

OFFICIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES HEARING MINUTES

PROCEEDINGS AND VERBATIM DISCUSSIONS OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SUFFOLK
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE HELD ON THE 17TH
DAY OF AUGUST, 2017 AT 9:07 A.M., AT
SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, AMMERMAN
CAMPUS, BROOKHAVEN GYMNASIUM, ALUMNI ROOM,
RIVERHEAD, NEW YORK.

PRESENT:

SHAUN MCKAY, President
DENISE LINDSAY SULLIVAN, Trustee
GORDON D. CANARY, Trustee
BRYAN LILLY, Trustee/Secretary
GEMMA DELEON-LOPRESTI, Trustee
E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY, Trustee
JEROME J. BOST, Student Trustee
THERESA SANDERS, Trustee/Chairperson
JAMES MORGO, Trustee/Vice Chairperson

LOU PETRIZZO, ESQ., General Counsel

1 CHAIR SANDERS: Good morning, everyone. I'm
2 going to bring your attention to our own
3 Trustee Canary for the Pledge. Please
4 stand.

5 [AFTER RECITATION OF THE PLEDGE OF
6 ALLEGIANCE, THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
7 TRUSTEES OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY
8 COLLEGE WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE
9 CHAIRPERSON, THERESA SANDERS AT 9:07 A.M.]

10 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you. We're going to move
11 to the agenda this morning and -- hold on.
12 Okay. We're going to, I guess I'm going to
13 switch it a little bit. I need to make sure
14 that we do recognition of guests first and
15 then move to the swearing in of the new
16 Student Trustee. So I will ask our chief of
17 Staff Carol Wycliffe-Campbell to introduce
18 our guests in attendance this morning.

19 MS. WYCLIFFE-CAMPBELL: Sure. Good morning. We'd
20 certainly like to recognize Legislature
21 Monica Martinez and Councilwoman Valerie
22 Cartwright. Jerome, would you like to
23 introduce your guests.

24 MR. BOST: Yes. I would like to reintroduce
25 Councilman Valerie Cartwright for being

1 here. More than anything, my girlfriend
2 Camille Gooden for being with us this
3 morning. My good friend Jason Richberg from
4 the Legislative Clerk's office and my friend
5 Rosemary from the Fairway Foundation. And
6 also, Kiana Lom, our Managing Editor of the
7 newspaper on the Eastern Campus. Thank you
8 for being here.

9 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Jerome. And
10 I guess this is a sign that you will fill up
11 the board meetings from this point forward.
12 We welcome all of the guests. I also want
13 to acknowledge two Urban League interns that
14 are shadowing me, Karan Aiyar is going into
15 his second year at SUNY Old Westbury and his
16 sister Pooja is going into middle school,
17 Pooja?

18 MS. AIYAR: High school.

19 CHAIR SANDERS: Correction. I know that's
20 important, right, Denise, to get it
21 straight? And we welcome you this morning,
22 thank you for being here. So for one of the
23 key highlights today we have our new Student
24 Trustee who has been working with us for a
25 couple of months now postelection. And

1 we're going to move into the swearing in
2 portion where he is now -- there's the point
3 of no return, Jerome. And we would like to
4 start that proceeding.

5 So, Jerome.

6 [WHEREUPON THE OATH WAS ADMINISTERED TO
7 JEROME J. BOST FOR THE OFFICE OF STUDENT
8 TRUSTEE].

9 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you. To Jerome, welcome
10 aboard again. We look forward to serving
11 with you. We will now move to the rest of
12 the agenda. I request a motion to adjourn
13 the Board of Trustees Meeting and call the
14 Board of Directors Meeting to order.

15 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Motion.

16 TRUSTEE CANARY: Second.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

18 Any abstentions?

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

21 CHAIR SANDERS: I would like to request approval
22 of the minutes of the June 15, 2017 Board of
23 Directors meeting.

24 TRUSTEE MORGO: So moved.

25 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Second.

1 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

2 Any abstentions?

3 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
4 VOTED ON AND CARRIED. THE MEETING OF THE
5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY
6 COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY THE
7 CHAIRPERSON, THERESA SANDERS, AT 9:14 A.M.]

8 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you. We are now sitting as
9 the Board of Directors. I would like to
10 draw your attention to the Association
11 Resolutions Number 2017-A6 through A7 --

12 Okay. So, we're going to change
13 the order a little bit, I'm sorry.

14 Introduce Vice President of Student Affairs
15 Dr. Christopher Adams to present the
16 Association Financials.

17 DR. ADAMS: Good morning, Chair Sanders and
18 Members of the Board of Directors. It gives
19 me pleasure to give the report September 1,
20 2016 to July 31, 2017 when it comes to the
21 Association. You have the budget in your
22 packet. It was also e-mailed to you
23 yesterday. Very happy to report that all of
24 the various budgets in the Association are
25 running in the black and with one month to

1 go, the Association, as you know, it goes
2 until August 31, 2017.

3 Later on in the Fall I'll be able
4 to give you a full year analysis and report
5 for the Association for the 16-17 year. So
6 with that, if you have any questions I will
7 be more than happy to answer at this point.

8 Okay. Thank you.

9 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Dr. Adams.

10 Dr. McKay?

11 DR. MCKAY: At this point, Madame Chair, I'll
12 ask Dr. Adams to speak about the Excelsior
13 Program, would you mind?

14 DR. ADAMS: Sure. As you know the Excelsior
15 Program was a program that was put forth by
16 Governor Cuomo and adopted by both the
17 Assembly and the State Senate. We have been
18 working very diligently. As you know it's a
19 program that was put together with not a lot
20 of guidance. It really taxed our staff over
21 the summer and the spring. We are still
22 working on it across the three campuses.

23 It's being led right now by our
24 director, College-Wide Director of Financial
25 Aid, Nancy Brewer. As of today, we have 292

1 students that have been awarded the
2 Excelsior scholarship. Again, as you know,
3 it's the last dollar scholarship. And,
4 again, I'll be able to forward the numbers
5 to you. But every night we get from the
6 Higher Education Services Corporation a file
7 after they have verified on their end all of
8 the people that are eligible on their end
9 and it's forwarded to our Financial Aid
10 Director and the next day we spend about
11 three or four hours going through it,
12 vetting it, looking, verifying all credits.

13 It's very complicated. It has to
14 do with the number of credits that were
15 taken by students previously. It has to do
16 with high school credits that were taken
17 previously. So there's a formula that's
18 involved with it. And it allows us to
19 actually go through it.

20 And just because a Higher
21 Education Services Corporation has verified
22 those students, it still needs to be vetted
23 by our individual financial aid officers.
24 And again, taking a look at both the TAP and
25 the PELL and any scholarship that was given

1 at Suffolk County Community College.

2 As you know, our Foundation gives
3 our over \$600,000 worth of scholarships
4 every year. So, again, it's a last dollar.
5 But I would say that compared to most
6 institutions, most SUNY institutions, our
7 counterparts, I think we are doing
8 relatively well as far as the number of
9 students that are involved.

10 Now the good news is, the
11 majority of the students are new students
12 coming in. So we have about 60 percent of
13 students that are coming in are new
14 students, you know, which is relatively
15 good.

16 Now we're not sure at this point
17 whether or not they would have come to
18 Suffolk or gone to another institution. We
19 do plan on doing a survey later on in the
20 fall semester to ascertain whether or not
21 because of this scholarship they would have
22 gone -- they would have still come to
23 Suffolk County Community College.

24 So, you know, obviously we're
25 very hopeful. Again, the scholarship is

1 both the Fall and the Spring.

2 But there are a number of
3 requirements that are involved with it. And
4 the students that are involved in the
5 scholarship must take 30 credits throughout
6 the -- between September 1, beginning of the
7 semester, to Summer Session Two. They will
8 not pay for developmental classes. In other
9 words, developmental classes do not count in
10 the scholarship program.

11 So, what does that mean for our
12 students? Our students will then have to
13 supplement -- either take extra credits in
14 the fall. Take a winter session class or a
15 summer session class to make up those
16 credits. So one additional note of that is
17 the scholarship will not pay for winter
18 session or summer session classes.

19 Another important note about this
20 is that it's only tuition, it's not fees.
21 So that's another important element of this
22 program. So, again, the last college -- we
23 have one student that applied for the
24 Excelsior Scholarship and after the last
25 dollars, received 12 dollars from the

1 Excelsior Program all the way up to the
2 largest award was \$4,770 which is tuition
3 for the fall and the spring.

4 Again, when you're awarded,
5 you're not just awarded per semester, you're
6 awarded throughout the year. So those are
7 the very important elements. I will send
8 you the numbers later on today. But, again,
9 it's a moving target. And as we get 60 or
10 70 new files every night in around 11:00
11 o'clock we're able to move forward with
12 that.

13 I also want to let you know that
14 another interesting element of this program
15 is if students don't complete the 30 credits
16 over the -- I have copies also for us, thank
17 you -- if they don't complete the 30 credits
18 by the end of the year, the spring semester
19 tuition reverts to a loan from the College
20 to the students. And it's the
21 responsibility of the College then to make
22 up that money.

23 So, what are we doing with our
24 financial aid officers to ensure that
25 students -- obviously they sign a form

1 with -- the contractors with the Higher
2 Education Services Corporation. Bu in
3 addition, our financial aid officers have an
4 opportunity to sit down and meet with every
5 single student that is given the
6 scholarship.

7 And we have come up, working with
8 our legal affairs team, come up with a full
9 disclosure form so the students know
10 specifically what they are getting into
11 before they sign; understanding that they
12 have to do the 30 credits, that they have to
13 pass the classes, and that developmental
14 classes do not count.

15 So, we're doing our due diligence
16 in sitting down with every single one of our
17 students asking them, requiring them to sign
18 this form, so they know -- you know, again
19 we're taking it one step further than what
20 most institutions are doing.

21 Secondly, very important is,
22 prior to priority registration in the fall
23 for the spring that will happen in early
24 November, we will be having -- we will
25 require every single student on this

1 scholarship to sit down with the financial
2 aid officer as well just so we can look at
3 their academics from the fall, see how
4 they're doing and then we can make some
5 recommendations for them for the spring
6 semester going forward.

7 So, we're doing everything on our
8 end. I know it doesn't -- 292 students
9 doesn't seem out of 26,000 plus, but
10 nevertheless it's probably taking up about
11 90 percent of our work in our financial aid
12 offices across the three campuses in our
13 college wide offices. It's a lot of work.
14 I want to commend the three campuses. They
15 have just have done a really good job once
16 they received the files.

17 I mean, it's complicated. You're
18 looking at past academic history, not only
19 in high school but also in other colleges to
20 see eligibility requirements that we have.
21 So, thank you, Dr. McKay for allowing me to
22 share with that.

23 TRUSTEE MORGO: I have a question.

24 DR. ADAMS: Yes.

25 TRUSTEE MORGO: Chris, first of all comprehensive

1 as usual, thank you. 292 students with this
2 kind of -- with these kinds of requirements
3 seems like a large number to me. I trust
4 that there is a process in place since this
5 is last dollar program, where the student
6 have to either from PELL or from TAP or from
7 their own finances make up for it first.

8 Is there a process in place where
9 a reimbursement to the College is done
10 automatically? Would you even know that
11 yet? And I have a -- it's two part.
12 Secondly, you said something in that
13 comprehensive report that if they don't meet
14 the requirements which are stringent, then
15 it's a loan and it's a loan from the
16 College.

17 And if the student leaves,
18 graduates or leave, and doesn't repay the
19 College, then I would imagine that's just
20 like other students who go owing us money --

21 DR. ADAMS: That's correct.

22 TRUSTEE MORGO: That creates a hole in our
23 operating budget.

24 DR. ADAMS: Yes.

25 TRUSTEE MORGO: Well, that's very troubling.

1 DR. ADAMS: Yes.

2 TRUSTEE MORGO: I don't know what we can do about
3 that. But, my first question, there is a
4 process for reimbursement from the State?

5 DR. ADAMS: Well, we're working right now. I
6 know, Vice President Vizzini, she's also
7 been being kept up at night, like myself, on
8 this program. Because, the fact of the
9 matter is we have heard that they're going
10 to reimburse us for State Aid later on at
11 the end of the year, like we usually in the
12 spring we get money from all sorts of
13 things, from FTE to tutoring centers to a
14 whole bunch of --

15 TRUSTEE MORGO: So, this is going to be a part of
16 that kind of process?

17 DR. ADAMS: That's what we hear at this
18 point. But as we're moving forward, we'll
19 hear a little bit more. Now, the fall
20 semester, you know, it's going to be a
21 little bit easier for us because we will be
22 reimbursed. We'll be made whole for all the
23 students for the fall. But, again, it
24 really will impactful in the Spring for
25 those students that don't meet the

1 requirements of the 30 credits and some of
2 these other criteria that we have.

3 So, yes, to answer your question
4 that's our biggest fear is that at the end
5 of the day, the College is going to be left
6 to collect the money from those students.
7 That's why it's crucial that we sat down
8 with every single one of our students and we
9 will continue to do so. We will do e-mail
10 blasts throughout the fall semester. We're
11 going to be spending -- they're going to be
12 sick of us by the time, you know, the fall
13 semester is done because we're going to be
14 meeting with them, we're going to be talking
15 with them, we're just going to be reminding
16 them, you know, about these are the
17 requirements and if you did take any
18 developmental classes in the fall, that
19 you're going to still have to be -- you'll
20 still be responsible for making those
21 classes up.

22 TRUSTEE MORGO: What percentage of our incoming
23 students require developmental classes?

24 DR. ADAMS: Last -- from previous, it's about
25 what, 60 percent, Jeff?

1 DR. PEDERSON: Down to 58 percent.

2 PRESIDENT MCKAY: 58?

3 TRUSTEE LILLY: Yes.

4 DR. ADAMS: So it's relatively high.

5 TRUSTEE MORGO: So 15 credits plus.

6 DR. ADAMS: Right. They are required to take

7 12 credits every semester. But, again, they

8 are then required to make up those credits

9 in the spring or a combination of a winter

10 session class or summer session one or

11 summer session two or an eight week summer

12 session class.

13 TRUSTEE MORGO: And then if they need both math

14 and English, that's two?

15 DR. ADAMS: Yes. That's our biggest fear.

16 We don't -- you know, again, we are not

17 recommending to students that are testing

18 into the developmental -- so many

19 developmental classes to --

20 TRUSTEE MORGO: To even go for it?

21 DR. ADAMS: -- to take the scholarship

22 program.

23 TRUSTEE MORGO: Yeah, yeah.

24 DR. ADAMS: Because we're worried about

25 their, you know, ability to take in more

1 credits in the fall. I mean, if you are
2 someone who is testing in developmental
3 classes, and you are then taking more four
4 credit classes, that could be a recipe for
5 disaster for their academics going forward.

6 So again, it's -- you know, this
7 is a new program. You know, in theory it's
8 -- it's, you know, it's supposed to be --

9 TRUSTEE MORGO: Hopefully we will enroll more --

10 DR. ADAMS: -- allow more students to --
11 exactly. But I don't know if, if the
12 commercials and everything that we're
13 hearing, you know are really the most
14 accurate. Because there's a lot of people
15 now walking around across the State, 77,000
16 applicants and I think they processed 44,000
17 that are walking around with a piece of
18 paper from the Higher Education Services
19 Corporation saying that they got a free
20 tuition scholarship.

21 Now there's a lot of --

22 TRUSTEE MORGO: Yeah --

23 DR. ADAMS: -- Small print.

24 TRUSTEE MORGO: -- let's see what you do in two
25 years.

1 DR. ADAMS: Correct, correct. So -- but I'm
2 very -- again, you know, this was something
3 that was thrown at us in the spring as you
4 are aware at the last minute. And I have to
5 tell you, our team really came together and,
6 again, it's, you know, from a central view
7 point to work with our financial aid offices
8 across the three campuses, it just was
9 incredible. Even our colleagues from over
10 academic affairs got into the mix helping us
11 with --

12 TRUSTEE MORGO: Well, we have confidence in the
13 team, yes.

14 DR. ADAMS: So that's where we are with
15 Excelsior. Yes, Trustee Lilly?

16 TRUSTEE LILLY: Is it my impression that there's
17 a finite amount also? Not so much the award
18 but the pool that --

19 DR. ADAMS: Right.

20 TRUSTEE LILLY: So when you say 77,000
21 applicants, if everybody got one, they
22 wouldn't be getting the full amount,
23 correct?

24 DR. ADAMS: Well, that's the rub. Because
25 they didn't fund it for the number of people

1 that have applied for the scholarship.

2 TRUSTEE LILLY: Right.

3 DR. ADAMS: And that's why the -- again,
4 again, this is my personal point of view so,
5 you know, don't -- it's -- in my mind it's
6 siphoning money. Because, again, they knew
7 that they were going to have more applicants
8 than they were going to pay for that's why
9 they put together all these restrictions.
10 Again, if they really wanted to make a dent
11 int -- they would have increased the
12 eligibility for TAP to allow more
13 students -- when I talk about eligibility,
14 the income requirements for TAP.

15 TRUSTEE MORGO: Right, exactly.

16 DR. ADAMS: But instead, you know -- and
17 that's the challenge.

18 TRUSTEE CANARY: Dr. Adams?

19 DR. ADAMS: Yes.

20 TRUSTEE CANARY: Dr. Adams, please convey to the
21 staffers in the financial counseling offices
22 our appreciation for all their efforts.
23 Because, again, we know this is a very
24 difficult, brand new program to implement
25 with a lot of questions thrown at you at the

1 last minute and I think they have done a
2 fantastic job. So please express to them
3 our appreciation.

4 I would like to go on record
5 saying that this was not the legislature who
6 came up with this program. This came out of
7 the executive office and SUNY. And on the
8 subject of SUNY --

9 TRUSTEE MORGO: Speaking of commercials.

10 TRUSTEE CANARY: On the subject of SUNY, has SUNY
11 asked the colleges to give them like an end
12 of first semester report on your experiences
13 with it and the problems encountered and
14 maybe some suggestions to improve the
15 program?

16 DR. ADAMS: There's been back and forth, you
17 know, every -- you know, leading up to every
18 Friday, President McKay would get an e-mail
19 from Chancellor Zimpher, the previous
20 chancellor of the State University of New
21 York, basically pushing us to do more and,
22 you know, we would get the e-mails sometimes
23 at 4:00 o'clock in the afternoon saying, You
24 got to do more. You got to process faster.
25 And et cetera, et cetera. But I think there

1 are individuals -- I know Vice President
2 Vizzini has been in contact with the
3 business person, Josh Saber, from SUNY and
4 we will be able to give our comments and our
5 feedback accordingly about the program.

6 But, again, you know, it's one of
7 those things where it was basically, you
8 know, here's the program, now figure it out.

9 TRUSTEE CANARY: As a for instance, in my office,
10 Senator Boyle's office, we were getting
11 phone calls or complaint from people that
12 say, Hey, I got cut out of this thing. I
13 went to a community college for a year 10
14 years ago and I had to stop. I'm not
15 eligible and that's not fair. And we said,
16 Oh, you know what, that's probably isn't
17 fair. Who made that decision? So, I mean,
18 just as an example of some of the inequities
19 that kind of popped up on this thing that
20 maybe need to be dealt with.

21 But, again, thank you, thank you
22 for your work as always.

23 CHAIR SANDERS: Denise.

24 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: One of things that I was thinking
25 about was the activity that we did in our

1 retreat a few years ago about getting people
2 on campus and the hurdles. So on the
3 positive side of this, my hope is that they
4 see the commercials and maybe that gets them
5 to the College and maybe that scholarship
6 isn't right for them, but they're in the
7 door.

8 So I think we have to look at as
9 an opportunity that we're getting more
10 people in the door because of the rhetoric
11 and maybe we can find a way make it work for
12 them.

13 DR. ADAMS: Yeah, I was going to say, again,
14 once we have all the students that are have
15 gotten the scholarship, we can then work
16 with our Office of Planning and
17 Institutional Effectiveness to survey the
18 students to find out if, you know, if they
19 didn't have the scholarship would they, A,
20 go somewhere else or, B, they wouldn't go to
21 college at all, you know.

22 So, again, we're looking at this
23 as making the best of the situation and
24 using it as an opportunity. And, again, as
25 you saw there was an editorial in Newsday

1 compared to Old Westbury, Farmingdale, and
2 some of the other institutions across the
3 Island that are our SUNY colleagues, we are
4 doing far better as far as the number of
5 students that have been packaged and are
6 eligible.

7 You know, again, it varies based
8 on, you know, your income level and based on
9 the number of PELL and TAP scholarships and
10 obviously Suffolk scholarships. So I
11 appreciate that very much.

12 TRUSTEE MORGO: I was thinking when you
13 mentioned, Chris, that it's a new program
14 and like so many other programs that started
15 off with a lot of problems; the Affordable
16 Care Act, Medicare, maybe the bumps that
17 will be worked out. But to Bryan and
18 Gordon's point, when Bryan talked about a
19 finite amount, I was just saying to Lou,
20 yeah, maybe the plan is because so many
21 people will enter it and be disqualified
22 that funds won't go to as many people. And
23 those people, the different schools, will
24 have to make up for what was supposed to
25 come from Excelsior.

1 compounds. And when we talked about the
2 initial funding in this program, we realized
3 that that was just for the first year.

4 So as the second year starts with
5 these first year students, you're getting
6 another first year batch coming in, so that
7 compounds. So that budget that's going to
8 be in Albany now has to reflect that in the
9 second year.

10 DR. ADAMS: And the income level requirements
11 goes up by \$20,000 each year.

12 CHAIR SANDERS: Jerome.

13 TRUSTEE BOST: Thank you for taking the time in
14 explaining it today. In my research of the
15 Excelsior Scholarship I learned that a
16 student has to demonstrate they are actually
17 on time to actually graduate to receive the
18 scholarship. In my experience being a
19 student at the eastern campus, I have
20 actually come in contact with a couple of
21 students who have gone from taking five
22 classes to say I want to take six or seven
23 so I can actually meet the requirements the
24 State put in place.

25 So my question is, are we

1 including that in our discussion with
2 financial aid counselors in the counseling
3 department to be sure that students are
4 making the appropriate decision when they
5 are upgrading their class?

6 DR. ADAMS:

Oh, absolutely. I mean, as I
7 said, you know, we know more developmental
8 classed you take, the less likely you are to
9 complete and go on. So, you know, we
10 understand that if you are taking more
11 credits than you are academically inclined
12 to be successful at, it could a recipe for
13 disaster later on in the spring semester and
14 winter session.

15 So we don't want to have students
16 that are -- you know, that we -- you know,
17 again, we can't tell students not to take
18 the scholarship but we lay out, you know,
19 our opinion and, you know, our
20 recommendations. Unfortunately, that's just
21 the way if they become eligible and they
22 meet the requirements. But, again, looking
23 at it -- you know, and again, it all comes
24 down to as I always speak with our ABP for
25 academic Chairs Dr. Boden, you know, we have

1 to take a holistic approach to, you know, to
2 programming our students. And we look at
3 not just the CPT scores but we also look at
4 the GPA in high school. We look at other
5 academic histories to make a informed
6 decision, you know, to make some
7 recommendations for our students.

8 And, again, something that was
9 started by Dr. Pederson a couple of years
10 ago and we're -- again, we're trying to, you
11 know, create a more of a holistic view of
12 working with our students and really giving
13 them some recommendations and laying out all
14 the options for them so they don't get in
15 trouble later on in their academic career.

16 Because the worse thing you can
17 do is so you can load up on classes and then
18 all of the sudden you are not successful
19 because you have not built up that
20 foundation to be successful.

21 CHAIR SANDERS: Gemma.

22 TRUSTEE DELEON-LOPRESTI: I also want to note that the way
23 is designed, students who have to balance
24 having a job or having childcare needs where
25 they may not have the luxury of taking off

1 in the summer because the hours are so much
2 longer in the summer than in the winter. So
3 they have to say, well, is it worth it for
4 me to give up these hours at my job to
5 receive X number of dollars. So it doesn't
6 work for working students.

7 DR. ADAMS: No.

8 CHAIR SANDERS: You know, many of these issues
9 have been discussed and vetted and when we
10 were up in Albany and some of the State
11 officials were there.

12 DR. ADAMS: Yes.

13 CHAIR SANDERS: And, you know, our students were
14 very pointed and brought up all types of
15 real life issues of why this won't work.
16 And, you know, it's moving forward anyway.
17 So we just have to get on board and try to
18 make it work to the best of the ability of
19 and protect our students as much as we can.
20 And, again, appreciating the work of the
21 staff.

22 I just had two questions. What
23 is the application deadline?

24 DR. ADAMS: The application deadline, it
25 passed. It was July 23rd.

1 CHAIR SANDERS: Okay. So we won't get anything
2 new, just what's in the pipeline.

3 DR. ADAMS: Correct.

4 CHAIR SANDERS: Second question, I really like
5 what Denise said. Is there a way for us to
6 track who arrived at the college under the,
7 I guess, idea that they wanted a scholarship
8 and then who had to be repackaged out of the
9 scholarship?

10 DR. ADAMS: Yeah. Would do plan on
11 surveying -- again, we have the names of all
12 those students that applied. Students that
13 have been verified as being eligible
14 forwarded to us and then after we have
15 vetted the academic history, you know. So
16 we have those two buckets, the ones that
17 are, again, have been packaged, have that
18 full scholarship and students that are not
19 eligible based on our requirements.

20 So we do plan on taking a look at
21 that. We're also making -- those students
22 that aren't eligible, making recommendations
23 to them about taking either a part-time load
24 or some other ways, other scholarship
25 programs for them to be eligible. But, you

1 know, again, you know, it's very late in the
2 game. There's a lot of challenges.

3 Any time you have a new program
4 like this, there's going to be wrinkles to
5 it. You know, we have spent a lot of time
6 and effort. I mean, our College-wide
7 Director of Financial Aid has been here at
8 the College until 11:00 o'clock for the last
9 couple of weeks, again, going through this
10 packaging, looking at things, double
11 checking, working with the three campus to
12 make sure that we're, you know, we are in
13 compliance with that.

14 So we understand, you know, what
15 the implications are for this. And, again,
16 we will -- we will be able to give a whole
17 list of recommendations for the next
18 reiteration of this program going forward.

19 TRUSTEE CANARY: Just very quickly, I don't want
20 to belabor this, but the application
21 question just brought to mind another source
22 of complaints because there were two
23 application deadlines that were out there.
24 One was to file your application. The other
25 was a week later to file all necessary

1 supporting documents and paperwork. And
2 that fouled up people and they found out
3 that they thought they had that second
4 Friday, not the first Friday. And they were
5 deemed ineligible and they called up
6 screaming at our office as well, so that was
7 a problem.

8 DR. ADAMS: Yeah, there also was a second pot
9 of money too for students that went to
10 private institutions, I don't know if you
11 hear that. Some private institutions had to
12 opt in whether or not they were going to do
13 the scholarship and not many of them opted
14 in. So that was a confusion to the students
15 as well that we heard that they thought
16 there was going to be some money available
17 if you were going to a private institution
18 across Long Island.

19 You know, so there's just been a
20 lot of challenges, you know, with this but
21 I'm very happy to report here at Suffolk
22 County Community College that all is well.
23 You know, we continue to move forward
24 whatever they throw at us, we always adapt
25 and, you know, try to figure it out.

1 It's one of those, again,
2 unfunded mandates that comes down and we
3 can't say no, we're not going to
4 participate. We have to do it. We have to
5 come up and develop systems, you know, to
6 make sure that -- to get under the hood a
7 little bit more and try to figure this out.

8 And I think that we did
9 successfully. And I hope in September to
10 give you further information, the September
11 14 meeting, to be able to share with you.
12 And, again, we'll periodically update the
13 finance committee of where we are as we are
14 leading up to --

15 MS. LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Chris, can you just add to that
16 if you can tell us how many students of the
17 292 have to take developmental classes.

18 DR. ADAMS: I don't know that offhand.

19 MS. LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: No, I mean next time.

20 DR. ADAMS: Yes. We will certainly --

21 MS. LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Thank you.

22 DR. ADAMS: -- do that as part of our report.

23 CHAIR SANDERS: And student success committee.

24 Thank you, Dr. Adams.

25 DR. ADAMS: Thank you.

1 CHAIR SANDERS: All right, so, while you're
2 standing here, we'll request a motion for
3 the approval of the Association Resolution
4 2017-A6 and 2017-A7. Dr. Adams, do you want
5 to --

6 DR. ADAMS: Sure. I would like to bring your
7 attention to two resolution for your
8 approval house for your approval. One has
9 to do with recommendations from our auditors
10 and the addition to our procurement policy,
11 Letter F, basically that talks about
12 assuring that no employees as part of fiscal
13 management 101, no employees receive any
14 materials using student activity fee money
15 to their homes, that all materials, whether
16 it's from our athletic department or a
17 campus activity advisors that all money or
18 all items are sent to either the College
19 address or the Association address.

20 Again, this was a recommendation
21 from an audit that we had and, again, it has
22 to do with Letter F, in the procurement
23 policy, that's already been instituted by
24 the Association.

25 The second resolution has to do

1 with the reallocation of money in the
2 previously approved budget at the June
3 meeting, reallocating \$25,000 from our
4 theatre budget to our Associate Dean of
5 Student Services at the Ammerman Campus.
6 Again with the idea of creating additional
7 funding for our College wide forensic team
8 that was voted on by our Board of Directors
9 a couple of months ago.

10 As you know, our forensic team
11 has been across the three campuses now with
12 the eastern campus again having the ability
13 to join the College wide team and having
14 some additional funding for them to be able
15 to compete in competitions across the
16 Nation. As you know, our forensic team has
17 just won awards, you know, everywhere they
18 have done.

19 So, again, we're asking for
20 approval to reallocate \$25,000 to give
21 additional funding for this additional
22 program that we have now which is College
23 wide to give more opportunities to our
24 students. If you have any questions
25 concerning those resolutions.

1 CHAIR SANDERS: Okay. Motion?

2 MEMBER MURRAY: Thank you. Motion.

3 CHAIR SANDERS: That was Christopher Murray.

4 Second?

5 MEMBER LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Second.

6 MEMBER MORGO: Second.

7 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you.

8 All in favor?

9 Any abstentions?

10 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
11 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

12 DR. ADAMS: Thank you.

13 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Dr. Adams.

14 I would like to request a motion
15 to adjourn the Board of Directors Meeting
16 and call the Board of Trustees Meeting to
17 order.

18 MEMBER LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Motion.

19 MEMBER DELEON-LOPRESTI: Second.

20 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

21 Any abstentions?

22 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
23 VOTED ON AND CARRIED. THE MEETING OF THE
24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY
25 COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAS CLOSED BY THE

CHAIRPERSON, THERESA SANDERS, AT 9:43 A.M.]

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1 CHAIR SANDERS: We are now sitting again as the
2 Board of Trustees. Thank you.

3 I would like to request a motion
4 for approval testify minutes of the June 15,
5 2017 Board of Trustees.

6 TRUSTEE MORGO: So moved.

7 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you, Jim.

8 TRUSTEE BOST: Second.

9 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

10 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
11 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

12 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much. I would
13 like to introduce Vice President of Business
14 and Financial Affairs, Gail Vizzini, to
15 present the College Budget and College
16 Financial Records.

17 MS. VIZZINI: Thank you, Madame Chair. Each of
18 you have the expenditure and revenue
19 projections for 16-17 in your packets with
20 the accompanying executive summary. The
21 trend for both expenditures and revenue is
22 consistent with my previous reports. In
23 this budget year, 16-17, as you know
24 enrollment was less than we had anticipated
25 in the operating budget incurring a

1 shortfall of one point eight million dollars
2 in State aid, tuition and fees.

3 Through prudent fiscal management
4 we were able to mitigate the shortfall by
5 generating surpluses in light, power and
6 water; supplies; salaries; and, of course,
7 the accompanying benefits. Currently my
8 office is engaged in closing out the 16-17
9 fiscal year and the new 17-18 budget will be
10 loaded for operation September 1.

11 The County Legislature adopted
12 the College total operating budget on June
13 20 which was consistent with the County
14 Executive's recommended numbers. It
15 included an increase in County contribution
16 of one point five percent compared to the
17 two point five percent requested by the
18 College creating a revenue shortfall of
19 \$418,000.

20 Item five is the resolution
21 before you today to amend the Board of
22 Trustees resolution adopting the College
23 17-18 Operating Budget to authorize an
24 additional \$418,000 from the College Reserve
25 Fund to balance the Budget.

1 The authorization for use of
2 reserves in 17-18 will then go from six
3 point three million to six point seven
4 million.

5 The resolutions before you with
6 financial implications include both the June
7 and the July sponsor services payments for
8 health insurance to our county sponsor.
9 There are budget transfers, there are three
10 of them. One is to accommodate the services
11 of an executive search firm to an enhance
12 the outreach and promote diversity in
13 qualified applicants.

14 Needed furniture for the student
15 areas in the new learning resource center.
16 And finally, contracted installation of
17 automated control. A monitoring of the
18 mechanical systems in the Babylon Student
19 Center enable us to further save energy by
20 controlling the mechanicals when they are
21 not in operation 24-7 but rather when they
22 are needed.

23 TRUSTEE MORGO: I have a question.

24 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes.

25 TRUSTEE MORGO: Gail, when the President visited

1 the College without the College being
2 involved, there was a -- I read that the
3 College was paid \$6,600. We had, through
4 the Governance Committee, imposed uniform
5 fees so that we have some codification of
6 the fees for everybody.

7 But since he's an elected
8 official, he did not have to pay this. But
9 I am told that he paid -- there was a
10 payment. And my question is, particularly
11 since the President's values and this
12 College's values are not exactly parallel,
13 were we made whole?

14 MS. VIZZINI: The request to use our facilities
15 from the Federal Government was treated like
16 any other governmental request to use the
17 facilities in that the rental fees for the
18 use of the facilities are waived. However,
19 the agreement was that they would pay for
20 any overtime or additional labor expenses,
21 which they did. And that was primarily what
22 they were billed for.

23 TRUSTEE MORGO: So we were made whole? It didn't
24 cost us anything?

25 MS. VIZZINI: Not --

1 TRUSTEE MORGO: Except in reputation.

2 MS. VIZZINI: Not to my knowledge. It was
3 covered.

4 TRUSTEE MORGO: Okay.

5 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you, Gail. Appreciate all
6 of the detailed work that you put into
7 making sure that we have clarity around
8 finances.

9 And I would like to request a
10 motion for the approval of College
11 Resolutions 2017-47 to 2017-53.

12 TRUSTEE MORGO: Yeah, I --

13 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Motion.

14 CHAIR SANDERS: There was a motion.

15 Is there a second?

16 TRUSTEE MORGO: I'll second.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: And then you have a question?

18 TRUSTEE MORGO: Just on Item Five that Gail
19 already commented on, the decision by the
20 College to make up the shortfall through an
21 -- through the County Executive not giving
22 us the two point five. I think my
23 colleagues here will remember the last time
24 we spoke about a letter that we all agreed
25 to the County Executive correcting his

1 misinterpretation, misapplication of the
2 legislature's five year budget committee.
3 Do you remember that letter, everybody?

4 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes.

5 TRUSTEE MORGO: I am told -- I was told on Monday
6 that we never received an to answer that
7 letter.

8 CHAIR SANDERS: Um hum.

9 TRUSTEE MORGO: And I think it's common practice
10 that silence indicates agreement. So I
11 trust that, therefore, the County Executive
12 knows that the using the Legislator's -- the
13 Legislative Committee report as some kind of
14 formula going forward is not correct and
15 since the they did not respond, they are in
16 agreement with us and will proceed in that
17 way going forward. Everyone follow what I'm
18 talking about?

19 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes. And we did discuss going on
20 the record so thank you very much, Jim.

21 TRUSTEE MORGO: Yes. I did that so we would be
22 on record.

23 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes, thank you.

24 Okay. So we're calling the vote
25 now.

1 All in favor?

2 Any abstentions?

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

5 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much. We're
6 moving right along here. So we are now
7 moving to committee reports and we will
8 start with our Governance Committee.
9 Gordon.

10 TRUSTEE CANARY: Thank you, Chairwoman.
11 Governance Committee was held on Tuesday
12 August 8. Myself, Chairwoman, Jim Morgo,
13 Alicia O'Connor and Gail Canahan were in
14 attendance. Discussion was held about a
15 personnel matter and the upcoming Board of
16 Trustees retreat. The date of the retreat
17 was confirmed as Thursday, November 16.

18 This year we are looking to have
19 the Association Board of Directors and the
20 Board of Directors of the Center for Social
21 Justice and Human Understanding also be
22 included. Because of the size of the group
23 and in an effort to be cost effective, we
24 are looking at holding the retreat on the
25 Ammerman Campus.

1 The agenda is being worked on and
2 a survey will be distributed for topics for
3 planning groups and breakout sessions.
4 Lunch will be provided, not beverages just
5 lunch. Discussion was has as to whether the
6 new Board of Ethics Committee would give
7 presentations on ethics. We would also like
8 to include the Ethics Board for a meet and
9 greet with the College Board of Trustees.

10 Deputy General Counsel O'Connor
11 was asked to send a save the date e-mail to
12 the Board of Ethics Committee members and
13 see if the morning or the lunch sessions
14 would work best for them. Deputy General
15 Counsel was also asked to look into getting
16 the latest version of Robert's Rules of
17 Order, possibly an electronic version, for
18 distribution to the Trustees.

19 Discussion was had on the
20 progress of getting the vacant trustee
21 positions filled. Three names were
22 submitted to the Governor's Office. Once
23 reviewed and if approved, the governor will
24 need to move them forward. We are hoping to
25 have them in place for the September

1 meeting.

2 The committee discussed touching
3 base with other candidates to see if they
4 are still interested and available in case
5 any of the three names are not approved.
6 Discussion was had about the need to change
7 the September Board of Trustees Meeting as
8 it was inadvertently scheduled on a College
9 holiday.

10 The members of the Committee are
11 all available for Thursday, September 14.
12 Deputy General Counsel was asked to poll the
13 other Trustees by e-mail to see if we are
14 able to reach a quorum on that date change.

15 Trustee Morgo recused himself
16 from the meeting. Discussion was then had
17 on the latest proposal submitted by the
18 Rough Riders. Agenda items for the
19 September Governance Committee Meeting
20 include presidential evaluation. Trustee
21 Murray, Chair of the Personnel Committee
22 will be invited to attend.

23 Setting Governance Committee
24 Meeting date schedule for 2018 will also be
25 on the agenda. Next scheduled Governance

1 Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday,
2 September 12 at 3:00, Sagtikos Building,
3 Conference Room 221. All, again, always
4 invited to attend. Meeting was adjourned at
5 4:50 p.m. That is my report.

6 MR. PETRIZZO: Not all.

7 CHAIR SANDERS: Only five can attend a meeting
8 counsel is reminding me.

9 TRUSTEE CANARY: I do that every time. You think
10 I would learn. I just don't listen.

11 CHAIR SANDERS: That's why he sits right here.

12 TRUSTEE CANARY: Don't even think about it. If I
13 see your face at that door, don't even think
14 about it.

15 DR. ADAMS: Only reservations.

16 CHAIR SANDERS: All right. I know that there was
17 a couple of committees that were not able to
18 meet. We had a very interesting summer, it
19 was busy. But I will just ask for comments.
20 Denise, Student Success, do you have a
21 proposal meeting?

22 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: The only comment I have is that
23 we'll be meeting on September 6 at 3:30.

24 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much.

25 And Budget?

1 TRUSTEE MORGO: As you said, Theresa, we were not
2 able to meet. But we will be meeting in
3 September. We're looking at the Monday
4 before the next Board Meeting. And we're
5 going to be looking at the status report for
6 Excelsior of course and how enrollment is
7 trending.

8 CHAIR SANDERS: Great. Thank you very much, Jim.
9 So that Monday before is the 11th.

10 MS. WYCLIFFE-CAMPBELL: The 11th.

11 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Right.

12 CHAIR SANDERS: Facilities Bryan.

13 TRUSTEE LILLY: Facilities did not meet. I did
14 speak with counsel yesterday about some of
15 the projects. We are on time on the
16 projects and I think the paving and
17 everything has been completed on time. Just
18 there's some lighting and signage that needs
19 to be done before the campus opens. So
20 everything went well, I guess, during the
21 summertime on the construction process.

22 DR. ADAMS: At the Ammerman Campus.

23 CHAIR SANDERS: And, yeah, we're really excited
24 about the buildings.

25 Dr. McKay?

1 DR. MCKAY: Yes. I wanted to commend the ETU
2 staff. I know Kevin Peterman in the
3 library. They have been working around the
4 clock to get the LRC Building up and
5 running. We pushed the opening date -- or
6 the ribbon cutting actually up to October
7 19. But the building will be occupied
8 before that. We have our folks in the IT
9 area, telecommunications, they're working
10 around the clock.

11 And there are times we have to
12 schedule around the workers that are there
13 because then you have to put in the
14 furniture and the desks and all of that
15 before you can put in the computers and all.
16 But things are moving. And I must commend
17 the folks in facilities, the folks in the
18 library, the folks in ETU, the folks in data
19 communications and IT, because they have to
20 schedule their work when the trades are
21 getting the job done.

22 So it's a little bit difficult.
23 But Kevin, you want to say anything on that?

24 MR. PETERMAN: Sure. Just to reiterate what
25 Dr. McKay is saying. We're literally -- one

1 day after the trades finish something, we're
2 moving in. We had to literally wait for the
3 shelving to be put up and the next day the
4 book movers came and they were still putting
5 the shelves together and it's --

6 We have two and a half weeks left
7 and I'm -- we're determined that we are
8 going to be in there. As I said, we might
9 have a few little things to deal with. But
10 classes start on September 5 and we will
11 be -- we're going to do everything we can to
12 be 100 percent but if we are a little less
13 than that, we'll get it up and running as
14 soon as possible. Everyone is really
15 working well together.

16 DR. MCKAY: And the other thing, too, that I
17 commend the facility staff for this because
18 several of the doors in the room have been
19 back ordered. So when they had some
20 temporary doors to put into the building
21 right now, but those are going to be
22 delivered before the opening on the 19th.
23 So there's a lot of moving parts but
24 certainly I must commend the employees here
25 at the College for taking on such a gigantic

1 task. They are doing well.

2 CHAIR SANDERS: And the ribbon cutting date to
3 just make sure that everyone is --

4 DR. MCKAY: October 19.

5 MS. ARANEO: At 2:00 p.m.

6 DR. MCKAY: At 2:00 p.m. to be exact, at 2:00
7 p.m.

8 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes. Gordon?

9 TRUSTEE CANARY: As a member of the Facilities
10 Committee, a couple of weeks ago I had
11 occasion to be on the Grant Campus. So I
12 gave myself my self-guided tour of the new
13 buildings. And I had to say a couple of
14 weeks ago I was getting a little dicey,
15 saying whoa, are we going to make September
16 5, it seemed to be a lot of work. But I
17 know a lot of work has progressed over the
18 last couple of weeks.

19 So very excited about our new
20 building, excited to see the progress at the
21 Riverhead Campus on that new project as
22 well. And the question I have is the STEM
23 building. What was our schedule on the STEM
24 building construction?

25 PRESIDENT MCKAY: They are in design right now. We

1 met here with the team, right, Lou?

2 MR. PETRIZZO: Yes, on several occasions.

3 DR. MCKAY: It was several occasions and we
4 made corrections to design. Right now we
5 are on schedule, we are on target and when
6 it comes to cost, we are right below cost.
7 And so we're moving right now. I believe
8 they are going to come back with the design
9 that we approved and presented back to the
10 Facilities Committee that we have here at
11 the College and we haven't gotten a date on
12 that one yet, Lou, right?

13 MR. PETRIZZO: No, no, we don't have.

14 PRESIDENT MCKAY: But we're still on schedule based
15 upon the timeline we gave them. But we will
16 give the Board a report on that when they
17 come back and we'll send that to the
18 Facilities Committee and we'll send you a
19 copy of the report when they come back to
20 us.

21 TRUSTEE CANARY: Thank you, appreciate it,
22 exciting, we're getting stuff done.

23 CHAIR SANDERS: We're getting stuff done.

24 The next thing is, Jerome at the
25 next Board Meeting we'll ask you to give a

1 full report. That Student Trustee report is
2 usually worked through Dr. Adams' office.
3 You compile information then you do a formal
4 report. But do you have any words you would
5 like to say to the Board as being at your
6 first meeting?

7 TRUSTEE BOST: I just really appreciate the
8 opportunity to be here at the Board and to
9 take in as much information as I possibly
10 can before going on the record.

11 CHAIR SANDERS: Good. Welcome, thank you.

12 DR. MCKAY: Welcome.

13 CHAIR SANDERS: We'll move to Sylvia, the
14 Foundation report.

15 MS. DIAZ: Good morning. Speaking of
16 getting things done, we actually have
17 upcoming on Monday our 34th Annual Golf
18 Event. Very, very exciting. We're going to
19 be at The Hamlet of course in Commack. And
20 our honorees this year are Michael J. Grant
21 and of course our own beloved coach Kevin
22 Foley, bringing the Grant and Foley families
23 back together again.

24 Very, very excited. They have
25 been wonderful. Our honorees have been very

1 engaged. I know the coach was out a little
2 bit but calling in, really, really, super
3 engaged. And we're very, very excited
4 reaching out to their supporters. We have
5 had an outpouring of support from the
6 College community -- from the community at
7 large. Because both of these gentleman are
8 really notable figures and very very highly
9 regarded in Suffolk and having made an
10 impact obviously as the coach but also
11 Michael J. Grant who is the Grant Campus and
12 that legacy of course.

13 Again, very excited. There's
14 still time to buy dinner tickets. There's
15 still time to play golf on Monday. It's
16 supposed to be a spectacular day. And we're
17 really hoping that if you haven't bought
18 your ticket yet and you haven't planned to
19 play golf yes, take the day off, just go
20 ahead. What do you think, Dr. McKay?

21 DR. MCKAY: Um, that's not on the academic
22 calender.

23 MS. DIAZ: It's actually going to be -- and
24 for those golfers who aren't quite perfect
25 at their game, there's going to be a solar

1 eclipse in the middle of the afternoon which
2 will be a great excuse for having missed
3 that shot. Again, very, very excited about
4 it. It's going to be wonderful, wonderful
5 event. And, again, thanks to the College
6 community for the outpouring of support for
7 that.

8 Quick campaign update, reached
9 and exciting milestone this week with the
10 campaign. Out of the seven million dollars
11 that we are scheduled to raise, we have
12 raised six point four million of that, a
13 little bit more than that. And so we
14 literally have about \$590,000 left to raise.
15 And we're really positioned well to complete
16 the campaign.

17 Of course, all those dollars go
18 to directly support the student and the
19 success of our students here at Suffolk.
20 And more and more every day we're hearing of
21 a tremendous need, an increasing need.
22 Specifically on some of those, not only the
23 general scholarships, the pastor
24 scholarships, but also the hardship funds
25 that have been established by the various

1 campuses.

2 So this is obviously a wonderful
3 opportunity to come out for great day but of
4 course, obviously for wonderful wonderful
5 cause. And so we really appreciate that and
6 we appreciate the support of the
7 institution. And stay tuned. Any
8 questions?

9 If you haven't bought a ticket
10 yet, again, you can jump on the website,
11 it's user friendly, right Mary Lou.

12 MS. ARANEO: Right.

13 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Sylvia.
14 Very worthwhile cause, and excited to here
15 out of, you know, seven million you're at
16 six point four.

17 MS. ARANEO: Can we clap?

18 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes, yes.

19 MS. DIAZ: Team effort. Team effort.

20 CHAIR SANDERS: That's how we give our students
21 that are able to least afford tuition to
22 earn scholarships so thank you for all the
23 work. I'll do my report along with
24 Executive Committee report. Our Executive
25 Committee meets the Monday before each Board

1 Meeting and during that meeting we kind of
2 make sure that we go through topics that are
3 going to be discussed at the Board Meetings,
4 the agenda items. We try to make sure that
5 this meeting runs smoothly and efficiently
6 to get you in and out on time because the
7 real work is when we leave this room.

8 Some of the things in my report
9 for it's been a very interesting summer,
10 able to take a vacation, a real vacation,
11 finally. And when I say real, that means I
12 did not have access to cellphone for a
13 period. Which, if anybody has a cellphone,
14 you know you're constantly either looking at
15 it, you're checking something.

16 Then I realized after a couple of
17 days, why am I so worried about what
18 everybody else is doing? I'm on vacation.
19 And so I really had some rest and it came at
20 a very timely time because just when I was
21 getting on that Cruise ship I heard that the
22 President of the United States of America is
23 definitely coming to Suffolk Community
24 College. And I say, we got a team in place
25 that can handle it.

1 You know, it's -- I -- there was
2 no role for me. You know, fortunately the
3 President doesn't call me and say, Hey, I'm
4 coming, you know, you want to be there? And
5 the staff handles everything well. You
6 know, Secret Service comes in and they do
7 their thing. We just -- we are like support
8 characters so we don't have any major role.

9 This institution is very well run
10 and things are in place and that's probably
11 why they chose this location. There's a lot
12 of security, a lot of details that go into
13 when a President moves around this Country.
14 And so, commending the team and the staff.
15 Dr. McKay, because you were also on
16 vacation. And I know you were like whew.

17 DR. MCKAY: Madame Chair, that was not
18 planned.

19 CHAIR SANDERS: I know it wasn't planned. It
20 really wasn't. But things ran well. I was
21 very proud that we were able to accommodate
22 such an important person and everything went
23 smoothly. Yes, there was feedback; positive
24 and negative for us. And everybody has
25 different political views, but when it comes

1 down to accommodating the President of this
2 Country, it doesn't matter. We're a public
3 institution and you definitely accommodate
4 the President when he comes and we did that
5 well.

6 PRESIDENT MCKAY: We did, thank you.

7 CHAIR SANDERS: So I want to go on record and
8 congratulate everybody for making sure that
9 that went well. On the flip side of that,
10 you know, we are still dealing with national
11 racial tension based on what happened at the
12 University of Virginia. And, you know,
13 it's -- it's -- it gets personal because we
14 have faculty and staff and administrators
15 that have children that go to that college.

16 There are people that have
17 families that live in the area. And it was
18 a very tense evening that Friday and tense
19 that Saturday and it continues to be a lot
20 of tension in that community and it's
21 spilling over to other communities. And so
22 all we can do as a academic institution, we
23 have the responsibility to teach the truth
24 and continue to teach the truth and to be a
25 resource for the community for factual

1 information, that's what we can do.

2 That is our role in all of this.

3 We have history, professors that teach

4 history. We have faculty, staff,

5 administrators, and that's what we can stand

6 on. We can stand on the truth and make sure

7 that the 27,000 students that come through

8 our doors are prepared the lead in the

9 future. And we have to work on our

10 leadership.

11 We can argue all the details that

12 we want to argue in our little sideline

13 sidebars, but the fact is that we're

14 training up leadership and I hope that we

15 take that serious. Because these students

16 that come out, they're going to be the next

17 generation leadership. And we hope that

18 they make good decisions when, you know,

19 Trustee Canary was saying the Pledge, I

20 reflected on those words again, you know.

21 And so we're supposed to be an

22 inclusive nation and we have to work towards

23 that in everything we do.

24 TRUSTEE MORGO: Theresa, may I?

25 DR. MCKAY: Here here.

1 TRUSTEE MORGO: As I mentioned at the Executive
2 Committee, your priority on your students
3 was exactly well placed, particularly on
4 their safety.

5 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes.

6 TRUSTEE MORGO: I'm not really known for hiding
7 my views. And one thing that I would -- I
8 feel compelled to mention -- and I want to
9 also congratulate Kevin Peterman for his
10 letter in Newsday. And Kevin and I talked
11 before the meeting. There were things taken
12 out of that letter that emphasize the
13 difference in our point of view of inclusion
14 and opportunity and with the President's
15 point of view on those subjects or lack of
16 point of view.

17 The thing -- when we talk about
18 everybody has their own views and everybody,
19 you know, has a right to whatever his
20 opinion is, not of his facts, but his
21 opinion, I don't see an equivalency however.
22 I think some things there is a moral compass
23 and some things are right and wrong and I
24 think we saw the President this week come
25 out on the wrong side of morality. That's

1 not a partisan at all. It's a matter of
2 ethics and principle.

3 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you, Jim. And, you know,
4 part of the correspondence that's been
5 coming across a lot of news feeds and I try
6 to take it back again to, well, what does
7 that mean for Suffolk Community College? Is
8 there a lesson that we can learn from what
9 happened at University of Virginia? Was
10 there a way to protect our students,
11 faculty, staff? The larger community that
12 comes onto this campus.

13 I mean, you know, it could --
14 that could happen anywhere. And so, we had
15 really good discussions about protocols we
16 have in place. I was comfortable. I'm
17 continuing to get e-mails and updates. I
18 know Drew is on a news feed. Is he here?
19 Drew -- he's on a -- taking his daughter to
20 University of Virginia. But he also has a
21 role because part of what's been happening
22 as far as Trustees are concerned, Trustees
23 are communicating around the Nation.

24 Because the first thing we think
25 about is, so, how do we prevent something

1 like from happening on our colleges and
2 institutions?

3 And it was very ironic the day
4 before, we had the ribbon cutting for the
5 Suffolk County PD Substation right at the
6 Brentwood Campus. These relationships are
7 responsibility to us locally. Because, once
8 you get past the rhetoric of, you know, do
9 you like the President, don't you like
10 the -- it doesn't matter.

11 You know, our role as Trustees is
12 how do we keep students safe? How do we
13 teach the truth? And if we concentrate on
14 that, we'll be a beacon of light in all of
15 this mess and turmoil. So I'm extremely
16 comfortable because we did have that
17 conversation immediately that we do have
18 protocols in place.

19 We talked about the response time
20 of our Suffolk County PD and how quickly
21 they can get to any one of our campuses.
22 And so we have some things in place. And
23 I'm comfortable as a Trustee that we're in a
24 position to protect our students, faculty,
25 and staff and anyone who is visiting our

1 College campus.

2 Trustee Canary.

3 TRUSTEE CANARY: Yeah, again, I would like to
4 commend the staff for all of the great work
5 that was done in prepping and handling the
6 President's visit. To have that sprung on
7 you only days in advance, I mean, I think we
8 did a great job. And bringing it back to
9 the President's visit, there were hundreds
10 of protesters on the -- over at the State
11 Park property right across from the Grant
12 Campus, they were vociferous. But there was
13 no violence.

14 CHAIR SANDERS: Right.

15 TRUSTEE CANARY: There was no situation there.
16 They were exercising their First Amendment
17 Rights. You know, I may not agree with what
18 you have to say and what you think, but
19 dammit, I will defend to the death your
20 ability to come forward under the Bill of
21 Rights and this Constitution to express in a
22 peaceful manner your position. And, again,
23 our students right now are in a very
24 teachable moment of what's going on in this
25 country.

1 campuses assistant we have an Assistant
2 Director of Campus Activities and Student
3 Affairs also pegged into the Diversity
4 Office.

5 We have a committee across the
6 College that I formed that would have those
7 members, have the executive deans, myself,
8 the Vice President of Student Affairs. And
9 we get together and look at issues across
10 the entire college. Right now we are
11 talking about how we respond when the
12 students return on the 5th if there's a
13 need.

14 But before that we are talking
15 about what we should say in the Welcome Back
16 Message to the entire College Community. I
17 do send a letter out to the College
18 Community the first week when they get back
19 addressing the students, the faculty, the
20 staff. I'll mention later the convocation
21 September, what's the date again? 5th, in
22 the afternoon, I'm giving an address that
23 day. And I will be addressing this issue on
24 the 5th as well.

25 As Trustee Canary said, it's a

1 teachable moment. And we are a very diverse
2 community across this entire country,
3 especially in this College. We have
4 international students. We have students
5 across, you know, all walks of life.

6 And in our programming here at
7 the College we take a look at what
8 programming do we present to the students
9 and we ask the students what do you want to
10 hear from us? We have a student trustee
11 that's on this board that will tell us
12 exactly what he's hearing on the ground. We
13 have the campus deans that talk to us about
14 what we want in the clubs and activities,
15 what programming do we have on the campuses?

16 So we are very, very active
17 throughout the entire college. But what'
18 going to be more important, is not us to
19 wait but be proactive in what we do as an
20 institution. Because, again, the faculty
21 and staff will have the freedom to speak in
22 the classrooms and I'm sure they will
23 address that. But part of it too, we're
24 programming.

25 We have Nelson Mandela's grandson

1 coming here in the Center for Social
2 Justice. We're bringing his grandson here I
3 believe on the 14th. So after the board
4 meeting, we will be going to that session to
5 learn more about the life and history of
6 Nelson Mandela.

7 So we're bringing much of the
8 world to the College here as well. And what
9 we are seeing now is a lot of traffic and a
10 lot of statements being made. And they're
11 opinionated at times and some may not be
12 factual. But we have to allow teaching and
13 learning to curve within the confines and
14 the context of the classroom and present the
15 facts as we should as a teaching
16 institution.

17 But still folks will have their
18 opinions and that is the valid. Trustee
19 Canary.

20 TRUSTEE CANARY: Thank you. Again, I want to
21 commend you too on the letter that you wrote
22 explaining the situation. And I read that
23 and I said, you know, right on point, great.
24 And then I said to myself, why did this
25 letter even have to go out? I mean, it's

1 not a criticism to you, just in a general
2 context, like we have to explain this? I
3 mean, the President of the United States
4 wants to come to this campus and you have to
5 send out a letter to explain this to people,
6 I mean, come on.

7 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Sure.

8 TRUSTEE CANARY: But, again, your letter was
9 great, was on point. Kevin, the letter to
10 the editor I thought was a cheap shot and
11 you didn't deserve that as well. But, you
12 know, what it is is what it is, again,
13 expressing opinions.

14 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Sure.

15 TRUSTEE CANARY: But, again, I wanted to thank you
16 for that great letter.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: So just to --

18 TRUSTEE MORGO: I have to just say something.

19 CHAIR SANDERS: Go ahead.

20 MS. WYCLIFFE-CAMPBELL: Gemma had a comment.

21 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Oh, okay.

22 TRUSTEE MORGO: I was asked by someone who said,
23 Oh, I saw your comment. The College had no
24 choice. And this person, whom you know,
25 said -- he was kidding, he said, you

1 wouldn't have said that we had no choice if
2 it was Obama. Actually, if it were Obama.
3 And I said, "You're right. But I wouldn't
4 have said it if it were either President
5 Bush or Reagan either."

6 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes, Gemma, sorry.

7 MS. DELEON-LOPRESTI: One of the, amongst a series of
8 unfortunate remarks made by the President
9 was the comment about how the police should
10 treat suspected gang members. And, you
11 know, among -- when the community distrusts
12 the police, as we all know, that actually
13 empowers, emboldens gang activity.

14 I'm just curious if the students
15 in the school who maybe from immigrant
16 families or even undocumented families or
17 who themselves maybe undocumented, if they
18 have -- if this affects their future
19 enrollment or their ability to apply for
20 financial aid. Because just as they may be
21 afraid to go to the police about things,
22 they are afraid to go to the government for
23 many things including unemployment or
24 employment in general.

25 I'm just curious if that's had an

1 effect on our students.

2 CHAIR SANDERS: We have been talking about this
3 not just from the Presidential visit, but
4 this is a community concern. And one of the
5 things that we have been discussing is that
6 the College is beacon of light. So even
7 though there's all of this craziness out
8 there, it's almost a safe haven. And I'll
9 let, you know, Dr. McKay talk about some of
10 those things.

11 But I don't think the College is
12 looked at as being a place of fear. That
13 was one of the synergies of having the
14 Suffolk County Police here. Because you
15 have relationship. And if the College can
16 bridge those relationships, that's part of
17 our role also.

18 DR. MCKAY: And the key part of that,
19 especially in that Friday when we had the
20 substation opening, we had our community
21 leaders. We had members of the student
22 body. And I made a particular statement and
23 Commissioner Sini said the same thing too.
24 And he said, you know, we are a community.
25 And a community not of one but of many. And

1 these are our neighbors. We are all
2 neighbors.

3 We all live in communities where
4 we have officers next to us, the COPE
5 officers, you know, they are community
6 activists. But they need our help as much
7 as we need their help. You know, and as a
8 very large and complex institution, we work
9 with Southampton PD, we work with the
10 detectives, we work with the sheriffs, we
11 work with the -- again, we have to see them
12 as a community. We are a community.

13 And we mentioned that on Friday.
14 And I have to tell you, I have been here
15 since 2005. And I know many of the officers
16 who were there on Friday. And the first
17 thing they asked about the College, how are
18 you doing? Is there anything we can do to
19 help? You know, and on the flip side, we
20 asked, well, how are you doing? Is there
21 anything we do can do to help.

22 And, yes, when we decided to have
23 the substation, they didn't have the funding
24 for the equipment. We were phasing out
25 computers that, you know, that we were going

1 to either put in surplus. But then we
2 decided to work with them, right?

3 We had that substation available,
4 it was not being used. So, how about you
5 come to the community where you can have a
6 COPE station and work closely with the
7 community and the activists who are there
8 and let's talk about community relations and
9 all of that. We're going to have one here
10 at the Ammerman Campus and we're going to
11 have one over at Southampton PD as well.

12 We work closely together on all
13 matters under safety and security, we got the
14 best stuff, activities. They come to us and
15 explain to us exactly, well, here are your
16 soft spots, here's what you can work on.
17 And we work together on that. On
18 programming, for examples, on orientation,
19 we bring them in on orientation and have
20 them tell our students exactly, here's how
21 we function. Here's how you can help us.

22 And when we have activities at
23 the College we involve them as well. Now,
24 in programming, we try to go to the students
25 and talk about building social awareness and

1 social commitment and what you have can do
2 at the College as a community. So you don't
3 have to talk about policing. We talk about
4 how we can work well together and cohabitate
5 within the environment together.

6 So there's a lot that we do with
7 our law enforcement officers. But I have to
8 tell you, they do a lot for us. And it's
9 not when an incident happens. They'll check
10 in with -- like Sue Cameron will call Lou
11 will call Chris and say is there anything we
12 can do. How are things at the College?
13 Opening day, you know, they'll be around.

14 On College Road, for example,
15 it's a, you know, a one lane road. So they
16 will be around, you know, to help with
17 traffic and all of that. Because on the
18 opening day, you'll have traffic backed up
19 all the way down College Road so you have to
20 mitigate some of those issues. So I think
21 we have a good, a good good relationship
22 here now.

23 Now, that being said, there are
24 times when things will do happen. But they
25 see things now on how do we resolve issues.

1 Instead of making a judgment they come in
2 and ask questions and I have seen that
3 happen all the time. And my executive deans
4 to report when things happen. And safety
5 and security is paramount but at the same
6 time, the awareness is what we are
7 promoting. Make sure that you tell the
8 story and understand that they are our
9 community, we are their community. So if
10 you see something, you say something.

11 CHAIR SANDERS: And this is a really good time
12 because we are talking about community and I
13 know our own Legislator Martinez and our own
14 Valerie Cartwright probably have schedules,
15 they've got to leave. But I would like to
16 give them an opportunity because Legislative
17 Martinez was there on Friday for the ribbon
18 cutting. And so, Gemma, this kind of goes
19 to your question in terms of community. So
20 Legislator Martinez, would you like to --

21 MS. MARTINEZ: Good morning. I'm sorry, I do
22 have to run out but, one, I have to go thaw
23 myself out. It's freezing in here.

24 DR. MCKAY: Always, always, always.

25 MS. MARTINEZ: And I feel like my muscles are

1 tensing from trying to keep warm. No, but
2 it's a pleasure to be here. I just want to
3 first of all just say thank you to every
4 single one of you. I believe that visit
5 from our President, whether it was
6 warranted -- you know, liked or not by many,
7 it's an issue that we're all facing.

8 You know, I put out my own
9 statement in which I don't mind the
10 resources being given if being given in the
11 correct way. I represent a community that
12 is obviously very diverse. I represent a
13 community where we have a many undocumented,
14 unaccompanied individuals. And I have to
15 make sure that I take care of those that I
16 represent to alleviate that fear, to make
17 sure that our kids have a safe place to go.

18 And that's why last week was
19 great in having that new substation, because
20 it just gives them another place to go.
21 Many of them are afraid to go to the Third
22 Precinct.

23 You know, that's something that
24 we're trying to work with the Police
25 Department in trying to make it a little bit

1 more welcoming when you enter the Precincts.
2 It's a work in progress, but, you know,
3 knowing that we have an actual substation
4 that is community relations bureau, just the
5 word in itself, gives it that extra
6 sensitive touch.

7 And, you know, that day I was out
8 there. I was out there with members of my
9 community. And I really appreciated both
10 sides honestly. Because this is where we
11 live. We do have the right granted to us
12 under our Bill of Rights of protesting and
13 peacefully obviously. And what happened
14 this past week in Charlottesville was very
15 difficult because you're right, Chairwoman,
16 like we could see that here.

17 But I think we are a little
18 more -- I can't even say that anymore
19 because I just saw the news today that one
20 of the major leaders of that rally was from
21 Suffolk County. And it's just -- it's
22 scary. Because we have kids that are
23 afraid. And I just want to thank you the
24 College for always making this place
25 inviting to our students, whether they are

1 young or older. But they feel safe.

2 And when I came here I circled
3 the campus three times, well two and a half,
4 I told you two, but it was two and a half.
5 Trying to find the gymnasium. And then I
6 passed through the traffic circle, the one
7 that I was here with those of you before,
8 President McKay when we sat -- you know, we
9 stood on road to see how we were going to
10 fix the traffic here. And going through
11 that and seeing the changes being made to
12 the College is actually pretty cool.

13 I remember standing there and it
14 looked awful and now it's pretty cool. And,
15 you know, but these are the partnerships
16 that are being done. And as chair of the
17 Education Committee, you know you have my
18 utmost support always. And even though I
19 get backlash from my colleagues as to, you
20 know, but education is at the core of me.
21 And I think one of things that we need to
22 keep doing is educating our young and making
23 sure they have lives that they will be
24 successful in and making sure that they are
25 accepting of others. Because that's the

1 only way that we're really going to grow in
2 the nation in the tense moments that we are
3 in. And, Jim, I know you said something
4 that you wouldn't even say that about former
5 President George Bush and Reagan. And, you
6 know, I was just talking to other people,
7 it's just principles are principles.
8 Whether you're a republican or democrat. I
9 think, you know, it's about the core value
10 and morals at this point. And I work well
11 with all my colleagues at the legislature
12 bipartisan. And I have to speak to you,
13 Gordon. Because Senator Boyle and I are
14 working on something for Brightwaters, you
15 know.

16 But, again, it's a bipartisan
17 relationship and that's really what it comes
18 down to. So I just want to really thank you
19 for everything that you're doing. I have a
20 couple of things that I do need to discuss
21 with you but obviously I'm pressed for time
22 right now. And I did send out a letter I
23 believe about the meal plan. I know it's
24 not changing, I get it, but I have this
25 gentleman who keeps constantly calling me.

1 So, please help me with what because I want
2 to help him but at the same time it's out of
3 my hands.

4 And also I know that the
5 Roughriders are going to be coming before
6 you. I know there are a lot discrepancies
7 going on, still a lot of questions. The
8 only thing I ask of you is to please give
9 them your undivided attention. And if there
10 are any questions, please ask them and don't
11 leave anything up there, you know, in the
12 air whether it's on the side of the
13 Roughriders or the side of the College.

14 To me, I can see both sides. I
15 can see the troubled areas but I can also
16 see the positive that it could bring. Not
17 only economic development but, you know, we
18 can offer our kids from the Brentwood School
19 District and the Central Islip School
20 District who are so passionate about soccer
21 to really have programs for them. Looking
22 into the light of things right now, with,
23 you know, just anti-gang initiatives that
24 we're trying to do, just finding different
25 outlets, you know.

1 But it's something that, again, I
2 you to please consider and please have any
3 questions you have asked of them so nothing
4 is up there and no stone is unturned. And,
5 but aside from that, I just want to say
6 thank you for always inviting me and being
7 part of the Suffolk Community family.

8 PRESIDENT MCKAY: And Madame Chair, before
9 Legislator Martinez leaves, I must say that
10 at all of the budget working group meetings,
11 she attends every one of them. And she's
12 been a staunch supporter, ardent supporter
13 of the College as the Chair of the Education
14 Committee. And publicly I want to commend
15 her for her work with us.

16 MS. MARTINEZ: Thank you.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you, Legislative Martinez.
18 Ms. Cartwright.

19 MS. CARTWRIGHT: Good morning, still. I had to
20 check. Thank you very having me here today.
21 This is my first Meeting and it will not be
22 my last. I'm a Councilwoman in the Town of
23 Brookhaven. I do not necessarily represent
24 this district. It's right on the border,
25 this is Kevin Lavalley's district. But I

1 wanted to thank you each and every one of
2 you for your commitment to excellence and
3 your commitment to teaching the truth and
4 continuing to provide a safe haven for
5 students here.

6 These past eight months have been
7 crazy for everyone regardless of what
8 political position that you take. And I was
9 happy to be able to partner with Suffolk
10 County Community College with the
11 facilitation of Jerome Bost when the
12 immigration executive order first came out.
13 And we had an attorney general's office
14 here, I had a bilingual attorney come --
15 immigration attorney come speak to the
16 students and try to quell any fear that was
17 in the air and let them know that these are
18 the steps that you should be taking to make
19 sure that if you have confronted, this is
20 how you should handle it.

21 So I want to commend Suffolk
22 County Community College for actually
23 stepping up to make sure that the kids, the
24 students that are here are educated properly
25 and have the resources necessary in the vent

1 of a situation.

2 I'm accessible to you at any
3 point in time. The Town of Brookhaven looks
4 to partner with the educational institutions
5 on a regular basis. If you need anything
6 from the Brookhaven Government Office,
7 please note that I can be reached through my
8 Council office. I want to say thank you for
9 inviting me. I will be back. And I am here
10 at your service as an elected official.

11 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you. There are two more
12 things of mine that I want to make sure
13 under the Chair's report, just to make sure
14 that we continued to take part in that --
15 oh, I'm sorry, Jerome.

16 TRUSTEE BOST: Thank you. I just wanted to,
17 you know, say something just on behalf of
18 the students. During the President's visit
19 I received a, you know, a number of calls
20 from the students and one thing that they
21 were actually happy about that we have
22 police commissioner who stood up an actually
23 condemned any rough handling of prisoners
24 whether in or out of custody. And also that
25 we have a College President attends what's

1 the next event and sort of takes a stand on
2 behalf of the students regardless of the
3 immigration status. So I want to thank you,
4 Dr. McKay. I want to thank you,
5 Councilwoman Cartwright. And these reasons
6 are why I'm hearing and serving here on the
7 board as student trustee. So thank you.

8 DR. MCKAY: Here here.

9 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you. Just acknowledging,
10 and I think Gordon pointed it out, our BOT
11 vacancies which we're working hard to make
12 sure are filled. There are some BOT
13 trainings coming up for our ACCT which,
14 again, I encourage you, look at your
15 calenders, as Trustees to make sure that
16 you're able to participate in a training at
17 least within a 12 month cycle.

18 Some of them are, you know, I
19 think the next one is Las Vegas. Then we
20 have the NYCCT which is up in Albany. So
21 there's lots of different opportunities for
22 us as Trustees to continue our training. We
23 are having our own local retreat November
24 19, right, November 19. And this year --

25 MS. O'HARA: No, 16th.

1 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you, the 16th, which is a
2 Thursday. Please make sure it's on your
3 calender. Block out the morning at least up
4 until about 2:00, 3:00 o'clock. And this
5 year we are collaborating with the other
6 governance structures in the College, that
7 Foundation Board and the Center Board will
8 all be part of this one day training.

9 I would like to then thank all of
10 our subcommittee chairs for all of the work
11 that you're doing. It makes my job so much
12 easier that the subcommittees are
13 functioning. I want to specifically
14 acknowledge Bryan and your service to our
15 Board of Trustees and your --

16 TRUSTEE LILLY: I'm on the chopping block.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: You're on the chopping block.
18 You look too happy, why are you happy? But
19 just to acknowledge your service to this
20 Board, we thank you for all that you have
21 done. And it takes time to serve.

22 TRUSTEE LILLY: Thank you. I just want to put
23 in, but I was here when Walter was here and
24 his term had expired, and Belinda. So I
25 know that even though the term limit has

1 expired --

2 TRUSTEE MORGO: You maybe here for a while.

3 TRUSTEE LILLY: I maybe here for a while. Thank
4 you.

5 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you, Bryan.

6 That concludes my report.

7 Dr. McKay, you have the
8 President's report.

9 DR. MCKAY: Yes, Madam Chair, Members of the
10 Board, yesterday I sent around a document
11 and I spoke to members of the executive in
12 regards to addressing a secular calender at
13 the College. It has been an item that has
14 been on the table for quite a while, several
15 years. And I then called in the Calendar
16 Committee which consists of faculty. It
17 consists of governance. It consists of the
18 union members.

19 And Matt Okerblom who is here
20 with us today, the Executive Committee felt
21 that we should present the work that went
22 into the secular calender. And that I have
23 it laid on the table today and to have it
24 considered over the next month and then
25 we'll have a vote on the secular calender

1 policy at the September 14 meeting. So,
2 Matthew, can you just explain the process
3 and then take us through?

4 MR. OKERBLOM: So my name is Matthew Okerblom.
5 I'm the College Assistant Dean for
6 Curriculum Development and Chair of the
7 Calender Committee and I thank you Chair
8 Sanders and Board for the discussion today
9 on the secular calender.

10 Secular calender has been
11 probably discussed over the last five to
12 seven years. I took over as chair about two
13 years ago and over maybe the last year and
14 half, two years the Calendar Committee which
15 consists of representation from Academic
16 Affairs, Student Affairs, Faculty
17 Association, and human resources and faculty
18 governance representatives from each campus
19 did a thorough review of all the SUNY
20 colleges in our system and also the private
21 colleges here on Long Island.

22 And we found that a large
23 majority of them are all already at a
24 secular calendar. And this includes 79
25 percent of four years in the SUNY system and

1 86 percent of the two year colleges. It
2 also consists of many of our privates
3 including Hofstra and Adelphi here on Long
4 Island. And so the Calender Committee, for
5 two main reasons on top of the rest of our
6 SUNY system, most of our SUNY system is in
7 that direction.

8 Two main reasons that they
9 recommended that we move forward with this
10 is, one, is for the College's vision and one
11 of our institutional goals of diversity and
12 that treating all religious observances and
13 all different religions in the same
14 equitable way was very important to us.

15 Secondly, in creating the
16 calendar, the religious holidays often were
17 on different days. And so each year to try
18 to create a calender that was consistent,
19 that was clean for students and easy to
20 understand was difficult. And this often
21 resulted in certain days interrupting the
22 class schedule and it also resulted in
23 conversion days where a Wednesday
24 potentially turned into a Tuesday to allow
25 for every single class to meet the

1 designated 15 or 14 weeks that it had to.

2 This creates a lot of confusion
3 for faculty, this creates a lot of confusion
4 for students. And so we try to avoid it
5 much as possible but sometimes it's
6 unavoidable. In addition, sometimes we are
7 able to start the semester a little later, a
8 week later like this year after Labor Day
9 but sometimes we're not able to do that
10 because of the religious holidays.

11 So this would enable us to make a
12 more consistent and clean calender for our
13 students. The New York State Law asks us
14 that all students have to be able to have
15 their religious observation without any
16 penalty. And so we put together a religious
17 observance policy that takes this into
18 account but then considers those things that
19 may come up.

20 And so, students will have to
21 notify their professors but professors will
22 get a list of days that potential religious
23 observance days might be and they will be
24 able to then recommend to not have main
25 tests, main assignments done during that

1 time. If for whatever reason they have to,
2 the student cannot be penalized in anyway.
3 So this can't -- we actually don't have
4 excuse absences at this College but this
5 would be one excused absence, that they
6 cannot be penalized, there would have to be
7 some way to make up that test or the
8 assignment and so then they would be treated
9 equitably like every other student.

10 And so that's basically the
11 overview. I know in front of you you have
12 our religious observance policy, a draft of
13 that, and also the frequently asked
14 questions which we would have on our website
15 to ask questions that other, you know,
16 students or faculty might have. They are
17 taken from Stony Brook which implemented
18 this policy in Spring 2012 and also New
19 Palz, it's drafted similar to what they have
20 done.

21 So thank you again for your time.

22 Is there any questions.

23 TRUSTEE DELEON-LIPROSTI: Could this effect in anyway any
24 of the collective bargaining agreements with
25 faculty?

1 MR. OKERBLOM: Yeah, so, we have been in
2 discussion with the Faculty Association and,
3 you know, and also Human Resources and there
4 isn't any --

5 TRUSTEE DELEON-LOPRESTI: There's no issue on that.

6 MR. OKERBLOM: -- any issue on that.

7 DR. PETERMAN: All good.

8 DR. MCKAY: Thank you. And the good thing
9 that Kevin sat on that Committee as well.
10 So if there was any questions, that would
11 have been addressed at that point.

12 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, appreciate
13 it.

14 MR. OKERBLOM: Thank you.

15 DR. MCKAY: Thank you, Matthew. And again,
16 transparency is at the core of the
17 discussions and inclusion in regards to the
18 various sectors across the College were all
19 in discussion. And this has been ongoing
20 over five or so years. And we felt it was
21 time for us to bring it together as we move
22 in the area of inclusion and to address the
23 operations of the campus as well. So we
24 wanted to be prudent in our responsibility.
25 And I believe that the committee

1 that we had did just that. So for purposes,
2 the executive of the committee wants to have
3 this sit on the table for the entire month.
4 We'll bring back the policy to the Board for
5 approval on September 14 at that meeting.
6 Thank you.

7 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you.

8 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Madame Chair, Members of the
9 Board, as you know -- Lauren -- we have been
10 working on Middle States and preparing for
11 what would be a visit later this fall. The
12 committees have been meeting. They've
13 submitted their work. And Lauren who is
14 the LAO, the liaison officer for Middle
15 States is here with us today to tell you
16 exactly where we are with the Middle States
17 process and to give you a current update.
18 Lauren?

19 MS. TACKE-CUSHING: Right here, sorry. Madame Chair,
20 Members of the Board, Dr. McKay, I'm happy
21 to report that we are right on schedule,
22 right where we wanted to be. In the spring
23 we received all the standard committee
24 reports and the writing committee has been
25 working doggedly over the summer. We have

1 been passing drafts back and forth,
2 verifying data, going to different areas to
3 make sure everything is up to date. It will
4 be a living document up until the time we
5 submit it, because, again lots of dynamics,
6 lots of things are changing. So we want to
7 make sure it absolutely reflects everything
8 that is going.

9 But we are feeling very strongly.
10 We had a round two draft submitted this
11 week, so we have go two full draft rounds
12 and we're hoping with that draft to get to
13 the point we're submitting it to the whole
14 Suffolk County Community by September. And
15 we are asked to give at least two weeks for
16 feedback. So we will be asking some guided
17 questions so that we will be getting some
18 feedback from the community and then being
19 able to incorporate it into the self-study
20 report.

21 We're hoping to get it to you for
22 your review and feedback by October. And
23 this will be within the timeline so that
24 we'll be able to get it to our team chair by
25 November. I do also want to announce that

1 we have a new team chair. The previous team
2 chair had to step down for some professional
3 obligations. But during the summer a new
4 team chair was selected and approved by
5 Dr. McKay, and that is Steven Rose.

6 He is president of Passaic County
7 Community College in New Jersey. And we're
8 currently verifying that he will stick with
9 the dates that we agreed with the previous
10 team chair. So those dates are that the
11 team chair visit would be November 7, which
12 is a Tuesday. And that our self-study team
13 visit would be March 18th through the 21st.

14 So we're still really trudging
15 along and feeling very positive and the ball
16 is rolling.

17 DR. MCKAY: Madame Chair, Members of the
18 Board, I would like to commend Lauren
19 publicly and Dan Linker for all the hard
20 work that they put into this project. I
21 must say that the writing team now is really
22 at the core of what this next step is about.
23 And it's difficult when you're pulling in
24 the work from so many subcommittees and
25 trying to get the consistent language and

1 the documentation and to make sure that we
2 are providing the evidence of what it's
3 looking forward in the seven standards. So
4 publically I want to commend Lauren.

5 MS. TACKE-CUSHING: Thank you.

6 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes. I do have to reiterate,
7 Dr. McKay, you know when we used to come to
8 these meetings and the words Middle States
9 was uttered we would, you know, shudder.
10 And now we're nice and calm and we're
11 waiting for reports and language. It's a
12 lot different atmosphere now talking about
13 Middle States. So thank you very much and
14 thank you for your team's work.

15 DR. MCKAY: Madame Chair, as I move along, I
16 move along quickly. Just to let you know,
17 the College's Academic Convocation will take
18 place 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on the first day of
19 fall classes, September 5th, right here in
20 the gymnasium. You are all invited to
21 attend. It will be a great day for the
22 students. You'll see the first time
23 students, faculty and staff all in
24 attendance. And it will be a good way to
25 show support for our new students coming in.

1 The Academic Calender Committee
2 also we met as a cabinet this past week.
3 Commencement will be on Thursday, May 24 and
4 it will be a 11:00 a.m. We took some time
5 to consider that because that's the holiday
6 weekend. So we decided to keep the
7 commencement at 11:00 a.m. so at least we'll
8 be out early for families who want to travel
9 right after on that day. You'll hear that
10 date again a little bit later.

11 Again, on September 14, at 11:00
12 a.m., Nelson Mandela's grandson will be here
13 on campus in the Shea Theatre. That will be
14 right after the Board meeting. So that will
15 be at 11:00 a.m. so hopefully we'll have
16 some members of the Board if their meeting
17 is over early enough will be there in
18 attendance.

19 He's going to talk about his
20 grandfather and his legacy and what he's
21 learned from his grandfather. Again,
22 bringing diversity and bringing the world
23 view here to the College. The official
24 ribbon cutting, again, for the Learning
25 Resource Center at the Michael J. Grant

1 Campus is Thursday October 19 at 2:00 p.m.

2 It was scheduled at that time so
3 we can get Members of the Board to be in
4 attendance. We're working on getting
5 officials across the State and County to be
6 in attendance and to invite as many local
7 officials as possible and agencies that are
8 here to attend. It's a wonderful building.
9 It's going to be a legacy for this College.
10 When I first arrived, I spoke to Kevin
11 Peterman. I learned that there were only
12 two study rooms in a library that now to
13 date, the campus holds 10,000 students.

14 That was a huge, huge achievement
15 for us to move into that building. And now
16 we're going to repurpose that space in
17 Sagtikos for other campus needs. And I
18 walked through the building as well, Trustee
19 Canary, and I can tell you that I was on
20 pins and needles, too. But to see where we
21 are today in regards to the advancement that
22 we have made, and the books have moved in
23 finally and stuff like that, we are on our
24 way. And the LRC will be used on the first
25 day of classes. The Middle States -- well,

1 we just went over Middle States.

2 And again, last Friday, I want to
3 commend Trustee Bost and again thank Chair
4 Sanders for being with us at the substation.
5 I felt it was important for us to have
6 representation and, again, Trustee Sanders
7 was sitting next to Commissioner Sini. And
8 as always, we're always working. So, you
9 know, while Trustee Sanders had his ear next
10 to the seat, I was working with Legislator
11 Martinez on one side and Assemblywoman
12 Kimberly Jean-Pierre.

13 So we were actually working with
14 our elected officials, talking about the
15 value of education, the value of community
16 and the value of supporting us when we come
17 before you for the needs or your community
18 members. So we were actually talking about
19 the role of advocacy and why the need for
20 support in the community is valid.

21 CHAIR SANDERS: Excuse me, Sean. But, you know
22 what, I'm getting so bad being around him
23 that the ribbon wasn't even cut before he's
24 asking for support for substation on the
25 other campus. So I just chimed right in. I

1 problem. So we'll see more of that in the
2 next year ahead.

3 And finally, we met with Natures
4 Bounty and Joe Lombardo I believe is here.
5 They are looking for training in the ESL
6 area for over 100 employees in Natures
7 Bounty. And there's an introductory class
8 of 20 students and that is officially
9 underway.

10 We hosted Nassau County Community
11 College this past week. The president
12 Hubert Keen and his cabinet came to meet
13 with us. And they were looking for best
14 practices.

15 So we met, it was --

16 MS. O'HARA: Monday.

17 DR. MCKAY: Monday, yeah Monday. And we met
18 for over three and a half hours. And we
19 went over finance, we went over governance,
20 went over academic scheduling, a host of
21 different topics. And that went extremely
22 well. So we have exchanged numbers for the
23 functional areas so then we can work
24 together as two neighboring institutions
25 both in the SUNY system. As you know,

1 Hubert Keen was at the four year campus
2 level which at the State SUNY level, the RF
3 deal differently than how we function. So
4 while we can negotiate and our grants office
5 did work, Hubert didn't have that
6 experience.

7 So now Mary Lou and the grant
8 area, we explained how that works, we
9 explained how the Foundation works, how
10 staffing is covered in those areas, how
11 bargaining works. We had Jeff Novara
12 (phonetic) with us. So we had a lot going
13 on this week.

14 So, Madam Chair, Members of the
15 Board, I have to say that this has been a
16 very busy summer but I thank you that I was
17 able to get a vacation myself. Which the
18 Chair and Carol my Chief of Staff made sure
19 that I had no meetings that month and the
20 actually ensured I got on the flight to
21 Trinidad, so, thank you, Madame Chair.

22 CHAIR SANDERS: And it's booked for July 1, 2018
23 already. When you rest -- seriously, when
24 you rest, this is a high pressure job that
25 you have and when you get rest, you're able

1 to have clarity and it's much, much better
2 health-wise for you and for the rest of the
3 team. So I will insist that it's booked
4 next year.

5 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Carol?

6 MS. WYCLIFFE-CAMPBELL: Okay.

7 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Carol said it's booked, Madame
8 Chair.

9 CHAIR SANDERS: Good. Thank you, Carol.

10 DR. MCKAY: That is my report.

11 CHAIR SANDERS: Gordon. Thank you, Dr. McKay.

12 TRUSTEE CANARY: Thank you Dr. McKay. Two things,
13 I got to know Dr. Keen SUNY Farmingdale,
14 great guy, very capable, very happy to see
15 him go over the Nassau County. Point is
16 though, I think it's such a great compliment
17 that he has reached out to us to see how
18 we're doing things. And once again, it just
19 demonstrates that Suffolk Community leads
20 the way. And I just want to point that out.
21 So I thought that was great.

22 PRESIDENT MCKAY: Thank you.

23 TRUSTEE CANARY: Second thing is, why didn't you
24 tell everybody about the great speech I gave
25 at last year's convocation?

1 PRESIDENT MCKAY: I filled in for her.

2 CHAIR SANDERS: Are you going to fill in again?

3 TRUSTEE MORGO: There's no interest like
4 self-interest, Gordon.

5 CHAIR SANDERS: I tell you. Here you go, just
6 pass it over in advance. All right. So,
7 let's get to -- we're down to the end, guys,
8 so you know. So round table. And I need to
9 take an oral consensus to move the Board
10 Meeting that was originally scheduled for
11 September 21st to September 14.

12 Motion.

13 TRUSTEE MORGO: Motion.

14 CHAIR SANDERS: Second?

15 TRUSTEE CANARY: Second.

16 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor.

17 Any abstentions?

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

20 CHAIR SANDERS: Okay. So we're formally on the
21 record for that. Other round table items of
22 tomorrow. The College works in the
23 community and so we had 30 students that --
24 for the local community and Suffolk County
25 that are now graduating so if anyone is on

1 the campus tomorrow, they are graduating
2 from a summer youth employment training
3 program. We had faculty staff that acted as
4 mentors. These are young people in the
5 community.

6 One young student enrolled in
7 Suffolk over the summer, so she said I'm
8 going. She's a young mom and she's coming.
9 We've got another 23 that are going back to
10 high school but they are potential enrollees
11 at Suffolk. So the College is in the
12 community. So if you are around tomorrow
13 10:00 to 12:00 will be at the Health and
14 Sports Center. You can kind of see the
15 connection to the community. Yes?

16 PRESIDENT MCKAY: And Madame Chair, Members of the
17 Board, we had a ribbon -- I mean, an
18 articulation signing. I want to thank
19 Dr. Boden. We signed with St. John's. And
20 I'm pleased to say that when we did the
21 student part of it, we also talked about the
22 employee side of it. How do we get
23 employees to get so promotions? How can
24 they get their leadership aspects down
25 before? How could they then move from a

1 Bachelors to a Masters, a Masters to a
2 Doctorate? And St. John's offered to have a
3 doctoral program where they will reduce the
4 cost of attendance by 50 percent for members
5 of the College.

6 I'm pleased to announce that we
7 have a cohort that now there will be over in
8 Hauppauge. And there's a session starting
9 at about 11:00 o'clock where they'll cut a
10 ribbon. We have full cohort of 25 employees
11 enrolled to now get the doctorate in this
12 program. So, and again, it goes to show
13 that, again, by reaching out and formulating
14 these articulation agreements, that it's not
15 just one aspect of the institution, we're
16 looking at the whole institution and to
17 bring these resources right here.

18 So that is just the beginning and
19 I know there are other employees who are
20 interested. And I'll be joining them in
21 Hauppauge to celebrate the 25 employees in
22 that program.

23 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Dr. McKay.

24 At this point, I would like to
25 request a motion to enter into executive

1 session to discuss the medical, financial,
2 credit or employment history of a particular
3 person or corporation; the terms of a
4 contract, matters leading to the
5 appointment, employment, promotion,
6 demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal
7 or removal of a particular person or
8 corporation; and the proposed lease of real
9 property.

10 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Motion.

11 TRUSTEE MORGO: Second.

12 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

13 Any abstentions?

14 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
15 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

16 DR. MCKAY: And there will be no business --

17 CHAIR SANDERS: And there will be no
18 business conducted after so thank you to all
19 that attended. [THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
20 TRUSTEES WAS CLOSED BY THE CHAIRPERSON,
21 THERESA SANDERS, AT 10:53 A.M.]

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