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OFFICIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

PROCEEDINGS AND VERBATIM DISCUSSIONS OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SUFFOLK
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE HELD ON THE 21ST
DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2019 AT 4:06 P.M., AT
SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, GRANT
CAMPUS, LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER, BOARD
ROOM, BRENTWOOD, NEW YORK.

PRESENT:

LOUIS PETRIZZO, ESQ.
Executive Vice President/General Counsel

GORDON D. CANARY, Trustee
SHIRLEY E. COVERDALE, Trustee
GEMMA DELOEN-LOPRESTI, Trustee
E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY, Trustee
KEVIN M. O'CONNOR, Trustee (Not Present)
BELINDA PAGDANGANAN, Trustee
DENISE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN, Trustee
JEROME BOST, Student Trustee

THERESA SANDERS, Trustee/Chairperson
JAMES MORGO, Trustee/Vice Chairperson

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1 CHAIR SANDERS: I would like to call the Meeting
2 to order, the Board of Trustees Meeting.
Page 1

3 Please stand for the Pledge with our own
4 Trustee Canary.
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 3:08 P.M.]
10 CHAIR SANDERS: Okay. Thank you. I would like
11 to request a motion to enter into Executive
12 Session to discuss the employment, status,
13 discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal
14 of a particular employee.
15 TRUSTEE MORGO: So moved.
16 TRUSTEE CANARY: Second.
17 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?
18 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
19 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]
20 CHAIR SANDERS: And we will finish all business
21 after that.
22 [WHEREUPON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ENTERED
23 INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM 3:09 P.M. TO
24 4:01 P.M.]
25 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much. We don't

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1 have to enter into a motion to call the
2 meeting back to order, do we?
3 MR. PETRIZZO: No.
4 CHAIR SANDERS: All right. Are there any guests,
5 Carol?

6 MS. WICKLIFEE-CAMPBELL: No.

7 TRUSTEE BOST: Yes. I would like to acknowledge
8 Michelle Wilcox, the president of PTK for
9 the Eastern Campus.

10 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much and welcome.
11 I would like to request a motion
12 to adjourn Board of Trustees Meeting and
13 call the Board of Directors Meeting to
14 order.

15 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Motion.

16 TRUSTEE BOST: Second.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: Moved and seconded.
18 All in favor?

19 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
20 VOTED ON AND CARRIED. THE MEETING OF THE
21 BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY
22 COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAS ADJOURNED BY THE
23 CHAIR, THERESA SANDERS, AT 4:02 P.M AND
24 REOPENED AT 4:06 P.M.]
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1 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much. We are
2 sitting again as the Board of Trustees. I
3 would like to request a motion for the
4 approval of minutes of the February 21, 2019
5 Board of Trustees Meeting.

6 TRUSTEE MORGO: So moved.

7 TRUSTEE COVERDALE: Second.

8 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?
9 Any opposed?

10 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Abstain.

11 CHAIR SANDERS: Okay. One abstention.

12 I would like to introduce Vice
13 President of Business and Financial Affairs
14 Gail Vizzini to present the College Budget
15 and College Financial Records.

16 MS. VIZZINI: Thank you, Madam Chair.
17 Everybody has their revenue and expenditure
18 projections for the 2018-2019 Operating
19 Budget. Generally speaking, the revenue and
20 expenditure projections are trending
21 consistent with my previous reports. The
22 projected four point one million dollar
23 shortfall in revenue of which three point
24 six million is tuition and \$426,000 is being
25 mitigated by our controlling of our

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1 expenditures which you could see on your
2 expenditure report.

3 The Budget and Finance
4 Subcommittee of the Board have been working
5 very hard to determine what assumptions will
6 be used to develop the 2019-2020 Operating
7 Budget for consideration by the County and
8 SUNY. The specifics of this will be shared
9 when the subcommittee reports by Trustee
10 Morgo.

11 Before you Item Six today is the
12 adoption of the College wide Financial

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13 Statements. They were loaded to the portal

14 and some of you did get them at the
15 subcommittee meeting but there are bound
16 copies right there if anyone would like them
17 to be distributed.

18 We have our representative from
19 the Bonadio Group here. He has a few
20 comments and we are available -- my staff
21 and I are available should you have any
22 questions.

23 But for the record I would like
24 to say that I'm very pleased to report that
25 once again the College has received an

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1 unqualified opinion, which in accountants'
2 terms is a good thing, indicating that the
3 financial statements and the supporting
4 documents were an accurate representation of
5 the College's financial position as of
6 8/31/18.

7 Additionally, the College has
8 been compliant with all applicable
9 accounting principles and practices and all
10 financial transactions were authorized,
11 timely, and accounted for in the proper
12 period. As a result of their audit, the
13 independent auditors noted no matters that
14 resulted in any weakness, internal controls
15 or noncompliance with laws an regulations
16 that would materially effect the financial
Page 5

17 statements.

18 The auditors found that our
19 internal control structures were sufficient
20 to ensure in safeguarding of the College's
21 assets and limit the College's exposure to
22 loss. All of these things very important.

23 I want to personally thank the
24 staff of our Business and Financial Affairs,
25 in particular Sara Gorton, Associate Dean of

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1 Finance, and John Bullard, for their
2 professionalism and support in assuring that
3 the Suffolk County Community College
4 operates in compliance with governmental
5 accounting requirements and practices.

6 Tim Doyle, if you could just
7 summarize quickly.

8 MR. DOYLE: Absolutely. Actually those were
9 all the things I was going to say but you
10 captured most of them. First and foremost,
11 thank you for having me here this evening,
12 Tim Doyle partner engagement with the
13 Bonadio Group. We did recently complete the
14 audit and you have either a hard copy or
15 digital copy with you. Some of the things
16 that we did want to note; we did want to
17 thank management staff for being ready,
18 that's key being able to get audits done in
19 a timely manner. And they were diligent in

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20 being prepared and responding to all of

21 those requests.

22 Some of the things I did want to
23 note, in that packet you have your auditor's
24 report, it's unmodified is the new term, it
25 used to be unqualified, now they call it

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1 unmodified. Some confusion there when you
2 hear unqualified, that sounds like a
3 negative thing. So it was changed recently
4 to unmodified. But an unmodified opinion is
5 the highest level of assurance that an
6 auditor can give we. It means that we are
7 able to obtain sufficient evidence to
8 support the statements in that position, the
9 statement of activities, the footnotes that
10 are enclosed in them as well.

11 we are also required to submit a
12 governmental auditing standards report where
13 we report on the internal controls over
14 financial reporting. Those are the control
15 that are not in place, not operating
16 effectively could result in missing a
17 material either error or fraud in your
18 financial statements.

19 we did note no material
20 weaknesses or significant deficiencies in
21 those internal controls. Additionally, in
22 that report we are required to report under
23 compliance of laws, regulations, grant

24 contracts that could have material effect on
25 the statement. We noted no noncompliance in

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1 those areas as well, so that's also a good
2 thing.

3 Additionally in there, there's a
4 third report from the auditors. This report
5 is on your uniform guidance of the federal
6 grants audit. We tested this year's student
7 financial aid cost which by far is your
8 largest program and standard with all of our
9 colleges. You qualified as a low risk
10 auditee, meaning that in the last two years,
11 you did not have modified opinions on the
12 financial statements or your single audit
13 and did not have any material weakness in
14 those.

15 So you are still are a low risk
16 auditee which is a federal classification
17 and in your uniform audit, we looked at your
18 internal controls over those programs, so
19 your student financial aid, noted no
20 material weakness or significant
21 deficiencies and then we have to issue an
22 opinion on whether you comply in all
23 material respect to the program.

24 Federal government puts out
25 compliance supplements each year showing

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1 auditors what needs to be complied with and
2 we tested to those. We go to the unmodified
3 opinion, again the highest level of
4 assurance that you can obtain in your audit.

5 So, all very good results there
6 on the audit. You also have another
7 document which is a required communication.
8 The one thing that I will just pull out of
9 that and it's also in your financial
10 statements, this year you are required to
11 implement GASB 75 which is, if you are
12 familiar with what was GASB 45, that very
13 very large OPEB liability that is on your
14 books, hundreds of millions of dollars, just
15 got bigger with GASB 75. So now you know
16 what it is, right?

17 It's that large balance. There
18 many new footnotes in your financial
19 statements describing how it's determined
20 and there's also a prior period adjustment
21 that was required to bring you from the old
22 GASB 45 to the new GASB 75. So it's
23 important that you familiarize yourself with
24 that because that was a large change.

25 The good news is, that

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1 information, most of it, was in your
2 financials before. You had a required
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3 supplemental schedule that always asked you
4 to show the 100 percent amount, it just
5 wasn't required that it was reported in the
6 financials. So it was in there in some
7 degree before.

8 So those are really the
9 highlights, but I'm open the any questions
10 that you may have.

11 CHAIR SANDERS: No question. Just a thank you.
12 Thank you for the support and ease in
13 relationship. And we really are not the
14 average institution, so it's complicated.
15 So we thank you for guidance in keeping us
16 up to breadth in terms of the new, you know,
17 financial requirement that we have to meet
18 to. Thank you again.

19 TRUSTEE MORGO: Thank you.

20 TRUSTEE CANARY: Thank you, Tim.

21 MR. PETRIZZO: Thank you.

22 MR. BOYLE: Thank you.

23 MS. VIZZINI: The last two comments just in
24 terms of resolutions with financial impact,
25 Item Number One is the monthly sponsor

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1 services payment for health insurance, two
2 point six million dollars. Item two are the
3 budget transfers. There are two transfers
4 \$180,000 is our projection for synergistic's
5 share of the savings for the remainder of

6 the year. We need to move some money over
7 so we can satisfy the contractual
8 requirements there.
9 And the other one is \$15,000, a
10 piece of cooking equipment at the Captree
11 Common Grant Campus has exceeded its useful
12 life. The repairs are terribly expensive.
13 It's time to replace it. That's what that
14 is for.

15 CHAIR SANDERS: Great. Thank you, Gail.

16 MS. VIZZINI: You're welcome.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: Great. I would like to request a
18 motion for the approval of College
19 Resolutions 2019.13 to 2019.18.

20 TRUSTEE MURRAY: Motion.

21 TRUSTEE CANARY: Second.

22 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

23 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
24 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

25 Committee reports. Why don't we

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1 save the best for last.

2 TRUSTEE MORGO: I'm glad you think so.

3 CHAIR SANDERS: We will start with our Governance
4 Committee.

5 TRUSTEE CANARY: Thank you, Madam Chairwoman.
6 Governance Committee met on Monday, March 18
7 at the Ammerman Campus. Present at the
8 meeting was myself, Chair Sanders, Jim
9 Morgo, Alicia O'Connor, Ashley Pope,

10 Christina Vargas and Gail Canahan our
11 recording secretary.

12 Deputy General Counsel Ashley
13 Pope distributed the latest draft of the
14 Sexual and Romantic Relationships Policy,
15 also known as killing cupid on college
16 campuses. That includes comments from the
17 three campus governance leaders. The policy
18 was reviewed and a discussion regarding the
19 campus governance's comments and what
20 requirements are being mandated by SUNY.

21 Questions were raised if this
22 would apply to vendors as well and the
23 Committee was informed that our vendor
24 contracts include provisions regarding
25 nondiscrimination and that any complaints we

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1 receive regarding a vendor's conduct are
2 addressed appropriately with those vendors.

3 Chair Canary asked that the final
4 draft be sent to Kevin Pederman, President
5 of the Faculty Association for his review
6 and comments prior to the next Board of
7 Trustees Governance Committee Meeting. So
8 again, we are continuing these discussions
9 and refining the final draft. Trustee Morgo
10 requested that the review of the operational
11 functions of the Center for Social Justice
12 and Human Understanding be tabled until

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13 after the College's budget has been passed

14 for the 2019-2020 academic year and the
15 committee agreed.

16 Deputy General Counsel Alicia
17 O'Connor and our Chief Diversity Officer
18 Title IX Coordinator Christine Vargas
19 informed the committee about a new policy
20 proposed by the LGBTQ task force which will
21 permit employees and students to identify a
22 name other than their legal name to be used
23 at the College. A draft of the new Chosen
24 Name Policy will be distributed at the April
25 Board of Trustees Governance Committee

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1 Meeting.

2 So the agenda items for the April
3 Committee will include the continuation of
4 the review of the Sexual and Romantic
5 Relationships Policy and distribution and
6 review of a draft of a Chosen Name Policy.

7 Next Governance Committee Meeting
8 is scheduled for Monday, April 15th at the
9 Ammerman Campus. That concludes my report.

10 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much.

11 Any questions? Okay. Moving
12 right along, we'll go to Student Success.

13 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Thank you, Chair Sanders. We met
14 on Monday, March 18. In attendance was
15 myself, Carol Wickliffe-Campbell, Marylou
16 Araneo, Paul Beaudin, Dr. Christopher Adams

17 and Bell, she was there as well. She joined
18 us for our first meeting. We had some
19 really good conversations.

20 One of the things that
21 Dr. Beaudin spoke with us about is something
22 we had spoken about before, OER, Open
23 Educational Resources where we have
24 currently four -- well, during our
25 Professional Development Day this past week

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1 they had a session about it. We have, if
2 you all remember, this is a program that
3 would allow our students to get textbooks
4 and materials for classes for free. We are
5 part of a grant with that and currently we
6 are the third largest college using the
7 program out of 64 colleges. So it's very
8 impressive.

9 And part of the reason that we
10 want this to be utilized because it helps
11 students to obtain the materials that they
12 need for their courses. If the student
13 doesn't have the money to buy the textbook
14 until the second or third week of the
15 course, you know, they are starting behind
16 the eight ball. So we are really hopeful
17 that this is something that the faculty is
18 comfortable with and excited to use.

19 It should be noted that it's not

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20 just textbooks, it's also supporting

21 documents, articles, and teachers get to
22 produce some of these things and then they
23 are shared amongst everyone that uses it.
24 So it sounds like a really nice tool.

25 The other thing that we talked

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1 about was commencement. They started the
2 student ticketing system. So students will
3 be able to go on and decide which of the two
4 graduation ceremonies they would like to
5 attend. They are able to get four tickets
6 plus a ticket for themselves obviously, that
7 they are able to print from a download.
8 That sounds like it's going well and the
9 feedback has been positive.

10 As far as transportation from the
11 Eastern Campus for students from here to be
12 able to go to Brentwood, so far we are
13 seeing minimal interest. There will be has
14 an Master Calender or there has been a
15 Master Calendar of all of the ceremonies as
16 we the school year comes to an end, that
17 will be shared with all the Trustees if
18 anyone would like to go to the celebration.

19 The other thing that was exciting
20 to me, I'm excited to see how this comes
21 out. There's a program called a College
22 Scheduler which is recognized for best
23 practice where students are able to get on

24 their phone or computer and put their
25 conflicts in. So they can -- we can have a

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1 sense of where the discrepancies are with
2 regards to giving students courses in
3 timeframes that work for them. So it will
4 help us as a College to understand the needs
5 of the people that we serve. So I'm curious
6 to see how that goes.

7 The other thing that we talked
8 about is online courses, that they are
9 becoming more and more popular. And it's
10 definitely something that we probably need
11 to do more of because if our students don't
12 see the course here, they could take it at
13 another Community College. So we want to
14 keep in mind.

15 And it would also be really good
16 for us to get students from outside the
17 county to take our online courses, then we
18 can get an out of state tuition. We're just
19 trying to find all the ways we can to
20 support our students.

21 The last thing that we talked
22 about was Evening Common Hour. They started
23 doing that on the Eastern Campus, I see
24 Dr. Rios is here. The lecture series, it
25 looks fabulous. It's -- February they did

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1 one, March 14 couple in March. But the
2 topics are wonderful. One of them is --
3 it's one hour from 7:00 to 8:00 here in this
4 building. And the last -- the one this past
5 in February was about eastern campus
6 leadership. The next one is Your Journey to
7 Bachelors Degree. So talking to students
8 about what you're looking for in a college,
9 you know, what is a good fit? How to
10 determine if it's a good fit for you.

11 One was Google, you know, how to
12 use Google. So I think it's a great way to
13 build community and the research shows that
14 it helps with retention. Our meeting ended
15 11:40. And we have meeting again the Monday
16 before the next Board Meeting here on the
17 Eastern campus at 9:00 a.m.

18 CHAIR SANDERS: Great. Any questions?

19 TRUSTEE MURRAY: The Open Source, I think that
20 came up at the Budget Committee Meeting also
21 as a way of helping the students. As a
22 parent of a college student, I found the
23 thousand dollars I paid for books went down
24 to about a hundred dollars, so that's a real
25 savings.

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1 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: So your child is using it?

2 TRUSTEE MURRAY: They are graduating, but yes.

3 It's a big plus.

4 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Talk about meeting students where
5 they are. Our students are on computer,
6 they are not carrying books around. It
7 really does speak to that as well.

8 CHAIR SANDERS: Any other questions?

9 Thank you, Denise.

10 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: You're welcome.

11 CHAIR SANDERS: we don't have any personnel
12 committee reports nor update on facilities.
13 Okay, so let's go to Budget.

14 TRUSTEE MORGO: Thank you, Theresa. The full
15 committee was in attendance on March 13. We
16 had administrative support, we had 10
17 members of the administration so I want to
18 particularly thank Gail for having her
19 lieutenants John Bullard and Sara Gorton at
20 the meeting.

21 It was a -- not a lot of fun. It
22 was a sobering meeting. And our task was in
23 March to provide Gail with some assumptions
24 that she can prepare the resolution that
25 we'll have a consider in April for 2019-2020

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1 Operating Budget. And we had four major
2 tasks.

3 Number one, what level of State
4 aid to assume. Number two, what percentage
5 of County increase to assume. What tuition

6 increase to recommend, if any, and what use
7 of the reserves to recommend, if any.

8 And we had to get that done at
9 our March 13 meeting because of the tyranny
10 of time. As I said, we're in crunch time.
11 To take the drama out of this, let me get to
12 the end of the meeting right now to advise
13 you of what we are going to recommend.
14 Again, we don't take action on this until
15 next month but you should know.

16 And I'm going to try not to get
17 into the weeds too much because we a very
18 specific discussion. But I want to explain
19 to you why we came to these recommendations.
20 We are recommending that Gail use \$100 per
21 full time equivalent student to assume in
22 State Aid.

23 We are recommending that she use
24 a three percent increase from the County.
25 We are recommending a \$250 two semester

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1 increase in tuition. We are recommending
2 the use of approximately three point nine
3 million in reserves. This will leave us a
4 balance of 10 point six million or 4.72
5 percent of our operating budget, well under
6 the recommended amount.

7 We began the meeting with Gail
8 informing us of the unqualified, or I guess
9 it's called now, unmodified financial report
Page 19

10 and congratulations all. Congratulations to
11 Gail and her team for that. Then we took a
12 deep dive looking at students who are
13 receiving financial aid.

14 The rationale is if we agonize,
15 as we should, about increasing tuition, it
16 would be good to know how many students are
17 actually paying all. When we say all, we
18 mean the full tuition, books, fees and other
19 materials. And there was a long discussion
20 on just what percentage. It was
21 approximately 56 percent of our students are
22 paying for everything, which is a little
23 more than \$6,000 a year.

24 Some students are effected very
25 little by tuition increase because of PELL,

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1 TAP and the other loans. Other students are
2 impacted a great deal. Student Trustee
3 Jerome Bost related a story of one of his
4 fellow students who had to quit. Who
5 decided to stop attending classes because of
6 the last tuition increase.

7 Remember last year it was \$350.
8 Gail then spoke to us about the budget gap,
9 which is now, this is the budget gap
10 2019-2020, which is now \$11.8 million and
11 then the question comes up how to fill that
12 gap.

14 have. And Gail is under -- Gail and her
15 team are under the difficulty of having
16 strict time guidelines but not knowing
17 what's going to happen. Let's talk about
18 the state first.

19 There are two House Bills as part
20 of the budget and as you all know, the
21 budget is due April 1st. The end of the
22 State Fiscal Year is March 31st. The Senate
23 this year is recommending a \$50 increase per
24 FTE. That's what's in their bill.

25 The Assembly is recommending \$100

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1 per FTE. The Senate would actually -- and
2 this seems counterintuitive but if you think
3 about it, it does make sense. The \$50
4 increase would actually increase our budget
5 hole because it's based on full time
6 equivalent students. Our enrollment is
7 going down so we have fewer students. And
8 that's why enrollment is incredibly
9 important to the whole budget process.

10 And the enrollment is based, and
11 I learned this frankly at our meeting, it's
12 based on the weighted average of our
13 students over the past three years. So we
14 have been going down and we plugged in the
15 decrease in enrollment. With me so far,
16 everyone following? The College cut

17 expenditures for 19-20, for the budget
18 coming up, by \$600,000. But revenue is down
19 basically because of enrollment, it is down
20 by 12 point four million dollars.

21 Enrollments are -- State Aid
22 being tied into enrollment is really not
23 sustainable. And there people talking about
24 fixes. They are talking about maintenance
25 of effort, you never get less than what you

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1 actually you got the year before. But that
2 hasn't gone anywhere yet.

3 Chris, if you want add to this be
4 my guest. But Chris Murray mentioned that
5 when he joined the Board, that the fund
6 balance was what? It was 22 million. How
7 long ago did you join the Board?

8 TRUSTEE MURRAY: Two and a half years.

9 TRUSTEE MORGO: Yes. Two and a half years ago
10 the fund balance was 22 million and now it's
11 16 million and with our recommendation, it
12 will be down to, what did I just say, 10
13 million. This obviously is not sustainable.
14 We can't use the reserves as a source of
15 revenue because sooner or later there won't
16 be any more reserves.

17 And it was also pointed out that
18 at one time our reserves were down as little
19 as four million, but Sara Gorton let us know

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20 that that was back when the County was

21 compiling our budget. And the County, as
22 you know, can float bonds, can borrow to
23 cover a gap. We don't have any safety net
24 now.

25 So it's imperative that we get

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1 the \$100 FTE increase from the State. And
2 it's imperative -- I'm speaking to my fellow
3 trustees. I have already called one State
4 Rep, that you the call your assembly person,
5 your senator and tell them that you have --
6 we have to get the \$100 FTE. Unfortunately,
7 it's not just for us. It's for all the
8 community colleges across the State. But
9 still if we are we are loud and persistent
10 in Suffolk, we should be effective.

11 Because it's well known that this
12 college does an amazing job. It's a pathway
13 to the middle class for so many of our
14 students. And it's also imperative that you
15 call them now. Today is March 21. They are
16 going to have to make a decision by March
17 31. Sandy handed out both of these, you
18 should have these.

19 Drew prepared these for us and
20 this one talks about something that
21 everybody can understand, an investment in
22 the Community College gives you a great
23 return; economically, the wellbeing of our

24 students. And call them and say we can't
25 get by on the \$50 increase.

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1 As far as the County, the three
2 percent is not going to be a walk in park
3 with them either. They are talking about
4 two point five. Remember last year we had
5 to struggle to get to the two point five.
6 But I think it was persistent. You have --
7 Drew gave, you not only the local
8 assemblyman and senators but on this page
9 you have all of the County Legislators.

10 I don't think any one of them --
11 well possibly just one of them, would say
12 anything against the Community College. All
13 the rest know what an incredible job we're
14 doing, particularly Tom Donnelley who is
15 Chair of the Education Committee. So I
16 would concentrate on the State
17 Representatives now because of the time.
18 But once we get past that, you have to call
19 and I mean have to. Call your County
20 Legislator and say we need the three
21 percent.

22 Ben who does a terrific job with
23 both the State and the County reps is really
24 in the trenches. Ben, any advice to us or
25 anything you want to add.

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1 MR. ZWIRN: No. We're in a little bit of a
2 different situation because usually the
3 Senate is the one who give us the bigger
4 amount with FTE. But elections, you know,
5 have consequences. And Senator Lavalle is
6 not the Chair of the Higher Ed Committee,
7 he's the ranking member.

8 And during the joint budget
9 committee between the Assembly and Higher Ed
10 and the Senate, Lou, Drew and I listened to
11 it steamed in and Senator Lavalle again was
12 pushing for -- was disappointed in the
13 Senate's efforts not to give us more with
14 the FTEs. But that's where our effort is
15 going to have to be right now, with the
16 State Senate.

17 I have spoken with Senator
18 Gaughran. Senator Gaughran was not on the
19 budget portion of the Higher Ed Committee
20 unfortunately. But I explained to him that
21 he has two community colleges, he represents
22 both parts of Nassau and Suffolk, that
23 50,000 students and their family that are
24 really going to be hurt if we don't get at
25 least \$100 FTE increase.

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1 So I would reach out to Senator
2 Gaughran, who is our representative, and all
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3 the other, Senator Martinez. Even though
4 they don't sit on the committee, they have a
5 voice and being new up in Albany, the
6 leadership there wants them to be successful
7 and be able to go back to their constituents
8 and say, look, we have delivered for Long
9 Island.

10 So this is an area which is an
11 easy lift really in the size of this budget
12 would really be helpful. So I would
13 concentrate on them. The County didn't
14 really give us two and a half percent
15 happily last year. The County Executive was
16 not in favor of it. They offered us I think
17 one point eight seven.

18 So we were been able to get the
19 legislature to bump it up because the
20 legislature has been very supportive. So
21 call our local Legislators, we're going to
22 start that process now, trying to see if we
23 can massage that up to three percent. which
24 would be good because once we get it, it
25 goes into our base and it's usually there

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1 the following year.

2 So the State, it was a mixed bag.
3 But we are focused right now on some of the
4 other issues that the State had. The Senate
5 had an increase in TAP aid which would be

6 helpful to our students. But I would
7 suggest right now, if there's one issue to
8 concentrate and to make it very simple and
9 as the Chair of the Budget Committee has
10 impressed upon us, let's make it simple.
11 Let's ask them for the \$100 in the FTE and
12 everything else we'll be able to work
13 around. That's all that they should
14 concentrate on.

15 TRUSTEE MORGO: Yes. I have been talking about
16 the KISS principle. You get too much into
17 the weeds with a representative, you confuse
18 them from our perspective. So that's where
19 we are with the State and the County.

20 And then we talked about tuition
21 increase. And the four members of the
22 committee frankly were all over the place.
23 We each had a different idea where we were
24 going. We have said many times we don't
25 want to balance the budget on the backs of

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1 the students. We range from no increase to
2 \$450 increase. And I would say if any
3 members of the committee want to add to this
4 or don't agree, but I think really the
5 determining factor was going into the
6 reserves again.

7 And we're still going to the
8 reserves. It's not that we're not using the
9 reserves. We're using over three million of

10 reserves to balance the budget. But we are
11 using less than we have in the past. And it
12 was also brought out to us, that was rather
13 sobering, that we have less cash on hand,
14 real money in the bank, then we have had in
15 a very long time and we have drawn on some
16 of our investments.

17 This is not sustainable. Every
18 year -- there's a structural imbalance here.
19 Every year we come back. We raise tuition.
20 We're recommending less this year, \$100 less
21 than we did last year. But it's still not
22 sustainable. Jerome made the point which I
23 felt was great point because I have been
24 making it over the years, that if we had
25 some certainty, if the students knew there

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1 was going to be a modest increase every
2 year, they and their families could plan for
3 that.

4 We tried to do that with the
5 County. Let me just say it didn't work out
6 so well because the people from the County
7 had a different end game, different
8 motivation than we. I'm going end in a
9 second. So the committee is recommending --
10 did you get it all? Two from the State, the
11 County, \$250 tuition increase and the use of
12 three point nine, almost four million

14 Madam Chair.

15 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much question.

16 TRUSTEE BOST: Yes. I just want to make a
17 statement. I'm joined here today by student
18 leaders and students actually battled with
19 the changes -- with the thought of a
20 financial increase at the last cycle. And I
21 understand that the work of Suffolk County
22 Community College must move forward. But
23 the students do not agree to an increase in
24 tuition and as their advocate on this Board
25 of Trustees, this will be something that I

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1 will not be supporting. And to clarify what
2 I meant in my last Budget and Finance
3 Committee, no one is really excited about
4 the thought of an increase in tuition. But
5 I think being the minority as far as the
6 Student Advocate on this board when we are
7 looking for to vote and pass something, you
8 know, even if I vote no, the resolution is
9 still going to go through. But if we were
10 headed in that direction, if students are
11 able to plan early on what they may have to
12 do within that year, I think that would be
13 helpful.

14 But for the record, I just want
15 to say the students of Suffolk County
16 Community College do not support an increase

17 in tuition and as their advocate, I will not
18 be supporting this.

19 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you.

20 Denise.

21 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: I may not be a student here but
22 I'm a mom and I'm an advocate every day. So
23 I'm never looking to increase tuition for
24 students. But I think we're all -- you
25 know, we all feel that way.

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1 I have two questions. One, Jim,
2 you talked about financial aid and how many
3 of our students benefit from that or get
4 financial aid. I didn't hear a number.

5 TRUSTEE MORGO: It's extrapolation. 56 are
6 paying full so 46 percent are getting some
7 financial aid.

8 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: My other question was, does
9 anyone have any information about the Dream
10 Act? The last that I heard it passed in the
11 state, meaning that dreamers would have
12 access to TAP, not PELL, because PELL is
13 federal. And that there is also going to be
14 a scholarship fund attached to that for
15 students who have one or two immigrant
16 parents.

17 But the last I heard was that it
18 had to be funded in the Governor's budget.
19 So, Ben, do you know where we're at with

21 MR. ZWIRN: We thought when the Dream Act was
22 originally passed that the students who are
23 eligible under the Dream Act would be
24 eligible for TAP. That's not the case. The
25 way the bill has been written -- in fact,

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1 the bill has gone back to be rewritten.
2 They passed it so quickly it wasn't the bill
3 that they had anticipated. And the only way
4 they were going to get funding was from a
5 different fund where there was no money in.

6 So it was -- I mean, it was a
7 great press release but they went so fast
8 they didn't have any substance really in the
9 bill. So that bill I don't think has been
10 adopted yet.

11 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: That's very disheartening. Thank
12 you for that report. You know, I was at the
13 Latino College Fair a couple of weeks ago
14 and met one of my former graduates who is an
15 undocumented student who attends here in his
16 third semester, he will graduate. He wants
17 to go on to go into international business.
18 He works full time and pays his tuition.

19 So even if we have 46 percent of
20 our students getting -- 56 getting it. The
21 44 percent that are left could be Dreamers,
22 could be kids that are -- young adults who
23 are working full time to pay to go. So I

24 think we have to really think about that.
25 That just because you are not getting

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1 assistance doesn't mean you are not
2 financially unstable.

3 TRUSTEE MURRAY: I was echoing a lot of what Jim
4 said but it's no win situation. We don't
5 have control over what the State does, what
6 the County does. There's a decline in
7 enrollment with, you know, demographics and
8 my -- but I have expressed this concern in
9 the Budget Meeting about the reserves and
10 how it's been shrinking and how it's not
11 sustainable and that to take three million
12 or four million dollars this year and four
13 million dollars next year, in two or three
14 years it's going to be gone.

15 And then you are one disaster
16 away from a real disaster. No one likes to
17 raise tuition. Everybody understands that
18 the students here struggle to do what they
19 are doing to better their lives. But we
20 also have to be fiscally prudent to try to
21 balance things as best we can. We're hoping
22 the State and County will also help and step
23 forward. But it's like -- it's a very
24 unpleasant process and there's no easy
25 answers to it. And there's no way of just

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1 waving a magic wand and everything is
2 better.

3 So I think what the committee
4 came up with is an appropriate balance. I
5 think balance is the key word. We're trying
6 to look at all aspects of it. And we do
7 have to be fiscally prudent. We can't run
8 down our reserves to a point it becomes a
9 liability.

10 TRUSTEE MORGO: That reminds me of something. At
11 the end of the meeting, in fact you said it,
12 Chris, we may get to a place where we're
13 going to have the cut positions, we're going
14 to have to take a tough look at things. We
15 can't go on because this is unsustainable.
16 First, I just want to echo what you two said
17 here, nobody wants to raise tuition. We
18 all -- if we all wanted, we could say no,
19 we're not raising tuition and we could
20 become Dowling.

21 The thing is though it's
22 worthwhile to look at this which compares
23 how we stand with other colleges. So, by
24 the way, I totally understand representing
25 constituents. I used to do it -- still do

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1 it in a sense on this board. And we are a
2 great deal for the people of Suffolk County,
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3 all the people, not just the parents of
4 students here.

5 The thing is the fact that we're
6 using another up to three point nine million
7 dollars of reserves and we continue on that
8 path, if we don't get revenue we're not
9 balanced as Chris said. Just two things, I
10 didn't mention the next meeting. We haven't
11 set the date for the next meeting and it's
12 going to be in April before the Board
13 Meeting. Then we'll least know what we are
14 getting from the State.

15 Frankly, the news isn't going to
16 be any better than our assumptions.
17 Hopefully, it will be \$100, will the
18 assumption. So we're going to meet in early
19 April before the next meeting. And secondly
20 I noticed when we were talking about 56, 44
21 percentage, Drew, I know there was a
22 discussion about how many students are
23 getting financial aid and there was back and
24 forth. Chris had some figures. Were you
25 unsure of that?

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1 MR. BIONDO: Yes. We saw numbers going back
2 and north yesterday but I don't know what's
3 correct.

4 TRUSTEE MORGO: It really doesn't effect what our
5 recommendations are.

6 MR. PETRIZZO: Right.
7 TRUSTEE MORGO: But it is good to know. You
8 heard the recommendations, as I said, no
9 vote today. The vote is next month. We're
10 going to have another meeting and the key
11 thing for the next meeting is to see what
12 the state does. So, please, I know I'm
13 sounding incredibly -- it's up to you folks
14 and up to you students to call your
15 representatives. Because the students are
16 actually more effective than we.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: True. Thank you.
18 Gordon?

19 TRUSTEE CANARY: Just an observation again, every
20 year we wrestle with trying to put our
21 budget together with all these great
22 unknowns. Here again, let's go down the
23 list of unknowns. You know, maybe that
24 Dreamers will be getting funding, we don't
25 know until we see what ultimately comes out

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1 of this year's session -- not only just the
2 budget but maybe just the session itself.

3 The other question is Excelsior
4 this year. Now they increased the family
5 eligibility. So are we going to get more
6 students now because Excelsior now has gone
7 up? We don't know the answer to that. All
8 of these unknowns that we try to deal with
9 every year.

10 TRUSTEE MORGO: That's why I try to talk about
11 keeping is as simple as we can. If we get
12 into the weeds too much, it can make you a
13 little crazy.

14 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Dr. Adams, do you know I heard
15 Excelsior is only 5500 a year; is that
16 correct.

17 DR. ADAMS: Yes. It only covers tuition and
18 remember the tuition is frozen for the year
19 that they came in. So that's other
20 variable. So it doesn't cover an increase
21 in fees and books.

22 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Thank you. Don't get me started
23 on that.

24 MR. ZWIRN: In the one House bill, the
25 Assembly dealt with that and they put \$15

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1 million in a budget line Martin Luther King
2 scholarship fund which is new. That money
3 is to be use as non-tuition expenses for
4 people who are getting TAP. And TAP doesn't
5 cover everything, this money would be
6 available but again.

7 TRUSTEE MORGO: It's a one house bill.

8 MR. ZWIRN: Right.

9 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much.

10 TRUSTEE MORGO: For bringing everybody down?

11 CHAIR SANDERS: well, this time of the year. And
12 I just want to, again, express my

032119 Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees Minutes (Janice).TXT
13 appreciation for your leadership on this.

14 It's a lot of moving parts, a lot of
15 details. And getting people to become
16 advocates, this is all of our jobs, so...

17 TRUSTEE MORGO: I don't know what we would do
18 without Gail.

19 CHAIR SANDERS: Student Trustee report, Jerome.

20 TRUSTEE BOST: Sure. Chair Sanders, Members of
21 the Board, as I previously mentioned in our
22 last meeting, the role of representing the
23 interests of the students is a role in which
24 I share. So, you know, as we hold our
25 meetings, I like to acknowledge and give

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1 some of those students an opportunity to
2 speak about some of the projects they're
3 working on.

4 But first I'd like to just
5 introduce who we have in the room here,
6 first Christopher Topper, the SGA President
7 for Ammerman. We have Natalia, our very own
8 SGA President here on the Eastern Campus.
9 We have Kaitlyn Gambino, candidate for
10 student trustee. And we have Michelle
11 Wilcox, the PTK President and President of
12 the Honor Society.

13 We're going to hear from two
14 student leaders here in eastern campus. I'm
15 going to invite Natalia and Michelle Wilcox
16 to come up and share some of the projects

17 they have. Natalia, let's start with you.
18 MS. NATALIA: Hi. So early on the campus we
19 want to bring menstrual products to all
20 students. So we want to put them all in the
21 bathrooms for anyone to use if necessary.
22 So we're currently collecting donations for
23 that and we are in the process of hopefully
24 by next year the following student
25 government will continue and we'll have that

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1 fully stocked throughout the whole campus.
2 This will be somewhat of a pilot. We just
3 received our first box of donations. It's
4 been a very exciting week and hopefully the
5 students will be able to enjoy that small
6 little, you know, pay it forward type of
7 thing from our student government.

8 We have also revised our
9 constitution. That should be finished
10 within the next week or so. So I'm not sure
11 on how it works the ratification with the
12 BOT, we're still working and finding out how
13 the whole situation works out. BUT it
14 should be voted on during the April
15 elections. We had a successful Deans Night
16 which was the first lecture series in which
17 we invited all the deans and Dr. K.

18 we had a cafe style and we asked
19 all the deans their experience and how they

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20 were during their coming up and how their
21 career came their careers. So the point of
22 that was to bridge a connection between the
23 students and administration. A lot of
24 students didn't realize a lot of the
25 journeys that a lot of the administrators

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1 had. we all ended up here on the Island and
2 we all have similar ways on how we came. I
3 thought that was very important to do that.

4 It was very successful. we had
5 about 30 students come in. It was very
6 nice. we also plan on doing a tri-campus
7 Health and wellness Center kickoff for our
8 now Health and wellness Center. we're not
9 sure of the logistics but tomorrow we plan
10 on plotting it out and see if we can do like
11 a college wide type of a Dodge Ball
12 Tournament or something to kick it off and
13 make it a special effort for us.

14 we also plan on doing a
15 graduation reception for the Eastern Campus
16 students. That is also in the works. These
17 are small ideas and we'll be having
18 committee dates for all of April. And then
19 for the month of April, we plan on doing an
20 SGA Goes Green. So every single commonality
21 will have a do it yourself way ago being
22 sustainable. we'll also have like flyers on
23 where all of Long Island's recycling

24 facilities will be. So it will be for going
25 green and being sustainable. That's what I

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1 have for now.

2 TRUSTEE MORGO: Natalia, are you going to call
3 your state Assemblyman? I'm serious about
4 that.

5 MS. NATALIA: I actually be in Washington DC on
6 the weekend. I'll be attending conference.
7 So, there's a possibility might be on
8 Capitol Hill.

9 TRUSTEE MORGO: They are not going to help. They
10 help with, you know, Federal Aid, but it's
11 really members of the Assembly and State
12 Senate. And perhaps -- I know it's short
13 notice, you could -- if tuition matters and
14 if keeping it down matters, you could
15 organize students to call their State
16 Senators and Members of the Assembly.

17 And we have the information here,
18 Dr. Adams is going to get to you. Maybe
19 This could be something that would have
20 tangible, practical effects for student
21 government.

22 MS. NATALIA: Okay.

23 TRUSTEE MORGO: Say yes.

24 MS. NATALIA: Okay, yes. Thank you.

25 TRUSTEE BOST: I have one more. Michelle

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1 Wilcox.
2 MS. WILCOX: Hello. My name is Michelle.
3 Thank you everyone in the room for inviting
4 me today. I have two, kind of updates to
5 share with you. The last semester the PTK
6 partakes -- joined in, and we're really
7 successful in doing so. One was evening
8 Common Hour. We hosted a program, are we
9 digitally dependent or sociality connected
10 with a colleague of Jerome. And it was a
11 huge success.

12 We had a packed room in here,
13 standing room only. And we just talked
14 about kind of the issues now surrounding
15 this new digital age that we are in. We had
16 excellent feedback from the students. It
17 was really an excellent evening.

18 The other thing that I would like
19 to share is we hosted a 5K fundraiser back
20 in October. And we were originally going to
21 donate to the Long Island wins. However, we
22 reached out them and it was not successful
23 in getting that donation. So we have set up
24 a scholarship for a DLL student who will be
25 transitioning into a matriculated student.

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1 And they will be recognized at our annual
2 graduation gala which is this May 8, next
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3 month.

4 Some ongoing is that the PTK is
5 involved in. We are scheduled to have a
6 discussion with the deans next week over
7 Spring Break to get our College projects off
8 the ground. So we're looking forward to
9 that. We have a scholarship workshop set up
10 in April. So April 22 to the 25th, we will
11 be hosting workshops, distributing
12 information on all different scholarships
13 available to Suffolk students, whether it's
14 to get there from here, or SOLI when they
15 are ready to transfer.

16 That was our college project last
17 year. We really want to share all these
18 opportunities with students early on and get
19 help applying for these scholarship and, you
20 know, doing great things. So, we have a few
21 conferences coming up. The New York
22 Regional Conference for Phi Beta Kappa is
23 this weekend up in Syracuse in which we have
24 three students from the Eastern Campus and
25 definitely from Ammerman and Grant going.

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1 So they are going looking forward to that.
2 we'll have a lot of representation there.

3 And then our Catalyst Convention
4 is in Orlando April 5 through 7 and we just
5 have just from the Eastern Campus eight

6 students and one advisor attending, so we're
7 very grateful for that opportunity. That's
8 all I have.

9 And we will be calling the
10 senators so I'll get that information from
11 Dr. Adams and get that in an e-mail as soon
12 as possible.

13 TRUSTEE MORGO: Thank you.

14 DR. ADAMS: Yes.

15 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you to all the students.
16 Foundation report.

17 MS. DIAZ: Good afternoon, Madam Chair,
18 Members of the Board. Many of you are aware
19 that Sister Maryann Berillo Helping Hand
20 Fund was recently established to recognize
21 Sister's more than 45 years of service to
22 the college community and her 60 years as a
23 member of the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill.

24 The Fund, which provides
25 emergency support to students facing

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1 financial crisis and preventing them from
2 continuing their enrollment at the College
3 has really been well received and we're
4 receiving lots of donation for that. This
5 weekend sister Maryann will be honored by
6 Giuseppe Nigro Lodge, who is a big supporter
7 of the Foundation, have a scholarship with
8 the Foundation, to support this fund.

9 And that's going to be held at
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10 the Brentwood Country Club. I know a lot of
11 people here today are actually going to be
12 in attendance at that event to support and
13 recognizes sister and this wonderful fund
14 that she has worked to establish.

15 I'm also happy to announce that
16 we have established two brand new
17 scholarships. The Alex Amato Spectrum
18 Scholarship. Alex Amato is -- the
19 scholarship was put together by Erica and
20 Frank Amato. Erica is a faculty member here
21 and she has an autistic son, Alex, who has
22 struggled around she's established this in
23 his honor. And it's a wonderful, wonderful
24 tribute to him.

25 The other one is the McNamara

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1 Family Scholarship for excellence in
2 business and accounting and that's
3 established by Robert McNamara who is a 2001
4 alumnus of the Business and Accounting
5 Program here it at Suffolk. That family
6 really believes that Suffolk was truly
7 transformative for this alum and has decided
8 to give back.

9 These are both thousand dollar
10 scholarships. Obviously in these difficult
11 times, they will be great opportunities and
12 will be well received by our students here.

14 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much, Sylvia.
15 Moving to the Chair's report. I
16 only have a couple of things. I think, you
17 know, one of the biggest concerns, of
18 course, is trying to come up with a budget
19 that is fair and equitable for everyone
20 that will be prudent and responsible but at
21 the same time sensitive to the financial
22 conditions of our families that we serve.
23 So we'll continue to work and you
24 all students have our commitment that we
25 will do our best to make sure that we keep

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1 any tuition increases, if we have to do
2 them, keep them down and reasonable.
3 Commencement is always the most exciting
4 time of the year for me. I think the
5 highlight is sitting on that stage and
6 looking out at all the families that we have
7 impacted. Excitement when you see the
8 grandmas down to the little babies, you
9 know, you have transformed a life that day
10 just by that graduation procession.

11 It is a wonderful thing to see
12 and it makes dealing with the budget and all
13 this other stuff bearable because you
14 realize that this time that we volunteer, it
15 matters, it really does matter. So I thank
16 the Board for all the time that you give.

17 And I thank the faculty and the staff. You
18 guys are, you know, front line and we
19 couldn't do it without all of your support.

20 I do want to make sure that we
21 offer special prayers because we had some
22 traumatic events in the last 30 days. There
23 was the Ethiopian jet crash which took the
24 lives of everyone on the airplane. That had
25 an impact, there were not just Ethiopians on

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1 the plane, there were other people from
2 other countries, including America. And I
3 want to make sure that we keep those
4 families in our prayers. Then we had the
5 New Zealand mass murders in the mosque.

6 And I was just -- I just learned
7 something new and I don't know how to
8 pronounce. I was told that in America we
9 call them mosques which is really a slur
10 based on mosquito. And that the real name
11 is Masjid, M-A-S-J-I-D. Now, I don't know
12 how to pronounce it but I'm willing to learn
13 because sometimes we grow up saying things
14 because that's what we're taught to call it
15 a mosque when we should be using the correct
16 pronunciation based on the culture.

17 So that's -- somebody figure out
18 and tell me how to say it and so that we can
19 just start correcting ourselves. I was

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20 never corrected. I just learned it recently
21 by the Long Island Islamic Center. They
22 were talking about things. And they didn't
23 correct me but one of the younger people
24 told me that that really is not the correct
25 pronunciation. So we live with each other

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1 and culturally this is how we learn. We're
2 never too old to learn.

3 But prayers for both of those
4 groups because it's them -- you know, that
5 impact we all feel it when these large
6 tragedies happen. And so that is the
7 conclusion of my report. I move to the
8 President's report.

9 MR. PETRIZZO: Thank you, Madam Chair and
10 Members of the Board. Just a few
11 announcements. Last Tuesday was
12 Professional Development Day at the college.
13 We had 487 people at Professional
14 Development Day. As far as everybody was
15 concerned, I think it was the greatest
16 number we have ever had turn out for PDD
17 Day.

18 I want to thank the FA and the
19 Guild for their help in getting that
20 turnout. The subject was student retention
21 and the program went off very, very
22 smoothly. So thanks to all. Thanks to Dean
23 Gherardi and the Professional Development

24 Day Committee for their work in putting the
25 program together. Very successful event and

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1 hopefully we can repeat it in the future.

2 We are working on a ribbon
3 cutting ceremony grand opening for the
4 Health and Wellness Center working with
5 Marylou Araneo and Dean Rios. If you
6 haven't had a chance to walk over there and
7 see the building while you're out here,
8 please do so. It's a spectacular building,
9 we're really proud of it. And it's taken
10 quite a while to get but we're there now and
11 we do want to celebrate the opening.

12 We have received some notice from
13 the Suffolk County Department of Economic
14 Development. I believe that there will be a
15 Public Hearing on the future of rapid
16 transit or bus service on Nicolls Road. As
17 you know this has been a particular thorn in
18 the side of the College, public
19 transportation to the campuses.

20 So there will be a Public Hearing
21 on Tuesday April 2, from 6:30 to 8:30 at the
22 Babylon Student Center and we certainly
23 intend to be there and find out what the
24 future of rapid transit is. Many of our
25 students need this service. And the County

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1 is, I think we all think the County can do a
2 better job of providing it.

3 Finally, you should have all
4 received an invitation to the County
5 Executive's State of the County address
6 which will be on April 17 on the Grant
7 Campus. If you have any trouble in
8 registering for that event, let us know.
9 And if you do plan to attend, please confirm
10 with my office so that we can make sure your
11 name is on the list of folks allowed into
12 the facility. The County Executive and his
13 staff are a little stingy with the tickets.
14 So we want to keep an eye on that.

15 TRUSTEE BOST: For the record, right?

16 MR. PETRIZZO: For the record.

17 Dr. Adams, you an introduction
18 for us.

19 DR. ADAMS: Yes, I do. Before I get to the
20 presentation today, I would be remiss if I
21 didn't announce that we have 10 Chancellor
22 Award winners here at the College. We have
23 two individuals that are here, Michelle and
24 Jerome, that have won. They will be honored
25 along with the other eight individuals up in

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1 Albany on April 24. So it's a really good
2 accolade to have. So congratulations.

3 So it gives me great pleasure to
4 introduce Tania Velazquez who is our College
5 Director of Career Services. When we talked
6 about retention the other day at
7 Professional Development, one of the most
8 important things that we think about with
9 our students is when they come to College
10 and not having any direction, what do we do?

11 Career Services is an area, and
12 it's not like what it used to be with Career
13 Services where it was a passive career
14 services office where you just sat there in
15 the student center and you expected students
16 to come to you. Under the direction of
17 Director Velazquez, we have had the
18 opportunity really to take the show to the
19 students and we will continue to do that.

20 And one of the things that I
21 really like about this is the aspect of
22 getting the student that are undecided and
23 do not have a direction onto a pathway so
24 that they can then complete their Associates
25 Degree.

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1 And explaining to them the
2 importance of the opportunities when you
3 have your Associates Degree how many more
4 opportunities that you will have
5 transferring or going out to the workforce.

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6 So this is very important stuff. And's my
7 pleasure to introduce Tania Velazquez.
8 Thank you.

9 MS. VELAZQUEZ: Good afternoon. As Dr. Adams
10 said, I am Tania Velazquez, the College wide
11 Director for Career Services. So I wanted
12 to start my presentation off with this
13 survey that has come out from the National
14 Association of College and Employers in
15 2018. They interviewed employers and these
16 are the skills that they are looking for in
17 their candidates.

18 So it's important, as Dr. Adams
19 said, that no longer is Career Services an
20 office that we're to stay behind our desk
21 and do resume reviews or interview preps and
22 wait for the students to come to us. In
23 order for our students to have these skills
24 to be employable, to be successful in the
25 workforce, these are the skills that we need

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1 to now enforce and be creative in how we
2 meet the students where they are at.

3 So the first thing that I have
4 decided to do with my team is to keep in
5 mind that all three campuses are to have the
6 same mission. However, along with having
7 the same mission, it's important to respect
8 the three different cultures that do exist
9 at Suffolk County Community College. we

10 have done this through, and you'll see in
11 your packets, through the marketing.

12 we have internship cards that we
13 mailed out to individuals. And we're doing
14 that every semester to students that qualify
15 to take our internship classes. We did it
16 as a postcard because parents are able to
17 see it, that way they don't have to open up
18 the mail. And also -- we're also at the end
19 of March, we're going to focus -- we have a
20 spotlight in career focus which is going to
21 bring hopefully a lot of attention to
22 internships.

23 And also you'll see in your
24 pamphlet we also do every semester a College
25 wide newsletter. And through the support of

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1 Dr. Beaudin and Academic Affairs, it's
2 written to connect with our faculty and
3 really demonstrates the work that we can do
4 together, if we come together, the Academic
5 Affairs side and the Student Affairs side.
6 So that's been really successful and really
7 demonstrating how we work at Suffolk County
8 Community College.

9 Also, we have Purple Briefcase.
10 So Purple Briefcase was purchased about two
11 years ago through a grant that we had, I
12 Promote. And Purple Briefcase is an online

13 career portal. That is -- that our students
14 and alumni have access to. If you look at
15 your pamphlets, there's two flyers -- well,
16 there's a flyer and a postcard. The
17 postcard is what we give to students to help
18 promote I had and the pamphlets are what we
19 give to the employers to promote our
20 program.

21 The employers are able to open a
22 free account and they are able to post their
23 part-time jobs, their full-time jobs and
24 also their internships.

25 Also on Purple Briefcase this is

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1 a free assessment that the students are able
2 to take. So even if they don't have time to
3 come to our office, they will take an O-NET
4 assessment. About 50 to 60 questions and it
5 lines them up with their interest, potential
6 jobs and the job outlook. So that's through
7 the Department of Labor. And from there
8 then they are encouraged to come in if they
9 take the Purple Briefcase.

10 Then we have internships. We
11 have been focusing a lot on internships this
12 past year. So we're proud to say through
13 the support of Academic Affairs, as of Fall
14 in 2019 hopefully it will be offered on all
15 three campus, Humanities 130. This will
16 give an opportunity, especially for our

17 undecided students, the Liberal Arts
18 student, to take an internship and it will
19 help them decide, is this the direction they
20 want to go to, is it not the direction they
21 want to go to?

22 So that was a big win in regard
23 to all three campus agreeing and moving
24 forward in offering this class.

25 And also, this summer due to our

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1 partnership with the Suffolk Police
2 Department, we are now offering a Criminal
3 Justice Class, Criminal Justice 215 online
4 because they have agreed to hold 10 spots
5 for us for their summer internship program
6 to have our students take advantage of the
7 opportunity to be in the Suffolk Police
8 Department.

9 So, some of important
10 collaborations that we have created on
11 campus and all three areas. In regard to
12 the academic side, the Business and
13 Accounting is probably our strongest
14 partnership that we have. We work a lot
15 with the Department, but also in regards to
16 the Advisory Board.

17 But the Radio and Television is
18 probably one of our newest partnerships.
19 Radio and Television in the past has really

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20 taken care of their students throughout
21 internship, their employers. But within the
22 last year or so we have really connected in
23 regards to having them take the lead with
24 regards to placing the students and having
25 our office work with them and developing

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1 those soft skills that the employers are
2 looking for.

3 In Student Affairs, two of our
4 strongest areas that we have done
5 partnerships with is the Veterans Office and
6 our Disabilities Office. We have done a lot
7 of cross training in regards to preparing
8 the Career Service staff on how to work with
9 our veterans students and our disability
10 students.

11 So with regards to our students
12 that have identified as having a disability
13 or special need, it was important to prepare
14 our Career Service staff on how to do proper
15 placement and how to -- abiding by the law,
16 how to get the information you need to place
17 them with the employers.

18 And then in regards to Veterans
19 Office, just this upcoming week, we're going
20 to have joint transcript training to teach
21 Career Service staff how to work with our
22 veteran students in translating their skills
23 into civilian terms so they can better

24 market themselves.

25 And actually -- I'm sorry, and

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1 two new community partnerships that I'm
2 extremely proud of is in regards to Long
3 Island Ducks. We recently after years of
4 trying to build a partnership with them,
5 they recently have agreed to accept our
6 students to do internships with them. We
7 connected with an alumni there.

8 In the past they would only
9 accept Bachelor level students but because
10 of the alumni and he believes in our
11 institution, he agreed that starting this
12 summer, he's going to be offering internship
13 opportunities to our students so that they
14 can learn, especially Sports Marketing,
15 because that's a hot area right now.

16 And also in regards to the
17 Suffolk Police Department, along with Deputy
18 Commissioner Mention-Lewis, we have
19 coordinated with them to help them recruit
20 for their upcoming exam to help them recruit
21 minority students. So we coordinated on all
22 three campuses information seminars for the
23 general student versus the veteran student.
24 Because they were doing -- they are doing
25 specific sessions just for veteran students

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1 and then sessions for the general students.

2 And I'm proud to say all three
3 campuses had high turnout at those sessions.
4 They were really informative. All right.
5 So we do the planning and we do the
6 collaboration. So how is it that we
7 implement it? Probably the most successful
8 change that we have seen is in regards to
9 our job fairs.

10 So no longer -- well, in regards
11 to Ammerman Campus, we're doing the general
12 college wide Fair that we bring all
13 industries in and we did that for or
14 part-time and internship fair that we
15 brought in all industries in. But all three
16 campuses have now gone to the industry
17 specific job fair.

18 So we started this about three
19 years ago with our Automotive Tech Program
20 and they have kind of been the lead in
21 regards to the other academic departments
22 picking up on it, like, wow, this is really
23 successful. Because the numbers, the high
24 turnout at these job fairs. And the
25 employers are happy because they know that

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1 the students are coming in are interested in
2 the industry.

3 So from there the Grant Campus
4 has done a Business Job Fair. Last year
5 they start at relationship with the chemical
6 dependency. They are going to be doing that
7 again. The chemical dependency students,
8 there's a job fair just for them. And in
9 the fall they did a really successful
10 Criminal Justice Fair. At the East Campus,
11 they're doing a green industry fair which
12 they did last year because it was so
13 successful. And because of where they are
14 located on the island, it was just a proper
15 fit so we are doing it again.

16 In regard to student programming,
17 we have had some really successful student
18 programming. Just last month we did a mock
19 interview night. It was supposed to be a
20 practice interview night. I know of five
21 students that have walked away with job
22 offers as of that night. You know, they
23 showed up just to practice and they walked
24 away with jobs so that was a huge success.

25 And in regards to student trips,

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1 that has been the extremely popular as well.
2 we did a trip to WBLI with our Radio and
3 Television Program. That was really
4 interesting -- I mean, I had a great time.
5 And we had a student walk away last spring

7 Just from building connections.

8 We have also did visit last fall
9 to National Grid. And we brought about 30
10 Suffolk students from the Engineering
11 Program, Electrical Technology Program and
12 Cybersecurity just to learn about the
13 opportunities that would be available for
14 students on the Island. And that got a lot
15 of good feedback as well.

16 Lastly, in regard to the
17 undecided student outreach, we're now using
18 Purple Briefcase and we have teamed up with
19 our -- in Student Affairs, our dean in
20 charge of assessment who helped us identify
21 about 800 students that in the Fall they
22 identified as being undecided. And not
23 having any direction in regards to careers.

24 We have gotten their information
25 and we have started outreaching to them,

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1 introducing our office, introducing Purple
2 Briefcase and the assessment. We started
3 doing that about a month ago and we're going
4 to reach out again now that priority
5 registration is coming. Kind of doing the
6 intrusive advising stance and kind of
7 getting in their face and say, Hey, we're
8 here. And hoping that they outreach to us
9 as well.

10 So where are we going? The
11 Strategic Plan. For the next upcoming year,
12 I have been meeting with the Foundation,
13 with Christopher Williams who has been great
14 and Russel Marlboro -- Marlboro, right?
15 Okay, yes. So we are now exploring because
16 we do a lot. So we are now exploring
17 possible sponsorships for the future. And
18 we have also been developing a nice
19 relationship with our workforce Development.

20 And we hope to continue this and
21 see how our two areas can work closer
22 together in regards to our relationship with
23 employees and bringing it back to Suffolk
24 County Community College.

25 This is my contact information if

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1 anybody would like to contact me with
2 questions or if you have questions now, I'm
3 here. If not, that's it. Thank you.

4 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you.

5 And that's where the theory meets
6 the real practice.

7 MS. VELAZQUEZ: Yes.

8 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much for what you
9 do for the students, I appreciate that.

10 MS. VELAZQUEZ: Thank you.

11 CHAIR SANDERS: I would like to request a motion
12 to enter into Roundtable.

13 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Motion.
14 TRUSTEE MORGO: Second.
15 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?
16 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
17 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]
18 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: You need a motion for that?
19 CHAIR SANDERS: Right here, black and white.
20 MR. PETRIZZO: Belt and suspenders, belt and
21 suspenders.
22 CHAIR SANDERS: Roundtable items?
23 TRUSTEE MORGO: I have something.
24 CHAIR SANDERS: Yes.
25 TRUSTEE MORGO: Theresa, in the past you talked

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1 about trustees having other lives, real
2 lives. I want to mention one of our
3 colleagues, Denise Lindsay-Sullivan,
4 recently received the Excellence in
5 Administration from the Suffolk County
6 Educational Services. And the description
7 of what she does at Hampton Bays School
8 District is really phenomenal. There must
9 be two or three of her for getting as much
10 done as she does.
11 And she asked me not to say
12 anything but she really gave me a whole list
13 of why she won so --
14 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Give me a break.
15 TRUSTEE MORGO: No, it's really an achievement.
16 Congratulations.

17 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much. She
18 wouldn't have bragged on her own.
19 TRUSTEE MORGO: No. She asked me to.
20 CHAIR SANDERS: Any other Roundtable items? I
21 have one. So, again this is a big year for
22 recruitment for the Suffolk County Police
23 Department. These tests don't come that
24 often and we see it as an opportunity,
25 particularly for community residents that

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1 have not traditionally been involved in the
2 Police Department.

3 And so there an afternoon
4 emphasis this Saturday -- well, no, March 30
5 at the Wyandanch Village, the Minority
6 Millennials and the Urban League and some of
7 the other groups are doing a recruitment
8 effort. So for some of the students, that's
9 an opportunity. There are limited
10 scholarships for the application fee.

11 That is a deterrent for a lot of
12 people to even apply for the job. I think
13 it's \$125. And so there are limited
14 scholarships that we're providing. We're
15 also asking other responsible adults, if you
16 want to adopt a person to help them pay for
17 the application fee, there's a bunch of
18 community groups that have gotten together
19 to do it.

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20 Because that seems to be, as we

21 went out in the community, and, you know,
22 young mothers or, you know, people that are
23 underemployed \$125 is a lot.

24 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: How do you donate to that?

25 CHAIR SANDERS: I'll tell you offline. We're

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1 developing something where you directly pay
2 for the test because it has to be connected
3 to the application. So we'll have that.
4 Urban League and Minority Millennials. But
5 the event is Saturday March 30 at Wyandanch
6 Village.

7 TRUSTEE CANARY: Getting back to the Men's
8 Basketball Team, I missed the Suffolk Nassau
9 Community College Game last month because my
10 daughter was home visiting from Munich and
11 we had something else planned for that
12 night. I really wanted to get to see that
13 game. Because, again, as somebody who
14 played basketball in high school, I
15 appreciate the amount of hard work that goes
16 into playing sports, and this goes for all
17 of our sports teams, keeping up your
18 academics and practicing and traveling to
19 away games, it's a real commitment.

20 And the fact that our team was
21 ranked number one going into the Rochester
22 Finals was just amazing. So I took the
23 opportunity to drive out the last day of

24 their practice session and Chris Adams and I
25 got to just say Atta Boy, go guys, we're

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1 really proud of you.

2 So represented the whole Board,
3 let them know we are all proud of them and
4 wished them the best. I did get to see a
5 little bit of the game streaming live,
6 unfortunately the game that they did lose.
7 But, again, they came back, they killed the
8 next team. They scored over 100 points and
9 they ended up doing very well.

10 As Chris said, ranked Fifth
11 throughout the Nation is an amazing
12 achievement. But also one other thing I
13 wanted to mention when I was at the Ammerman
14 Campus in the gymnasium, the Coach came into
15 to Chris and I and said, Hey, guys, we just
16 had a student go down outside.

17 One of our students who actually
18 was on the girls' basketball team had an
19 issue and went down, so, I got see our team
20 at work of how they handle when a student
21 does have a medical issue. So I just want
22 to say I was also very proud to watch how
23 the team addressed that. And the good news
24 is that she was transported to the hospital
25 but she's doing fine. She's back and

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1 everything is good.
2 But I just wanted to bring that
3 out. Because proud of those two things.
4 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much.
5 MR. PETRIZZO: Thank you.
6 CHAIR SANDERS: Anything else? Okay. So, the
7 next Board of Trustees Meeting is Thursday
8 April 18 at 9:00 in the Mildred Green Room,
9 the Babylon Student Center on the Ammerman
10 Campus in Selden. And I would like to
11 request a motion to adjourn the meeting.
12 TRUSTEE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Motion.
13 CHAIR SANDERS: Motion.
14 Second?
15 TRUSTEE MORGO: Second.
16 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?
17 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
18 VOTED ON AND CARRIED. THE MEETING OF THE
19 BOARD OF TRUSTEES WAS ADJOURNED BY THE
20 CHAIR, THERESA SANDERS, AT 5:27 P.M.]
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OFFICIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
PROCEEDINGS AND VERBATIM DISCUSSIONS OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUFFOLK
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE HELD ON THE 19TH
DAY OF MARCH, 2019 AT 4:02 P.M., AT
SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
RIVERHEAD CAMPUS, LEARNING RESOURCE
CENTER, BOARD ROOM, RIVERHEAD, NEW YORK.

PRESENT:

- LOUIS PETRIZZO, ESQ.
Executive Vice President/General Counsel
- GORDON D. CANARY, Member
- SHIRLEY E. COVERDALE, Member
- GEMMA DELOEN-LOPRESTI, Member
- E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY, Member
- KEVIN M. O'CONNOR, Member (Not Present)
- BELINDA PAGDANGANAN, Member
- DENISE LINDSAY-SULLIVAN, Member
- JEROME BOST, Student Member
- THERESA SANDERS, Member/Chairperson
- JAMES MORGO, Member/Vice Chairperson

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1 CHAIR SANDERS: I would like to request a motion
2 to approve a motion to accept the minutes of
Page 1

3 the February 19, 2019 Board of Directors
4 Meeting.

5 MEMBER BOST: Motion.

6 MEMBER PAGDANGANAN: Second.

7 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

8 MEMBER LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Abstain.

9 CHAIR SANDERS: One abstention.

10 Thank you very much. I would
11 like to introduce Vice President of Student
12 Affairs, Dr. Christopher Adams.

13 DR. ADAMS: Good afternoon, Chair Sanders and
14 Members of the Board of Directors. You were
15 sent via e-mail the financial report
16 September 1, 2018 to February 28, 2019. You
17 also have a copy of it here in your packets.
18 Happy to report and all the cost centers
19 that we are operating in the positive. We
20 have not -- this February report does not
21 signify the student activity fee from the
22 Spring Semester.

23 We received those in the month of
24 March and they will be reflected in the
25 March 31st report that will be delivered at

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1 the April meeting. That's why it looks like
2 the various cost centers are down a little
3 bit for Spring Semester. Overall things are
4 going well in the Association.

5 On the athletic side, I'm very

6 happy to report that our men's basketball
7 team ended up going to Rochester, Minnesota
8 under the direction of Vic Correa and
9 Athletic Director Neftali Collazo, flew out
10 there.

11 The Team did -- unfortunately
12 they went into the games 27 and oh and ended
13 up losing in the first round. They then
14 went into a different bracket and ended up
15 being fifth in the country which still is
16 amazing accomplishment. So I want to give a
17 thank you to Neftali and his team.

18 On the agenda also is two
19 resolutions that I'm asking for approval
20 from the Board of Directors. The first is
21 to increase the hourly rate of our graphic
22 artists that we have. All three campuses,
23 we have graphic artists. And looking at the
24 national average and local Long Island
25 graphic artists, we felt that what we were

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1 making was a very low rate and we are asking
2 for it to be increased, the first item on
3 the agenda.

4 Second item is, last month I
5 talked a little bit about the work of
6 Barbara Hurst and the Association. I'm
7 happy again to report that the Association
8 for the 2017-2018 year the financials were
9 in good working order. There was no

10 management recommendation. And the
11 financials are there in front of you.
12 So if you have any questions
13 about that, please let me know. But we're
14 asking for you approve and accept the
15 management letter 17-18 academic year for
16 the Association. Are there any questions
17 that you have? Okay. Thank you very much.

18 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you, Dr. Adams. I would
19 like to request a motion for the approval of
20 Association resolutions 2019.A2 to 2019.A3.

21 MEMBER PAGDANGANAN: Motion.

22 CHAIR SANDERS: Motion.

23 Is there a second?

24 MEMBER BOST: Second.

25 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

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1 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
2 VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

3 CHAIR SANDERS: Thank you very much. I would
4 like to request a motion to adjourn the
5 Board of Directors meeting and call the
6 Board of Trustees Meeting to order.

7 MEMBER LINDSAY-SULLIVAN: Motion.

8 MEMBER BOST: Second.

9 CHAIR SANDERS: All in favor?

10 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND SECONDED WAS
11 VOTED ON AND CARRIED. THE MEETING OF THE
12 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY

032119 suffolk County Community College Board of Directors Minutes (Janice).TXT
13 COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAS ADJOURNED BY THE

14 CHAIR, THERESA SANDERS, AT 4:06 P.M.]

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