

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           seeing any increase in enrollment right  
3           now, but we do have some positive signs  
4           with COVID subsiding and you may have  
5           noticed that the positivity rate now is  
6           about 2 percent as opposed to 20 percent  
7           where we were in December.

8           And with very little serious  
9           illness we are getting back into high  
10          schools to do face-to-face outreach on  
11          college nights and those kind of  
12          activities, and our applications are  
13          already up over 600 more right now this  
14          year than they were last year.

15          And also when we ran the data on  
16          students who came to Suffolk for the  
17          first time this spring, we had almost a  
18          40 percent increase over last year. So  
19          we added more new students this January,  
20          significantly more, than we added last  
21          year at this time.

22          So obviously our mutual hope and  
23          what we're going to work towards is that  
24          continued outreach, not only for  
25          traditional students but for our adult



1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           learners and -- our adult learners as  
3           well.

4                    You also know, I believe, that  
5           Suffolk County dropped its masking  
6           requirement for County employees no  
7           matter what their work location and SUNY  
8           seems likely to be relaxing its own  
9           expectation for system-wide measures.  
10          We expect that SUNY going forward is  
11          going to issue recommendations for  
12          vaccinations and boosters and masking,  
13          but the important question for us is  
14          going to be what force those  
15          recommendations have.

16                   Are we going to be required to  
17          comply with SUNY recommendations on  
18          public health, or is SUNY really and  
19          truly saying to colleges and  
20          universities find the public health  
21          policies that work for your region and  
22          for your students? You balance access  
23          to opportunity with public health.

24                   And as you know, in Suffolk  
25          County this is an issue for some of our

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           students and we're going to obviously as  
3           we go forward, we are going to do  
4           everything we can to balance safety for  
5           our whole community and public health  
6           with access for our students.

7           As you heard in the financial  
8           reports, we're still waiting on a formal  
9           call letter from the County which will  
10          help us shape our own expectations.

11          The governor's report, as you  
12          heard from Trustee Zarate and  
13          Dr. Harris, is very favorable to  
14          community colleges. And I've given you,  
15          trustees who are here in person, one of  
16          the handouts that you will see at your  
17          place is a handout for advocacy prepared  
18          by NYSIC and NYCAP.

19          That's it Trustee Sanders.

20          It has the talking points and why  
21          the governor's budget is very favorable  
22          to community colleges. Trustees, we'll  
23          send that out to the whole board. I'll  
24          send out that one-pager. It does keep a  
25          funding floor in place for the community

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 college system and what's in the  
3 governor's budget is a pre-pandemic  
4 funding floor which is most welcomed and  
5 there are also, as you heard, there are  
6 measures that will allow for  
7 reintroduction of some workforce  
8 education back into the funding formula  
9 as well as support for basic needs  
10 including childcare as Trustee Zarate  
11 reported.

12 Ben Zwirn told me this morning  
13 that mark up on the governor's budget  
14 begins in Albany next week and so we'll  
15 know more about how much support there  
16 is for that budget, but as we go forward  
17 as all of you are community leaders and  
18 you are in contact with state-wide  
19 elected officials, please know that the  
20 governor's budget is very favorable to  
21 community colleges and you'll appreciate  
22 their support.

23 I sent out the next draft of our  
24 strategic plan two weeks ago and I don't  
25 know if you've had a chance to take a

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           look at that, but I just want to mention  
3           -- again, there is a handout here and  
4           we're going to display it online.

5                     Steve, can you switch it over for  
6           me?

7                     This semester we're focusing on  
8           the strategic values that are  
9           opportunities for really priority action  
10          for the college to look at. The mission  
11          statement and vision statement we  
12          haven't look at yet. That will probably  
13          be the last thing that we do.

14                    You will remember that last  
15          semester we had quite a great discussion  
16          about our values. We've tweaked them  
17          slightly in response to feedback that we  
18          received from around the college. Our  
19          aspirational goals also seem to be in  
20          good shape.

21                    So the emphasis this semester  
22          will be on strategic objectives and  
23          these are the priorities for broad  
24          institutional action, broad initiatives  
25          that no one office can accomplish but

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           that are going to involve multiple  
3           campuses, multiple divisions working  
4           together to operationalize these kinds  
5           of broadly scaled outcomes.

6           We've drafted, based on input  
7           that came in from last semester's town  
8           hall meetings and based on survey  
9           responses that came in over the winter,  
10          bullets that suggest more specific, more  
11          measurable activities, strategic  
12          objectives that are aligned with each  
13          aspirational goal.

14          So within open access, again,  
15          we're talking about what we need to do  
16          is have a more operational and  
17          consistent plan for outreach and  
18          recruitment in secondary schools, a more  
19          comprehensive strategy for recruiting  
20          and enrolling adult students and so  
21          forth.

22          In student learning, again, there  
23          are several areas of emphasis. The  
24          first one under student learning is to  
25          incorporate more data on student

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           outcomes into decision-making about  
3           instruction and about curriculum and  
4           about pathways.

5                   And quite of few of these bullets  
6           as well as the bullets in student  
7           engagement and success are focused on  
8           retention, on keeping the students that  
9           we have, having a better understanding  
10          of the pathways that they are taking as  
11          they move through the college because we  
12          all know when we serve the students who  
13          are already here, it creates that  
14          virtuous cycle that we all want. Those  
15          students become our ambassadors. They  
16          help the spread the good news of what  
17          their experience has been. And that's  
18          the way we will build from strength to  
19          strength.

20                   We will continue to work on  
21          equity, social justice. And Christina  
22          Vargas and I have already looked at some  
23          possible templates for baseline measures  
24          and an annual equity report.

25                   And I continue to work with all

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           of the vice presidents and the campus  
3           deans on community-facing work and on  
4           really kind of a focus on, as Dr. Harris  
5           said, making investments in resource  
6           allocation that are aligned with student  
7           success.

8                    So for every dollar that we  
9           spent, can we anticipate why is this a  
10          good investment? How is this helping us  
11          move the needle on access, on equity, on  
12          student completions, on retention?

13                   And so we're going to try to take  
14          a very intentional approach to resource  
15          allocation to consistent staffing within  
16          the college and really to trying to take  
17          a very transparent view of how we make  
18          those decisions based on data.

19                   I invite you to review the  
20          objectives. Please, they are very much  
21          a draft. And we're going to this  
22          semester, just like last semester, we  
23          have scheduled a town hall meeting at  
24          each campus where I will go through  
25          those objectives, what I think they

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 mean, how they are based on the feedback  
3 that we collected from the community and  
4 what we hope that they will accomplish.

5 This is a little bit harder  
6 conversation than the aspirations and  
7 the values that we talked about last  
8 semester because now we are talking  
9 about the actions that we're going to  
10 take together, and it may not be the way  
11 we've worked together in the past, but  
12 there is a merging consensus that these  
13 are the themes that keep coming up and  
14 so these are the areas that we have to  
15 continue to find ways to work together.

16 Thank you, Steve.

17 I just want to say a word about  
18 Offshore Wind training because I know  
19 Trustee Sanders was able to go to the  
20 governor's event last week or was it  
21 this week?

22 TRUSTEE SANDERS: I don't even  
23 know.

24 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: It's all a  
25 blur. It was last Friday I think. It's



1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 all a blur.

3 At the same time that the  
4 governor was having a public event in  
5 the Hamptons, NYSERDA was at the same  
6 time holding, co-hosting a meeting with  
7 SUNY on workforce training opportunities  
8 related to Offshore Wind.

9 As you know, Suffolk was early  
10 into the mix. As Orstead came to  
11 Suffolk County we established the  
12 partnership with the fed and with the  
13 Building Trades Council and we are  
14 obviously an important partner in the  
15 nonprofit that we're establishing for  
16 training.

17 At the same time, SUNY is now  
18 ramping up an additional pot of money  
19 for workforce training initiatives to be  
20 carried out through the colleges and  
21 universities and they are interested in  
22 hearing more from the community colleges  
23 and from the universities about how we  
24 see ourselves participating in this  
25 ecosystem for Offshore Wind.

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 So as Lou and I continue to work  
3 with our partners and the contract that  
4 we're putting into place with Orstead,  
5 obviously Orstead doesn't want to see  
6 the college competing with the  
7 nonprofit. At the same time, I think  
8 our goal needs to be to try to conserve  
9 as much flexibility as possible so that  
10 we're not accused of always competing  
11 with ourselves.

12 There are a variety of training  
13 opportunities that could be parallel to  
14 Offshore Wind and we need not put  
15 ourselves in a box, paint ourselves into  
16 a corner, choose your metaphor, when it  
17 comes to limiting ourselves with other  
18 training opportunities that might be  
19 available.

20 A few quick hits, trustees. You  
21 heard from Dr. Diaz about our solar tree  
22 and I especially just have to call out  
23 Trustee Pagdanganan, Trustee O'Connor.  
24 Thank you for connecting the dots and  
25 showing us that this was an opportunity

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 available to the college.

3 February, of course, is Black  
4 History Month. At your place you'll  
5 find -- you may have seen on the Suffolk  
6 website, because we have it as one of  
7 the features of the main part of the  
8 website, but you will see that we have a  
9 variety of programs all month at all  
10 three campuses ranging from health and  
11 wellness to advocacy and empowerment, to  
12 recovering and making visible some  
13 important chapters from American history  
14 that have been covered over and need to  
15 be celebrated at this time.

16 I want to share with you that  
17 Trustee Sanders has invited me to be a  
18 part of this year's Equal Opportunity  
19 Day and Equity Summit, and I'm pleased  
20 to join you with the Urban League and  
21 the State of Black Long Island and look  
22 forward to presenting on the  
23 opportunities that we at Suffolk offer.

24 I want to share with the board  
25 that I also had the privilege of meeting

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           with Chief Harry Wallace of the  
3           Unkechaug Nation. I enjoyed learning  
4           from him about the Unkechaug Nation  
5           which is down in the Moriches area. We  
6           agreed that we would continue to talk  
7           and collaborate about the ways the  
8           college can be involved with this  
9           sovereign indigenous nation that remains  
10          on Long Island.

11                 I would be remiss if I didn't  
12          remind you once more that there is an  
13          important event coming up on April 8th  
14          where several of us have speaking roles  
15          and I hope you will keep on your  
16          calendar that's April 8th is the  
17          presidential inauguration.

18                 It's an important event in the  
19          life of the college and an important  
20          opportunity to celebrate all the good  
21          work that this college does for the  
22          community. And so if you don't already  
23          have it as a red letter day on your  
24          calendars, please add it.

25                 Mr. Chairman, that's my report.

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 CHAIR MURRAY: Great. Any  
3 questions?

4 VICE CHAIR MORGO: I have three  
5 follow-ups. I didn't know that the  
6 governor included the freeze pandemic  
7 floor in her budget. Priscilla  
8 mentioned we talked about it but that is  
9 really excellent.

10 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: It is  
11 correct. That is correct.

12 VICE CHAIR MORGO: It's a new  
13 day.

14 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Correct.

15 VICE CHAIR MORGO: In an  
16 alternative universe. The budget is  
17 good for us. That's very good.

18 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: We would have  
19 been happy with 98 percent. My  
20 understanding is that what's in there is  
21 100 percent.

22 VICE CHAIR MORGO: That's  
23 incredible. That's good news.

24 And you might have -- I got the  
25 impression that you were saying more

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2 than you were saying when you were  
3 talking about the Offshore Wind. I may  
4 be mistaken.

5 Is there any indication that  
6 there would be limitations of our going  
7 to workforce training beyond the ark  
8 that, you know, is there an agreement  
9 not to compete or anything like that?  
10 You're looking at Lou.

11 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Within the --  
12 we offer a variety of programs, right,  
13 related to electronics, emergency  
14 medical technician. There are probably  
15 others that I don't remember.

16 Do you remember any of the  
17 others?

18 MR. PETRIZZO: Physical  
19 education, water safety, fire safety,  
20 those programs. The issue of noncompete  
21 is not with Orstead because Orstead --

22 VICE CHAIR MORGO: It's with the  
23 not for profit.

24 MR. PETRIZZO: It's with the --  
25 it's with Maersk, who is the trainer,

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 and the trainer has some questions about  
3 what we would do with those programs.

4 And we're working through some language  
5 to try to make clear to them that we had  
6 those programs before you got here,  
7 we're going to have those programs after  
8 you're long gone, and we're not really  
9 going to be in the business of training  
10 global wind organizational people  
11 because that is what you do and that's a  
12 certification that we don't have. So  
13 we're trying to clear that up.

14 VICE CHAIR MORGO: They are all  
15 pre-existing programs and there is no  
16 reason they should be inhibited.

17 PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: Exactly.  
18 We're not going to stop offering fire  
19 safety and electronics because the  
20 nonprofit is going to take it on.

21 VICE CHAIR MORGO: And we'll also  
22 be a cooperating member of the not for  
23 profit as we agreed in the contract.

24 PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: Exactly.  
25 That is the subject, yes.

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 VICE CHAIR MORGO: Thank you. I  
3 can't stand subtlety.

4 The third thing just when you  
5 were talking about enrollment, was there  
6 anything from the Stony Brook council  
7 meeting that --

8 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: There was.  
9 They are out of their lane in terms of  
10 transfer enrollment. So they are --  
11 their transfer enrollments, they are  
12 down 200 this year. And you were right,  
13 I did find it. I had to watch it quite  
14 a ways in, but I am reaching out to  
15 Dr. McInnis, the president at Stony  
16 Brook, and I would love for us to have a  
17 very visible kind of 2-plus-2  
18 partnership where we can do a mutual  
19 recruitment for Stony Brook, not one  
20 that is co-branded.

21 I can easily picture -- what is  
22 it? The Suffolk Seawolves, Seawolves at  
23 Suffolk, the Shark Seawolves, but I  
24 could -- I would like to see us do a  
25 more visible co-branding, not that we



1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           don't appreciate the relationship that  
3           we have with every university partner,  
4           but Stony Brook is often a specific  
5           interest for our students and because  
6           they are -- their transfer admissions  
7           are down, I hope they should be  
8           interested in that opportunity.

9           VICE CHAIR MORGO: They should  
10          be.

11          PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: They should  
12          be.

13          VICE CHAIR MORGO: It will be to  
14          their benefit as well.

15          PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: They should  
16          be.

17          VICE CHAIR MORGO: Just  
18          clarification, trustees, I had heard  
19          that the counsel that I was once a part  
20          of, there was talk about their  
21          relationship with Suffolk County  
22          Community College on their board meeting  
23          on Monday morning. I didn't see it. I  
24          suggested to Ed that he get somebody to  
25          take a look and I didn't know if my

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2 information was correct.

3 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: It was  
4 correct. Thank you, sir.

5 TRUSTEE SANDERS: I have a  
6 question. One of the things that came  
7 up when we were all discussing the  
8 Offshore Wind was the business ecosystem  
9 around the actual wind training. You  
10 know, the food and beverage industry and  
11 the hotel industry, the housing  
12 industry. I mean I think we need to  
13 think about some of the things with  
14 training, culinary, et cetera because  
15 it's going to be a big need in all these  
16 other sectors. When we start talking  
17 about what is getting ready to come to  
18 Long Island, it's going to be a big  
19 deal.

20 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Especially on  
21 the construction side. LIA continues to  
22 provide a lot of leadership on the  
23 supply chain side of this, right, on the  
24 manufacture, construction, maintenance,  
25 all of the supply chain elements,

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           because that really diversifies the  
3           different kinds of businesses that are  
4           going to be part of the ecosystem. I  
5           think those are important opportunities  
6           and the college needs to continue to  
7           look out for those as well. You're  
8           exactly right.

9           CHAIR MURRAY: Anything else?

10          PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: I also left  
11          in your places, trustees, a folder of  
12          materials from the Manufacturing  
13          Training Center. Under the leadership  
14          of John Lombardo and Laura Galletta we  
15          continue to do a lot of outreach to  
16          companies.

17                 We had been a little bit  
18          restricted by the idea that everyone who  
19          works for a company who wants to come on  
20          campus to take a noncredit course has to  
21          be vaccinated, has to be boosted. That  
22          is one of the things we need to clarify  
23          with SUNY.

24                 But I wanted you to be aware that  
25          we have these training opportunities

1           Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022  
2           going on as you work in the community.  
3           Please take a look at these because  
4           these are important opportunities for  
5           businesses in our area and they are also  
6           important pathways for us to recruit  
7           students who may already be working.

8           CHAIR MURRAY: Any other  
9           questions or going to roundtable?  
10          Anything for the roundtable?

11          TRUSTEE SANDERS: Yes. I know  
12          that one of you mentioned it, the Urban  
13          League is entering its 47th Equal  
14          Opportunity Day and Equity Summit. It's  
15          going to be a full day of workshops and  
16          seminars and at the end of the day we're  
17          going to be honoring Northwell Health.

18          You know, health in these last  
19          two years has been a real system to  
20          focus in on and we want to just  
21          recognize them, but I also want to  
22          publicly thank Dr. Bonahue for serving  
23          on the panel for education equity.

24          It's going to be very interesting  
25          when we talk about what does that look

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 like and what does it mean. And I think  
3 Suffolk in terms of pipelining -- I'm a  
4 little biased, but Suffolk in terms of  
5 pipelining students for the most part  
6 through an academic experience that they  
7 probably would not have gotten if they  
8 didn't start here.

9 So I'm looking forward to it.

10 Thank you. It's free to the public so  
11 you can all attend. Please, join us.

12 TRUSTEE DELEON-LOPRESTI: What is  
13 the date, Trustee?

14 TRUSTEE SANDERS: It is  
15 February 24th. I can forward something  
16 to Carol and Dr. Bonahue and maybe they  
17 can send it out to trustees. Thank you.

18 PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: That would be  
19 great. Thank you.

20 CHAIR MURRAY: Anything else?

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIR MURRAY: If not, I would  
23 ask for a motion to adjourn.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Motion.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

1 Board of Trustees, 02/17/2022

2 CHAIR MURRAY: All those in  
3 favor?

4 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

5 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you. There  
6 is no executive session. The next  
7 meeting is St. Patrick's Day at 4:00.

8 [WHEREUPON THE MEETING OF THE  
9 BOARD OF TRUSTEES WAS CLOSED BY THE  
10 CHAIRMAN, E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY.]

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*gabriel carlot*



OFFICIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
PROCEEDINGS AND VERBATIM DISCUSSIONS OF  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUFFOLK  
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ON THE 17TH DAY  
OF FEBRUARY 2022 VIA IN-PERSON & ZOOM  
VIDEOCONFERENCE

PRESENT:

EDWARD J. BONAHOUE, President  
GORDON D. CANARY, Member  
GEMMA DELEON-LOPRESTI, Member  
ZACHARY FROST, Student Member  
KEVIN M. O'CONNOR, Member  
THERESA SANDERS, Member  
PRISCILLA ZARATE, Member

E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY, Chairperson  
JAMES MORGO, Member/Vice Chairperson  
SHIRLEY E. COVERDALE, Member/Second  
Vice Chairperson

(The following transcript was transcribed  
using a pre-recorded audio-video file.)

1 Board of Directors, 02/17/2022

2 CHAIR MURRAY: So we're going to  
3 be in the Board of Directors meeting at  
4 this point, and I'm going to request a  
5 motion for the approval of the minutes  
6 of the December 16, 2021, Board of  
7 Directors meeting.

8 MEMBER CANARY: Motion to  
9 approve.

10 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you, Gordon.  
11 Second?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

13 CHAIR MURRAY: All those in  
14 favor?

15 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

16 CHAIR MURRAY: Any opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND  
19 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

20 CHAIR MURRAY: I lost my spot.  
21 Okay, I'm going to introduce Interim  
22 Assistant Vice President of Student  
23 Affairs, Dr. Patricia Munsch, to present  
24 the Association's financial reports.

25 INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNSCH:



1 Board of Directors, 02/17/2022

2 Good afternoon and thank you. Overall  
3 the Student Association is doing very  
4 well. Student programming continues to  
5 increase as students become more engaged  
6 back on campus.

7 The budget that you see  
8 represents the first installment of the  
9 Spring 22 student fees. The College  
10 Association Advisory Council has met  
11 this week to discuss the budget. It is  
12 important to note that the budget  
13 adjustments will be made in order to  
14 manage the decrease in revenue as a  
15 result and the decrease in student  
16 enrollment.

17 The outreach to the Campus Kids  
18 that we discussed last month has yielded  
19 an additional nine children to the  
20 center. While this is a wonderful  
21 opportunity and improvement in our  
22 numbers at the center, this is still  
23 lower than expected and we anticipate a  
24 budget deficit in the center.

25 The Peconic Cafe is currently

1 Board of Directors, 02/17/2022  
2 also running at a deficit. This is an  
3 anticipated deficit as a result of the  
4 enrollment decline and the shift of  
5 students in selecting online classes.  
6 The campus leadership and the director  
7 of the cafe continue to monitor sales to  
8 determine how to best proceed in  
9 offering campus food service while  
10 minimizing loss.

11 Mr. Chair and members of the  
12 board, do you have any questions?

13 CHAIR MURRAY: Any questions?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIR MURRAY: No. Thank you.

16 INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNSCH:  
17 Thank you.

18 CHAIR MURRAY: I request a motion  
19 to adjourn the Board of Directors  
20 meeting and call the Board of Trustees  
21 meeting to order.

22 VICE CHAIR MORGO: So moved.

23 CHAIR MURRAY: Jim.

24 Second?

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

1 Board of Directors, 02/17/2022

2 CHAIR MURRAY: All those in  
3 favor?

4 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

5 [WHEREUPON THE MEETING OF THE  
6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS CLOSED BY  
7 CHAIRMAN, E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY.]

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