

OFFICIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES  
PROCEEDINGS AND VERBATIM DISCUSSIONS OF  
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SUFFOLK  
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ON THE 16TH DAY  
OF DECEMBER 2021, VIA IN-PERSON & ZOOM  
VIDEOCONFERENCE

PRESENT:

EDWARD J. BONAHOUE, President

GORDON D. CANARY, Trustee  
ZACHARY FROST, Student Trustee  
KEVIN M. O'CONNOR, Trustee  
BELINDA PAGDANGANAN, Trustee  
THERESA SANDERS, Trustee  
PRISCILLA ZARATE, Trustee

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

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



ORIGINAL

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 CHAIR MURRAY: I call the meeting  
3 to order and the first order of business  
4 is Gordon is going to lead us in the  
5 Pledge.

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

11 CHAIR MURRAY: Thanks. And,  
12 Carol, are there any guests to be  
13 introduced?

14 (INAUDIBLE RESPONSE)

15 CHAIR MURRAY: Okay, at this  
16 point I'm going to request a motion to  
17 adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting  
18 and call the Board of Directors meeting  
19 to order.

20 Gordon, would you like to make  
21 that motion?

22 TRUSTEE CANARY: Yes,  
23 Mr. Chairman, I make that motion.

24 CHAIR MURRAY: Shirley, you  
25 second it?

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 VICE CHAIR COVERDALE: I second  
3 it.

4 CHAIR MURRAY: All those in  
5 favor, please say aye.

6 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

7 CHAIR MURRAY: Any opposed?

8 (NO RESPONSE)

9 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND  
10 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED. THE  
11 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
12 SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE WAS  
13 ADJOURNED AND REOPENED.]

14 CHAIR MURRAY: We're now back  
15 into the Board of Trustees meeting and  
16 the first order of business is to  
17 approve the minutes of the November 18,  
18 2021, Board of Trustees meeting. Are  
19 there any comments on the minutes? If  
20 not, can I have a motion? Jim?

21 VICE CHAIR MORGO: Motion.

22 CHAIR MURRAY: Second?

23 TRUSTEE CANARY: Second.

24 CHAIR MURRAY: Gordon.

25 All those in favor, please say

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 aye.

3 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

4 CHAIR MURRAY: Any opposed?

5 (NO RESPONSE)

6 CHAIR MURRAY: The minutes are  
7 approved.

8 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND  
9 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

10 CHAIR MURRAY: And so at this  
11 point I would like to introduce Vice  
12 President for Business and Financial  
13 Affairs, Dr. Mark Harris, to present the  
14 college budget and college financial  
15 records.

16 VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: Good  
17 afternoon, Mr. Chair, members of the  
18 board. The financials for the month of  
19 November have been presented but in  
20 terms of the fiscal year 21 year-end  
21 close process, really no new updates.  
22 We are currently working with our  
23 external auditors in really ensuring  
24 that the numbers that we provided are in  
25 compliance with Gatsby.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 A specific part of the audit this  
3 year is really zeroing in on how we  
4 handled the federal funding whether  
5 through CARES and a portion of HERFF as  
6 well just to make sure that those have  
7 been recorded in compliance with Gatsby  
8 standards but also based on the  
9 guidelines that were established by the  
10 US Department of Education and whether  
11 or not any adjustments need to be made  
12 to reflect what the numbers truly are.

13 So our goal is to have the audit  
14 presented to the board in the month of  
15 February. So we're still doing  
16 fieldwork with the auditors to ensure  
17 that that happens. In the event that  
18 that changes, then we will apprise the  
19 board accordingly.

20 In terms of our current Fiscal 22  
21 budget updates, no new news, no new news  
22 on the financial data. We do know that  
23 our Fall 2021 was not what we expected.  
24 We were about 8.6 percent worse than  
25 budget. Keep in mind that we budgeted

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 about 5.4 percent decrease and we ended  
3 up with a little bit over 13 percent  
4 decrease.

5 Fortunately we were able to  
6 recoup some of it, the revenue loss, but  
7 if you remember when we did our budget  
8 for Fiscal 22, we also included about  
9 \$9.8, \$9.9 million assuming that we  
10 would get hard money to cover some of  
11 that so we're a little bit short there.

12 Right now we're working through  
13 spring just to get a feel of where  
14 spring is going. So once spring starts  
15 and the enrollment period ends, then we  
16 will be able to determine what the rest  
17 of the fiscal year is going to be based  
18 on any changes in the budget, budgeted  
19 numbers, as well as what the actual  
20 numbers are.

21 And again, there is an  
22 opportunity in that some of the losses  
23 may be covered by HERFF. The one thing  
24 to remember that the budgeted period for  
25 the federal funds for Suffolk County is

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 May 2022. So we will need to ensure  
3 that we utilize any proceeds that we can  
4 get there.

5 So as we progress through this  
6 fiscal year, once we get into spring and  
7 a little bit beyond that, then we will  
8 be in a much better position to update  
9 the board and rate what the performance  
10 of our Fiscal 22 budget will be.

11 Last time we spoke we talked  
12 about presenting just some of the  
13 guidelines in terms of time for the  
14 Fiscal 23. Where we are right now we  
15 have provided budget templates as of  
16 today to all the budget managers with a  
17 timeline turnaround by the end of  
18 January 31st where they would submit  
19 their budget requests based on a  
20 baseline budget but if there are any  
21 additional requests for personnel  
22 services, equipment, tools, or any  
23 initiatives specifically tied to student  
24 success, and then we will do the budget  
25 process, meeting with the Budget and

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 Finance Committee reviewing different  
3 scenarios. And then once we go through  
4 that process, then talk through what we  
5 would present to the County and then to  
6 the State/SUNY.

7 So that's where we are. So  
8 again, as we proceed through the Fiscal  
9 23 budget process, we'll bring the board  
10 up to date, but I would say sooner than  
11 later the Budget and Finance Committee  
12 will get heavily involved looking at the  
13 different scenarios, looking at some  
14 regression analyses that our  
15 institutional research department is  
16 working on, give us a better sense of  
17 what we can expect.

18 And then in terms of cash flow,  
19 we still remain in a strong position  
20 relative to last year and that is  
21 primarily because we have been  
22 successful in cost mitigation but also  
23 because we were able to draw down some  
24 funds for some of those loss revenues  
25 based on HERFF funding through the end

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           of November.

3           Before I present the two  
4           resolutions, I just want to pause here  
5           to see whether or not there are any  
6           questions based on that high level  
7           review.

8           CHAIR MURRAY: I assume it's too  
9           early to get a sense of the State and  
10          their thinking with regard to --

11          VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: It is.  
12          It is.

13          CHAIR MURRAY: I'm curious to see  
14          with the new governor if there is a  
15          change in attitude at all towards the  
16          community colleges.

17          PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Mr. Chairman,  
18          as I shared last Friday, there is  
19          consensus that the ask for the SUNY  
20          system is to elevate the ask from a 98  
21          percent of floor to 100 percent of floor  
22          which would add a little money back to  
23          support all SUNY institutions including  
24          the community colleges, but that's  
25          really the only firm talking point that

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 we're sure is going forward on behalf of  
3 SUNY.

4 CHAIR MURRAY: Any other  
5 questions for Mark?

6 (NO RESPONSE)

7 CHAIR MURRAY: You want to go  
8 through the resolutions?

9 VICE PRESIDENT HARRIS: Yes. So  
10 the Resolution Number 1 is our standard  
11 monthly service payment to Suffolk  
12 County for employee health insurance.  
13 The payment this month, it's lower than  
14 normal primarily because it's the  
15 quarter for the health insurance and  
16 there is a \$461,763.30 Medicare credit.

17 On an average our monthly bill is  
18 about \$2.8 million give or take  
19 depending on the number of payroll that  
20 the County includes in the bill. So  
21 we're presenting for this month the cost  
22 of \$2,294,612.38 for review and  
23 approval.

24 And then item number 2 is the  
25 budget transfer in the amount of

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           \$16,000, and all we're doing is  
3           reallocating funds from one department  
4           to the next department to cover or  
5           follow where we transferred employees to  
6           work.

7           So that's really what it is. The  
8           dollars really fall where the employees  
9           are physically working. So those were  
10          the two transfers that we're presenting,  
11          Resolutions 1 and 2 for consideration,  
12          and that's what I have, Mr. Chair.

13          CHAIR MURRAY: Any other  
14          questions?

15          (NO RESPONSE)

16          CHAIR MURRAY: If not, we'll go  
17          to the college resolutions. Thank you,  
18          Mark.

19          There are people giving us money,  
20          thanks to the Foundation, so those are  
21          good aspects of it, but there is also a  
22          reappointment of some of the board  
23          members for the -- what do you call it?  
24          The Center For Social Justice, and there  
25          is also a resolution that has been added

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 to approve Dr. Bonahue's elevation or  
3 appointment to the Board of Directors of  
4 the Hauppauge Industrial Association.

5 As you may or may not remember,  
6 his contract if he was to take a board  
7 seat on anything, it was something that  
8 would be approved by the Board of  
9 Directors -- or Board of Trustees, I'm  
10 sorry. And you know this is what we  
11 wanted him to do so I'm wholeheartedly  
12 in favor of his being appointed to the  
13 HIA board.

14 So those are the resolutions.  
15 Any questions on any of the resolutions?

16 (NO RESPONSE)

17 CHAIR MURRAY: If not, I'm going  
18 to ask for approval of college  
19 resolutions. It's going to be  
20 Resolution Numbers 2021.65 through  
21 2021.69 and 2021.71 through 2021.75.  
22 There was a resolution in the middle  
23 that was withdrawn. So if I can get a  
24 motion to approve those resolutions.

25 TRUSTEE O'CONNOR: Motion.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 CHAIR MURRAY: Kevin.

3 Second?

4 VICE CHAIR MORGO: Second.

5 CHAIR MURRAY: All those in  
6 favor, please say aye.

7 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

8 CHAIR MURRAY: Any opposed?

9 (NO RESPONSE)

10 CHAIR MURRAY: So those  
11 resolutions are passed.

12 [WHEREUPON THE MOTION MADE AND  
13 SECONDED WAS VOTED ON AND CARRIED.]

14 CHAIR MURRAY: So we're going to  
15 go to the committee reports. I know  
16 Budget and Finance we got Mark's and  
17 we're going to start the whole process  
18 again for the next year's budget. It  
19 just seems like we did it, but it's that  
20 time of year so we'll again be moving on  
21 that.

22 Student Success, Bell?

23 TRUSTEE PAGDANGANAN: Thank you,  
24 Mr. Chair. The Student Success  
25 subcommittee met on December 7th. The

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 committee received an update on the  
3 status of activities taking place this  
4 month that are related to college  
5 efforts to address basic student needs.

6 Among the highlights were  
7 President Bonahue shared the  
8 presentation he delivered at last  
9 month's Board of Trustees meeting during  
10 this month's shared governance meeting  
11 at the Michael J. Grant and Ammeran  
12 Campus.

13 The second is the college  
14 continues to discuss having Accounting  
15 Department of Social Services  
16 representative available to consult with  
17 the students on campus one day per week  
18 on a rotating basis. Outreach would be  
19 coordinated by the college's mental  
20 health services staff.

21 And the third one is the Basic  
22 Needs Task Force will continue to work  
23 on this effort and will assist with  
24 issuing an update to the college  
25 community in the spring.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 That's our report, Mr. Chair.

3 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you.

4 Any questions?

5 (NO RESPONSE)

6 CHAIR MURRAY: If not, we'll move  
7 to governance. Gordon?

8 TRUSTEE CANARY: The Governance  
9 Committee met on Monday afternoon,  
10 December 13th. Deputy General Counsel  
11 O'Connor and Assistant Director Alberti  
12 brought to the committee's attention the  
13 request of Dreamland Amusements to  
14 utilize the undeveloped land at the  
15 Michael J. Grant Campus for the Long  
16 Island Fun Fest Carnival which will take  
17 place June 16th through the 26th of  
18 2022. Discussion was had that the  
19 proposed dates and times will not  
20 conflict with any other events such as  
21 the Future Stars summer sports camp.

22 The committee also discussed the  
23 insurance and safety requirements that  
24 the applicant must comply with including  
25 the obtaining of a permit from the Town

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           of Islip for the display of fireworks  
3           and of course all the other safety  
4           inspections of the equipment, the  
5           carnival rides, and all of that.

6           After discussion the committee  
7           agreed that the college should proceed  
8           with a one-year license agreement with  
9           Dreamland Amusements to utilize college  
10          property for the 2022 Long Island Fun  
11          Fest.

12          No further business, pretty  
13          quick, and that concluded our business  
14          on that day, sir.

15          CHAIR MURRAY: Do we have to  
16          approve the licenses or that is  
17          something the administration will do?

18          DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL O'CONNOR:  
19          (INAUDIBLE RESPONSE)

20          CHAIR MURRAY: Okay. Great. So  
21          if anything goes wrong.

22          The Personnel Committee I don't  
23          believe has met and Gemma was unable to  
24          make it today so next month or January  
25          we'll -- or February we'll catch up on

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 it.

3 Advocacy, did you guys meet?

4 TRUSTEE ZARATE: Yes. Good  
5 evening everyone and good evening Chair  
6 Murray. The Advocacy Committee was held  
7 on December 7th at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom  
8 teleconference. Present were Jim Morgo,  
9 Vice Chair, Belinda Pagdanganan,  
10 Trustee, Drew Biondo, College Director  
11 of Communications, Christina Vargas,  
12 Chief Diversity Officer for Title IV  
13 Coordinator, and Carmen Torres,  
14 Recording Secretary.

15 The Advocacy Committee introduced  
16 Christina Vargas, college Chief  
17 Diversity Officer, who updated the  
18 committee on the college's diversity,  
19 equity, and inclusion plan and what has  
20 been done throughout the college.

21 The college discussed -- I'm  
22 sorry, Christina Vargas discussed her  
23 role as Chief Diversity Officer working  
24 on issues of equity, diversity, and  
25 inclusion in collaboration with Student

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 Affairs, Multicultural Affairs, Academic  
3 Affairs, and the Center for Social  
4 Justice, the scope of the work has been  
5 in three main areas which includes  
6 climate, the culture of belonging, and  
7 capacity building up of our faculty,  
8 staff, and students.

9 With the emphasis and focus  
10 directed towards faculty and staff, the  
11 goals are to develop a welcoming  
12 environment for our students, facilitate  
13 curriculum changes to service our  
14 diverse student population.

15 Ms. Vargas discussed a series of  
16 Zoom dialogues and book club workshops  
17 held last year on these issues of equity  
18 and racism. These workshops took place  
19 as a way to forge a safe place for  
20 students and faculty to discuss these  
21 topics.

22 The success of these dialogues  
23 and workshops gave an opportunity for  
24 pilot programs to be created at the  
25 college, all of which were well

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           attended, and became a cornerstone of  
3           how professional development was  
4           redesigned.

5           With full support from the  
6           faculty association the J.E.D.I.  
7           Institute, which stands for Just  
8           Equitable Diverse and Inclusive, began  
9           and highlighted five areas of focus  
10          where faculty can engage in and really  
11          reexamine classroom discussions and how  
12          these issues can impact our students.

13          Ms. Vargas also presented the  
14          change of approach for recruiting and  
15          hiring practices and the understanding  
16          of how to increase diversity of  
17          applicant pools. Data tracking and  
18          search committee training has allowed  
19          the college to access that at all stages  
20          of the hiring process which are unbiased  
21          and inclusive.

22          The committee discussed the  
23          overall importance of data analysis  
24          within all aspects throughout the  
25          college from hiring practices to

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           curriculum changes so it would ensure  
3           that the college is servicing the  
4           diverse student population with an  
5           equitable path.

6           Vice Chair Morgo inquired the way  
7           diversity and inclusion would benefit  
8           the Advocacy Committee wherein our  
9           government officials would be able to  
10          appreciate the work being done in those  
11          areas.

12          The committee also discussed the  
13          various ways diversity and inclusion can  
14          be utilized to advocate for the college  
15          and our students.

16          Trustee Pag -- I'm sorry.  
17          Trustee Pagdanganan, I apologize,  
18          suggested potentially hosting a local  
19          event with our legislators.

20          Drew Biondo, college Director of  
21          Communications, presented the new  
22          Suffolk legislators structure of 11  
23          republicans, 17 democrats. With this  
24          shift of parties all committees will be  
25          reconstituted.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 SUNY Chancellor Jim Malatras has  
3 been under fire with comments made  
4 during the investigation of Cuomo with  
5 many calling for his resignation as  
6 chancellor.

7 NYCCT held a budget advocacy  
8 which I actually attended on  
9 December 9th at 4:00 p.m. and various  
10 panelists discussing topics of budget,  
11 funding, and advocacy. And like  
12 President Bonahue mentioned, they are  
13 asking and advocating for the 100 for  
14 the floor, 100 percent for the floor.

15 So the Advocacy Committee will be  
16 reconvening with a date and time to be  
17 determined, and the meeting was  
18 adjourned at 9:43 a.m. Thank you.

19 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you.

20 Anybody have any questions for  
21 Priscilla?

22 I just wanted to note, since your  
23 meeting Malatras did resign so we're  
24 waiting for appointment of a new  
25 chancellor. The Advocacy Committee I

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 think has its work cut out for it in  
3 some ways because we now have a lot of  
4 changes going on.

5 So we always had -- we've always  
6 had a good relationship with both the  
7 State and with the County legislature.  
8 I anticipate that that will continue.  
9 I don't think it was partisan by any  
10 means. I think the new presiding  
11 officer or anticipated presiding  
12 officer --

13 VICE CHAIR MORGO: Presumptive.

14 CHAIR MURRAY: Presumptive  
15 presiding officer has always been very  
16 supportive of the school and so I don't  
17 see a major shift in how we are treated,  
18 but it's going to -- you've got to get  
19 to know some new people.

20 VICE CHAIR MORGO: Do we have any  
21 idea who is going to be the new chair of  
22 the Education Committee?

23 CHAIR MURRAY: We have a rumor  
24 which I can tell you.

25 VICE CHAIR MORGO: Well, in

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 Suffolk County those are worth a lot.

3 CHAIR MURRAY: So, you know, we  
4 just have to keep doing what we're  
5 doing. I think we have a good  
6 reputation. I think we have solid  
7 support across the board and so even  
8 though there's major changes going on, I  
9 don't think that's going to affect our  
10 relationship to our government sponsor  
11 or to the State.

12 So Facilities, did you get a  
13 chance to meet?

14 VICE CHAIR MORGO: No, we did not  
15 meet, however, the annual physical  
16 resource meeting it looks -- is  
17 tentatively scheduled for January 5th  
18 and I will be attending that and  
19 reporting.

20 CHAIR MURRAY: Okay. Great.  
21 Thank you.

22 Foundation, Bell?

23 TRUSTEE PAGDANGANAN: Sure. So  
24 the winter party, which is taking place  
25 next month, the membership from the

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           Faculty Association and the Guild of  
3           Administrative Officers will be raising  
4           support for three scholarships.

5           The first one is the Jane F.  
6           Shearer Memorial Scholarship. Second  
7           one is the Ellen Schuler Mauk Endowed  
8           Scholarship. And the third one is Kevin  
9           Peterman Labor Leadership Scholarship.  
10          These scholarships remind us of the many  
11          contributions to student success made by  
12          these labor leaders during their tenure.

13          We extend sincere thanks to  
14          Professor Dante Morelli, President of  
15          the Faculty Association, and Professor  
16          Sean Tvelia, President of the Guild of  
17          Administrative Officers.

18          The Foundation is also pleased to  
19          share that several faculty members and  
20          administrators have made gifts in  
21          support of various scholarships and  
22          hardship funds as part of their holiday  
23          giving. This is a true reflection of  
24          the generosity which exists in our  
25          learning community. And on behalf of

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           the committee and the Foundation we  
3           thank everyone for that.

4           The Foundation team will be  
5           working with the inauguration committee  
6           to raise funds for support of the  
7           presidential inauguration which is  
8           scheduled for April 8th, Friday, at  
9           10:00 a.m.

10          The inauguration will celebrate  
11          the installation of Dr. Bonahue as the  
12          seventh president of the college. As a  
13          public institution we must raise funds  
14          to cover the expense for this event  
15          which provides an opportunity to  
16          celebrate our mission of open access and  
17          student success with the Long Island  
18          community. To learn more about  
19          supporting the inauguration as a donor  
20          or sponsor, kindly contact Dr. Sylvia  
21          Diaz, Executive Director of the  
22          Foundation.

23          And at the beginning also of the  
24          fall semester the United Way of Long  
25          Island provided a total of \$10,000 in

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           scholarship support to 10 of our  
3           promising nursing students through its  
4           Dreams For Youth Scholarship Program.

5           We just learned that the United  
6           Way will provide each of the students  
7           with an additional \$500 in scholarship  
8           support. We appreciate the opportunity  
9           to thank them publicly for their ongoing  
10          generosity.

11          And lastly, Jamie Weinberg, CEO  
12          of Homes By Jamie Jay Realty is a  
13          Suffolk alumni professional real estate  
14          advisor. Together with colleagues,  
15          friends, and family she has established  
16          a new scholarship to support  
17          single-parent students who often  
18          struggle with finding a work-life study  
19          balance. The new Wings for Single  
20          Parent Scholarship will annually award  
21          \$2,500 to an eligible single-parent  
22          student. We appreciate our alumni and  
23          their willingness to support these  
24          students. Thank you.

25                 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 Any questions?

3 VICE CHAIR MORGO: I have a  
4 question. Bell, that single-parent  
5 scholarship, it's terrific. I mean  
6 particularly considering our declining  
7 enrollment, not to mention the social  
8 benefits. How would a single parent  
9 learn about the availability of that  
10 scholarship?

11 TRUSTEE PAGDANGANAN: I would say  
12 through all the outreach that we're  
13 doing with the Foundation. And if Mary  
14 Lou -- I'm not sure if anyone is there  
15 from the Foundation, Dr. Diaz, if you  
16 can answer that. There are several ways  
17 that we can promote this scholarship,  
18 this new type of scholarship.

19 VICE PRESIDENT ARANEO: Yes,  
20 thank you, Bell. Mary Lou Araneo, Vice  
21 President for Institutional Advancement.

22 Primarily these scholarships are  
23 promoted online and we make outreach to  
24 individuals. If they are self  
25 designated single parents, we will be

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           able to contact them through means of  
3           communication through Student Affairs.  
4           And if they haven't, someone can go in  
5           and using search words, single-parent  
6           scholarships, this would come up as a  
7           response.

8           VICE CHAIR MORGO: I always  
9           wonder, Mary Lou, because when I was at  
10          the Housing Partnership, there were a  
11          lot of benefits available that people  
12          just didn't know about.

13          VICE PRESIDENT ARANEO: Yes.

14          VICE CHAIR MORGO: And President  
15          Biden yesterday was talking about the  
16          people hit by the tornado that there are  
17          benefits out there that they don't know  
18          about. So it's important to somehow  
19          communicate it.

20          VICE PRESIDENT ARANEO: And  
21          absolutely we over the last two years  
22          have really tried to boost the  
23          communication that is generated related  
24          to scholarships to make sure that if  
25          there are eligible students out there,

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 they know about it.

3 VICE CHAIR MORGO: And perhaps  
4 the corporate sponsor could too.

5 VICE PRESIDENT ARANEO: Yeah.  
6 Thank you.

7 VICE CHAIR MORGO: Thank you.

8 CHAIR MURRAY: Any other  
9 questions?

10 (NO RESPONSE)

11 CHAIR MURRAY: If not, Zach,  
12 you're going to give your report?

13 TRUSTEE FROST: Yes, sure. It's  
14 a little light this month because of  
15 finals going on and whatnot, but I am  
16 looking forward.

17 So tomorrow I'm going with my  
18 company to a career day tomorrow at Bay  
19 Shore High School. So I'm looking  
20 forward to talking about Suffolk County  
21 Community College tomorrow and letting  
22 them know about all of our resources and  
23 everything that is available to them and  
24 hoping that we continue to get invited  
25 to these high school career days and I

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           can talk more about Suffolk County  
3           Community College. So that's always  
4           good.

5                   And I saw this recently on  
6           Facebook, I love keeping up with our  
7           Suffolk County Community College  
8           Facebook, but Mercedes of Huntington  
9           came to our automotive program here at  
10          the college and trained them on their  
11          software and diagnostic tools which are  
12          unique to Mercedes. So it opens up a  
13          lot of employment opportunities to our  
14          students which is really amazing.  
15          Additionally one of the representatives  
16          from Mercedes of Huntington was actually  
17          a student of ours, one of our alums, so  
18          that's also really nice to see.

19                   CHAIR MURRAY: Great.

20                   Any questions for Zach?

21                   (NO RESPONSE)

22                   CHAIR MURRAY: If not, that is  
23          the committee reports. I'm going to the  
24          chair's report. I have a couple of  
25          items.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 One, I want to congratulate  
3 Priscilla on her reappointment. So we  
4 will see you for I guess another four  
5 years or five years.

6 (ROUND OF APPLAUSE)

7 CHAIR MURRAY: We did have the  
8 ACCT training which Jim and I  
9 participated in. I thought it was very  
10 worthwhile and I think the part that I  
11 found most interesting was when they  
12 broke us down into groups.

13 Our group was us and Nassau  
14 County and to kind of see some of the  
15 same issues that face both colleges.  
16 They have a president that is relatively  
17 new a little bit, I think in their third  
18 year. So kind of got some of his  
19 perspective on what he was doing and  
20 some of the challenges and pushback and  
21 things like that as to some of the  
22 reforms he was trying to institute.

23 And as I think I mentioned to the  
24 trustees, it's something that the board  
25 plays an important role in being

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           supportive of the reforms that are  
3           needed to be done and we have all the  
4           faith in the world in our new president  
5           and so I'm excited about moving on with  
6           that.

7           In January we're not going to  
8           have a board meeting but instead we're  
9           going to have a retreat and I believe  
10          the date has been finalized. It's  
11          January 14th which is a Friday. The  
12          tentative schedule is we're going to  
13          have a breakfast like we always do.  
14          Basically have a breakfast in the  
15          morning at 8:00 with both the Board of  
16          Trustees and the board for the  
17          Foundation and, you know, elected  
18          officials and have a little get  
19          together. And then we will break up  
20          into groups and then come back and have  
21          a lunch.

22          The topics for the groups is  
23          still something that is in formation,  
24          but Jim had raised a possibility and I  
25          think everybody -- I agree that talking

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           about enrollment, thinking of  
3           possibilities of how to increase  
4           enrollment, as you said, out of the box  
5           ideas and have a barn storming --  
6           brainstorming, not barn storming, a  
7           brainstorming session to talk about, you  
8           know, how we could increase enrollment.

9           I actually had breakfast with  
10          Dr. Bonahue this week and he has some  
11          ideas he would like to share with us.  
12          I will -- I'll let him -- I won't steal  
13          his thunder. I'll let him go through  
14          that.

15          So I think that will obviously be  
16          a topic and then maybe one or two more  
17          topics for the group. But it's  
18          January 14th starting at 8:00 a.m. I  
19          believe we're going to have it here.  
20          Did we decide that? Yeah, as opposed to  
21          spending money. We've had it at off  
22          campus type of situations but this is a  
23          beautiful building and it suits our  
24          purpose fine. So it would be here  
25          starting at 8:00 a.m. on January 14th.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 So keep that in your calendars.

3 Last thing I want to just say is  
4 I believe Dr. Bonahue is going to talk  
5 about the Wyandanch project with the  
6 Urban League. I think that's part of  
7 his report. I have to make a disclosure  
8 that I do legal work for the Urban  
9 League so I'm going to walk out of the  
10 room and not participate in the  
11 discussions because I don't think it's  
12 appropriate for me to do so. So I'm  
13 just recusing myself and just making  
14 that disclosure that I don't feel it's  
15 appropriate for me to participate in  
16 those discussions.

17 VICE CHAIR MORGO: See you later.

18 CHAIR MURRAY: With that, that's  
19 my report.

20 Are you planning on doing that  
21 first or do you have other --

22 PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: I have a few  
23 quick hits, Mr. Chairman, and then I'll  
24 go on to Wyandanch and then we'll call  
25 you back.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 CHAIR MURRAY: Okay. All right.

3 So turn it over for the president's  
4 report.

5 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Thank you,  
6 Mr. Chairman, and trustees it's great to  
7 be with you. Happy December whether  
8 you're joining us online or  
9 face-to-face. It's great to be with you  
10 as always. Thank you Dr. Ciampa for  
11 hosting us here at the Grant Campus.

12 And can I take this opportunity  
13 to recognize our Association and  
14 Governance leaders and ask them to  
15 stand, if they are able, and be  
16 recognized.

17 Tat Sang So of the Grant Campus.  
18 Thank you, Tat. Lizzie McCormick from  
19 the Ammerman Campus. This is Lizzie.  
20 Thank you Nina Acquavita who may be  
21 listening in online. I don't see her.

22 Dante Morelli, are you able to  
23 stand?

24 DANTE MORELLI: Very well, yes.

25 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Thank you,

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 Dante, for representing --

3 CHAIR MURRAY: Skiing injury?

4 DANTE MORELLI: It's a longer  
5 story than that.

6 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Representing  
7 the Faculty Association. Sean Tvelia  
8 from the Administrators Guild may be  
9 online. Josephine Makowski thank you  
10 for your advocacy for -- stand up,  
11 please, for representing AME and thank  
12 you very much. Thanks to all of them  
13 for their leadership and providing  
14 representation.

15 Three quick updates, trustees,  
16 and then I'll move on to Wyandanch.

17 First, we had welcomed news  
18 yesterday on a new grant award from the  
19 SUNY system of over \$400,000 to offer  
20 noncredit training programs to workers  
21 affected by the COVID pandemic.

22 We will offer noncredit training  
23 either free or at very reduced costs in  
24 ophthalmic technician assistant, health  
25 information management, and electronic

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           assembly. We will hit the ground  
3           running with these programs in January  
4           and immediately have deliverables in the  
5           spring semester.

6                   It was truly a team effort. I  
7           want to thank Andrea Dunkirk and Arlene  
8           Jackson from Continuing Education, Laura  
9           Galletta and John Lombardo from the  
10          Workforce Training Institute, and  
11          Dr. Troy Tucker and his staff for  
12          putting this whole proposal together.

13                   Bear in mind, trustees, that on  
14          these grants the college earns some 40  
15          percent of indirect costs so that when  
16          we're awarded these grants for  
17          programming, the college also gets some  
18          benefit in terms of the indirect cost  
19          and administrative overhead.

20                   Secondly, Executive Vice  
21          President Petrizzo and I met this  
22          morning with Roger Clayman from the Fed  
23          and Maddie (phonetic) Arostitch  
24          (phonetic) from the Trade Council  
25          regarding the Off Shore Wind Training

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           Center.

3           The good news is that Orstead has  
4           reengaged in the planning process. They  
5           had gone silent on us for a bit, but are  
6           reengaged and they really -- they are  
7           developing now a concrete funding plan  
8           moving forward. They've even shown  
9           goodwill by making the first deposit,  
10          albeit a minimal one actually, into the  
11          account of the training center, but it  
12          gets the ball rolling for training  
13          purposes.

14           VICE CHAIR MORGO: May I  
15          interrupt, President? I think I just  
16          did.

17           PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: Please.

18           VICE CHAIR MORGO: I was trying  
19          to remember, Chris, what my second  
20          suggestion was and I had forgotten what  
21          it was but that was it. I thought -- I  
22          thought it might serve several purposes  
23          if we had an update on the Off Shore  
24          Wind to let not only Clayman but also  
25          Orstead know that we're not going away

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           and we plan on being to be part of the  
3           arrangement. So that was my second  
4           suggestion. I think it's a damn good  
5           one. No, I'm kidding.

6           PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: It's  
7           certainly something that I would like to  
8           discuss further at the retreat, spend a  
9           few minutes on --

10          VICE CHAIR MORGO: That's what  
11          I'm saying.

12          PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: -- in terms  
13          of how we position ourselves publicly  
14          with respect to the ongoing planning  
15          efforts, who our partners are likely to  
16          be and so forth.

17          VICE CHAIR MORGO: As Lou  
18          mentioned at one of our meetings, it's  
19          gotten better because it was really a  
20          very slow start at the beginning of it.

21          PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Well, the  
22          financing -- we're encouraged by the  
23          development of a financing plan by  
24          Orstead and we continue to work with  
25          Maddie and Roger also on trying to

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           identify a very small number of training  
3           sites and we'll partner with Orsted on  
4           review of those training sites as well  
5           so it is going.

6           VICE CHAIR MORGO: Not  
7           necessarily on campus I understand.

8           PRESIDENT BONAHE: More likely  
9           not on campus.

10           Third, as we've referenced, as  
11           Dr. Harris referenced, enrollment for  
12           spring is continuing to lag behind  
13           expectations. In the past two weeks the  
14           Omicron variant has continued to cause  
15           some concern, but we have seats  
16           available on all campuses in all  
17           modalities in our gateway courses, the  
18           courses that students are most likely to  
19           need access to. We are doing capacity  
20           studies to continue to understand what  
21           do we need just to get back to even and  
22           we are adding that capacity where it  
23           needs to go, but this week, just so that  
24           you know, enrollment projections are  
25           trending down as much as 10 percent.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 And now the update on the  
3 Wyandanch project, Mr. Chairman.

4 CHAIR MURRAY: Okay. Thank you.  
5 Jim, I guess you're in charge.

6 (CHAIR MURRAY EXITS THE ROOM)

7 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Trustees, I  
8 know that you know the need in the  
9 Wyandanch community remains present.  
10 It's a terribly underserved part of  
11 Suffolk County. I do want to call on  
12 Trustee Sanders to provide a little  
13 historical background because I've been  
14 here six months, but this seems like a  
15 good opportunity to reset our  
16 understanding of it, especially for  
17 Trustee Frost, any newer trustees. I  
18 just want to give Trustee Sanders an  
19 opportunity to review what this project  
20 is, and then we'll talk about some ways  
21 that Suffolk can be involved.

22 TRUSTEE SANDERS: Sure. Thank  
23 you, Dr. Bonahue, and I need to publicly  
24 recuse myself as a board member right  
25 this minute. I am presenting to you on

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 behalf of a community leader. I have  
3 been with Urban League of Long Island as  
4 President and CEO for close to 30 years  
5 and having a relationship with Suffolk  
6 for about 20 years outside of my role of  
7 a board member so I'm speaking to you  
8 from that frame.

9 You know, this project in  
10 Wyandanch has been very interesting. We  
11 started out with a very vibrant  
12 working-class community in Wyandanch  
13 historically and then we hit the 70s  
14 where there was a population decline in  
15 that particular community. Then we were  
16 hit with the mortgage crisis in 2008,  
17 and you know, it steadily declined in  
18 terms of its infrastructure and the  
19 socioeconomic challenges that it was  
20 facing. The school district continued  
21 to struggle producing students that were  
22 able to be as competitive as they should  
23 be in the local workforce and the  
24 economy.

25 And so we are now looking at a

Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

how do we work to sustain that community. We are doing this under a new normal in this new state of COVID-19 and we're looking at it from an economic standpoint. If we can get people in really good jobs and then provide additional resources so that they can then buy houses so that they can reinvest in their communities, can we turn this around?

But it all starts with the investment in the people so this particular project that Urban League has started working on really focuses in on workforce and workforce development. What are those skills and tools that we need to provide to the community?

And when I say community, we're going to start with a very targeted piece of the population which are high schoolers and those that go up to about 25 years old. We're not going to turn anybody away from services but we're really going to target that particular

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           age group that appears to be the most  
3           vulnerable.

4           Right now Wyandanch has a  
5           majority of a Hispanic population,  
6           second largest population is now African  
7           Americans in Wyandanch and we still have  
8           a very small white and other undescribed  
9           population in the area.

10           It's not a large hamlet. It's a  
11           very small hamlet about 40 miles east of  
12           what we call Times Square. So I don't  
13           know why everybody -- when I'm speaking  
14           to people and making presentations, I  
15           always reference how close we are to the  
16           New York City thing. People don't seem  
17           to get a grasp in terms of Long Island  
18           and the geographics of Long Island to  
19           the center of the world which is really  
20           kind of New York. That's how I feel.

21           So when I approached Dr. Bonahue  
22           in his new role about revising the  
23           energy around this particular project, I  
24           had several conversations prior to him  
25           coming on, had conversations with him as

Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

he arrived. We are very excited with the potential and particularly the synergy that we can bring between this Wyandanch project, Suffolk Community College, and really build a vibrant model that we can take to other underserved communities.

So I was tasked today with giving kind of the background of why this is so important in terms of this particular community and if we do this right, and I know we will. I worked with Suffolk on so many other projects that are extremely successful over the years in terms of making sure that young people and their families get to college or get to jobs that they can have good careers and sustain themselves and their families.

But looking at this particular project, we have things coming down the pike. You just mentioned the Off Shore Wind. These are the types of jobs that our young people should be moving

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           towards, but if we don't provide them  
3           with the pipeline to get to these jobs,  
4           who else will?

5           With that I'm going to turn it  
6           back to Dr. Bonahue to talk a little  
7           about some of the details that we've  
8           been discussing in terms of the project.  
9           Thank you.

10           PRESIDENT BONAHE: Thank you,  
11           Trustee Sanders.

12           Does anyone have any questions  
13           for Trustee Sanders?

14           VICE CHAIR MORGO: Theresa, your  
15           just speaking of it gets the blood  
16           flowing because it is totally consistent  
17           with the mission of Suffolk County  
18           Community College to go into an  
19           underserved community like Wyandanch.

20           You remember early on when we met  
21           with DuWayne Gregory and others, it  
22           didn't really have a shape. And there  
23           are pockets of poverty like Wyandanch,  
24           thankfully not that many but they exist,  
25           Riverside and Riverhead, we've got one

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           in Central Islip, where we can make a  
3           difference. But the revitalization of  
4           Wyandanch which has been talked about  
5           for a long time was really centered on  
6           the Wyandanch Rising mixed-use products.

7           I'm just wondering because I  
8           haven't been back there since the  
9           meeting we had there a couple of years  
10          ago, how is the Wyandanch Rising doing?  
11          Do you know about vacancy rates? Are  
12          they renting the apartments up? Do you  
13          know? Is it having an effect, a  
14          positive effect on the community? I  
15          just don't know.

16          TRUSTEE SANDERS: Well, I'm not  
17          the expert in terms of the details in  
18          terms of rentals. I will tell you from  
19          an anecdotal standpoint, when I go down  
20          into the village, and that's what it's  
21          called now, and one of the reasons that  
22          we originally -- and I'm talking about  
23          back in the 70s because I've been living  
24          in the Town of Babylon for most of my  
25          life, but one of the challenges that

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           that area had like most areas on Long  
3           Island, it was unsewered, right, and  
4           then the only benefit that you had in  
5           the downtown was the train station.

6                   And so part of the development  
7           was how do we use -- how do we put  
8           sewers in and then how do we really  
9           master that train station to be the hub.  
10          There is vibrancy in that village. We  
11          now call it the village area which is  
12          all around the train station.

13                   Trains are stopping and not just  
14          Wyandanch village residents. It's a  
15          regional hub. You have people that live  
16          in Dix Hills, Half Harbor Hills that are  
17          commuting to the City. They are  
18          comfortable parking their cars there  
19          now. You know, I mean this has become a  
20          community hub so it has transformed the  
21          community.

22                   I don't think they are lacking  
23          for vacancy in those apartments. From  
24          what I understand, there are waiting  
25          lists. You know, when people call and

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 go how do I get into those apartments,  
3 you know, and I tell them you have to  
4 call Albanese, et cetera, they are like  
5 there is a waiting list.

6 So I know personally people have  
7 said that there are waiting lists. The  
8 property is clean. It looks well  
9 maintained. And so I don't believe that  
10 there is any, you know, issues in terms  
11 of decline. I believe that as we build  
12 up what goes in that village, we will  
13 only see more prosperity from the rest  
14 of the community and the region.

15 VICE CHAIR MORGO: That's  
16 terrific to hear because, you know, it's  
17 kind of the reversal of the broken  
18 window theory. You have success  
19 building on success. And you have foot  
20 traffic around, people are walking  
21 around, and you see people on the --

22 TRUSTEE SANDERS: Yes.

23 VICE CHAIR MORGO: Okay. Good.

24 TRUSTEE SANDERS: Great. Thank  
25 you.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 PRESIDENT BONAHE: And I think,  
3 trustees, you've likely discussed  
4 previously why the college would get  
5 involved as you observed, Jim, the  
6 mission of serving an underserved  
7 community is squarely within our  
8 roundhouse and something that we should  
9 be involved in whether to provide  
10 exposure to career options, to support  
11 workforce training, to increase  
12 familiarity with opportunities at  
13 Suffolk Community College, for all of  
14 those reasons there is an opportunity.

15 A formal needs analysis was  
16 conducted by Suffolk County pre-COVID.  
17 By formal needs analysis I mean looking  
18 at things like the number of unemployed  
19 and kind of disaggregating by age group.  
20 As Trustee Sanders referenced, there's  
21 some real opportunities to work with  
22 youth and young adults and to connect  
23 them with better career opportunities.

24 That needs analysis needs to be  
25 updated and to your question, Mr. Morgo,

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 I think that something like residency  
3 rates in the existing apartments would  
4 be relevant. That's a kind of metric we  
5 would want to know. I spoke with  
6 Commissioner Drago this morning. He's  
7 committed to updating the needs  
8 analysis, just hasn't gotten -- she  
9 hasn't gotten there yet.

10 One of the chief reasons I wanted  
11 to kind of reset our awareness of this  
12 project is a change in the likely  
13 business model. Trustee Sanders and I  
14 have both talked about this and with  
15 Commissioner Drago. We're all speaking  
16 the same language and I just wanted to  
17 share with the board.

18 So really in testament to the  
19 continuing need for services in the  
20 area, the Suffolk County Department of  
21 Labor has agreed to take on the  
22 long-term lease with Albanese. And the  
23 Urban League, if I understand correctly,  
24 Trustee Sanders, would have a sublease  
25 from Suffolk County. So with that piece

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it makes it possible for the Urban League to then enter into licensing agreements with not only with Suffolk with but with a training provider or deliverer of social service who can bring something to the area.

And so like the license agreement might include something like to deliver workforce training, to deliver financial literacy education, to deliver healthcare wellness, healthcare awareness or wellness education. I have a continuing desire to want more on the ground information from an advisory board.

Trustee Sanders and I went over and some senior staff and I have gone over some likely candidates to be on the advisory board in addition to Suffolk personnel. Certainly we need someone from the Commissioner of Labor's office. Assemblywoman Kimberly Jean-Pierre who has been on this project from the beginning. We need representation from

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           the Wyandanch schools, from the Town of  
3           Babylon, possibly from the IDA,  
4           certainly from the County Executive's  
5           office.

6           If you have recommendations on  
7           people who can give us a strong read on  
8           needs, and it may not be needs in  
9           Wyandanch to Trustee Sanders's point,  
10          whether it's Huntington Station, whether  
11          it is the area around that part of the  
12          Town of Babylon, I'd welcome your  
13          recommendations on who would be  
14          additions to our advisory committee. We  
15          need to hear from employers about what  
16          they're looking for and so that's  
17          obviously got to be a big part of what  
18          we do.

19          So I don't have any  
20          recommendations for you right now. I  
21          don't have a request for you. What I  
22          did feel the need was because Trustee  
23          Sanders is part of the Urban League and  
24          part of this board, because she's also  
25          represented by Chair Murray, I think

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           it's appropriate that we have this kind  
3           of public reset to be sure that  
4           everybody is on the same page and if  
5           there are any questions that we want to  
6           address, we take the opportunity to do  
7           that.

8           Trustees, do you have any  
9           observations or questions?

10          TRUSTEE CANARY: So can you share  
11          with us the kind of rough time frame  
12          that we're on now?

13          PRESIDENT BONAHE: My  
14          understanding is that Suffolk County has  
15          identified about a half-million dollars  
16          in funds to renovate a retail section of  
17          that Wyandanch Rising complex within the  
18          horseshoe opposite the train station. I  
19          don't have a timeline for that but I  
20          believe the funding is in place.

21          Trustee Sanders, are you aware of  
22          any other timeline?

23          TRUSTEE SANDERS: Yeah. Well, we  
24          just kind of approved some of the  
25          minimum space requirement. If all goes

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           well, we're looking at maybe a soft  
3           launch in the fall of 2022 to start.  
4           We're going to be starting some  
5           preprogramming in January within the  
6           school district but we expect the  
7           physical space to be ready to start in  
8           spring of 2022.

9           PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: Thank you.  
10          And Trustee Zarate?

11          TRUSTEE ZARATE: Yes, so my  
12          question is, you know, the school  
13          district has an estimated 2,700 students  
14          of which 1,105 are black or African  
15          American and 1,546 are Hispanic or  
16          Latino. My question is: How many  
17          students are we looking to support and  
18          service through the Wyandanch project?

19          And the reason why I'm asking is  
20          because these are the students that  
21          consistently through our school district  
22          have shown to struggle, especially our  
23          Latinx students. They are coming from a  
24          different country. They are learning  
25          the language. They are newcomers and

Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

they oftentimes especially at that grade level, the high school grade level, grades 9 through 12, seem to be struggling the most and these students oftentimes fail 2 or 3 times Regents exams before they can actually pass it because they are not only struggling with a different academic system, different standards of education but also with regards to the language.

So I'm wondering what are the students -- what number of students are going to be impacted by this positively and what kind of projects are we going to put in place to be able to prepare these students for college and career readiness so that they can hopefully move on to our Suffolk County Community College eventually and provide them the remediation support that they may need, you know, before they get there so that they are not, you know, spending time on taking beginner English class but now they are immersed fully in the career

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 pathway that they really want to follow.

3 PRESIDENT BONAHOUE: That's an  
4 excellent question and I want to connect  
5 the dots between your observation and  
6 your question and the need for an  
7 advisory committee to give us more  
8 specific suggestions on the kinds of  
9 secondary or postsecondary solutions  
10 that can really make a difference in the  
11 community.

12 I also want to make a connection  
13 between this opportunity quite honestly  
14 and enrollment. If this is a community  
15 that is almost a first generation  
16 community, first generation United  
17 States or does not have the benefits of  
18 parents who have attended college, we  
19 need to have the kind of structures in  
20 place that make it clear that college is  
21 for everyone and that Suffolk is their  
22 best opportunity on the pathway to  
23 success whether that's workforce  
24 training or a more traditional approach  
25 to college, but I do think it starts

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           with -- it starts with collaboration  
3           with the public schools.

4           TRUSTEE SANDERS: Yeah, I agree,  
5           Dr. Bonahue, and thanks Priscilla for  
6           that question because it's very  
7           poignant. And I will tell you part of,  
8           you know, our challenge as a  
9           community-based organization is the  
10          evolution of our communities whether  
11          it's one minute you got a huge group of  
12          Haitian immigrants that are moving into  
13          a community and then you have another  
14          group of people.

15          One of the things that we found  
16          particularly because CI has been one of  
17          our hubs of programing and training, so  
18          a lot of the students that we say bring  
19          to Suffolk in the summer to work  
20          throughout summer use our employment and  
21          training program, a lot of them have  
22          those complicated households at home.

23          But a lot of the support  
24          mechanism when we're doing their -- we  
25          call it their individual career plans,

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           it's for them to understand, you know,  
3           it's not okay that you failed a test,  
4           but if you failed a test, it doesn't  
5           mean that you can't still go to work.  
6           You have to start learning how to  
7           compartmentalize your life like we do as  
8           adults. One thing does not stop you  
9           from performing and we have to figure  
10          out how do we correct that thing.

11                 So back to Dr. Bonahue's point,  
12          if it means you need to tutor to help  
13          you prep for that Regents exam, we can  
14          help you do that. That's where the  
15          partners come in, and maybe there is  
16          some prep time for that.

17                 But there is also the work and  
18          the job skills and the career building  
19          that we don't want them to lose sight of  
20          because in a lot of our research what we  
21          find with a lot of our black and brown  
22          kids is that they got so discouraged,  
23          you know, at a high school stage they  
24          never even thought about what they could  
25          possibly do, you know, when they got out

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 of school so they gave up.

3 And that's where that other group  
4 comes in because once the school is not  
5 tracking them, who is looking out for  
6 them in the community? Nobody. They  
7 are hanging outside. They are in front  
8 of stores. Many of these kids and, you  
9 know, when you talk to them, they are  
10 involved in stuff that is not always  
11 good things but they can count. They  
12 can read. They know the lyrics to  
13 songs. I know their brains work.

14 So it's a matter of how do we  
15 reprogram that back to something like  
16 maybe an engineering program eventually,  
17 but we've got to get them to see that  
18 it's part of their possibility of life  
19 because some of them they don't see it  
20 at home. They don't think it's going to  
21 happen from their high school experience  
22 and so they give up.

23 So it is going to be up to us and  
24 we hope you do refer some people to us,  
25 Priscilla, to sit on that board because

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           it's going to be extremely important  
3           that we have that thought-partner  
4           leadership.

5           TRUSTEE ZARATE: Most definitely.  
6           Thank you.

7           VICE CHAIR MORGO: Both are  
8           terrific questions and great  
9           observations. I have a comment that's  
10          not nearly as high minded or mission  
11          driven, but congratulations to you,  
12          Dr. Bonahue, or whoever else was  
13          responsible for getting the business  
14          arrangement where we're not on the  
15          lease, seriously. That lessens our  
16          exposure and it has -- and some of you,  
17          my colleagues know, some other leases  
18          that we're on that haven't done as well  
19          as we would have hoped. So that's very  
20          good from a business point of view.

21          PRESIDENT BONAHEUE: I think it's  
22          advantageous to the college. I also  
23          think it's advantageous to the Urban  
24          League in that although I trust they  
25          will want to partner with the college,

1           Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2           the Urban League will also be able to  
3           partner with a variety of vendors,  
4           contractors, trainers, no one is going  
5           to steal our thunder, please God, but I  
6           do think it's a win-win for everyone and  
7           it's really just a testament to the fact  
8           that Suffolk County wants to make this  
9           happen.

10           TRUSTEE SANDERS: Yes.

11           VICE CHAIR MORGO: Good work.

12           PRESIDENT BONAHE: Thank you.

13           TRUSTEE SANDERS: Thank you.

14           PRESIDENT BONAHE: Shall we call  
15           the Chair back? Let me, trustees, while  
16           Trustee O'Connor catches the chair, let  
17           me correct an oversight.

18           Can I ask Christian Limbach to  
19           stand up, please? Christian, I'm sorry  
20           I overlooked you. Christian is here.  
21           Christian is the Vice President of the  
22           AME -- of the AME Association. So thank  
23           you for representing our municipal  
24           employees, Christian. Thank you. Sorry  
25           about that.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 I want to -- we may have lost the  
3 Chair.

4 (CHAIR MURRAY REENTERS THE ROOM)

5 Trustees, thank you for  
6 supporting my participation on the HIA  
7 board and I also want to make a special  
8 thank you and shout-out to Trustee  
9 O'Connor for connecting me to HIA and to  
10 Terri Alessi-Miceli.

11 Trustees, if you have other  
12 suggestions for important relationships  
13 and education partners, workforce  
14 partners, business partners for the  
15 college, please help me make those  
16 connections. I appreciate that very  
17 much.

18 And finally, trustees, in light  
19 of the season, what you have been  
20 waiting for, please know -- this is for  
21 Trustee Morgo -- that my office, the  
22 president's office is partnering with  
23 the Office of Advancement and the  
24 Foundation to send a holiday greeting  
25 card on behalf of Suffolk Community

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 College.

3 It's designed to be a generic  
4 holiday greeting card, but also the gift  
5 that keeps on giving to hold an insert  
6 encouraging friends of the college to  
7 take advantage of this charitable time  
8 of year to express their support for our  
9 students and our mission.

10 We're sending this to our  
11 education and public sector partners  
12 without the Foundation insert. We are  
13 sending it to the Foundation's list of  
14 friends of the college and retirees and  
15 some other business partners with the  
16 solicitation. And this is in place this  
17 year of an end-of-year letter the  
18 Foundation has sent in the past.

19 It costs almost nothing to  
20 produce this and good job Mary Lou  
21 Araneo and the advancement staff. The  
22 highest cost of producing this is going  
23 to be literally the postage. We will  
24 send it out and we're all excited to see  
25 what kinds of return we may get.

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021

2 Trustees, Happy Holidays to all  
3 of you. I wish you the most joyous  
4 holiday season ever and thank you for  
5 support these first six months. I  
6 appreciate it very, very much. Thank  
7 you very much.

8 Trustees, if you're not here,  
9 guess what? You will get a lovely card  
10 in the mail very shortly.

11 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That  
12 concludes my report.

13 CHAIR MURRAY: Great. So now  
14 we're at the roundtable. Is there  
15 anything anybody has to share?

16 TRUSTEE CANARY: The good news  
17 the track Section 11 insurance issue is  
18 resolved. That was very good news.

19 CHAIR MURRAY: Great.

20 Anybody else?

21 (NO RESPONSE)

22 CHAIR MURRAY: If not, as I said,  
23 we're going to have our retreat in  
24 January so our next meeting will be  
25 Thursday, February 17th at 4:00 p.m.,

1 Board of Trustees, 12/16/2021  
2 presumably here although who knows with  
3 everything going on, but again, I thank  
4 everybody for participating and if I  
5 don't see you, have a great holiday.  
6 There is no executive session and I just  
7 need a motion to adjourn.

8 VICE CHAIR MORGO: So moved.

9 TRUSTEE FROST: Second.

10 CHAIR MURRAY: All in favor?

11 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

12 CHAIR MURRAY: Take care  
13 everybody.

14 [WHEREUPON THE MEETING OF THE  
15 BOARD OF TRUSTEES WAS CLOSED BY THE  
16 CHAIRMAN, E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY.]

17 o0o

18  
19  
20 *gabriel carlot*  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



Suffolk County Community College, Board of Trustees Meeting  
December 16, 2021  
Board of Trustees Meeting Suffolk County Community College

[illegible]

Signature of Board of Trustees Meeting Suffolk County Community College

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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 ON THE 16TH DAY  
OF DECEMBER 2021 VIA IN-PERSON & ZOOM  
VIDEOCONFERENCE

PRESENT:

EDWARD J. BONAHEUE, President  
GORDON D. CANARY, Member  
ZACHARY FROST, Student Member  
KEVIN M. O'CONNOR, Member  
BELINDA PAGDANGANAN, Member  
THERESA SANDERS, Member  
PRISCILLA ZARATE, Member

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

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



ORIGINAL

1 Board of Directors, 12/16/2021

2 CHAIR MURRAY: So I request a  
3 motion for the approval of the minutes  
4 of the November 18, 2021, Board of  
5 Directors meeting. You should have all  
6 received those in your package. And  
7 would someone like to make that motion?

8 Zach, would you like to make that  
9 motion?

10 MEMBER FROST: I would make the  
11 motion to approve the minutes for  
12 November 18, 2021.

13 CHAIR MURRAY: Priscilla, you  
14 will second that motion?

15 MEMBER ZARATE: I would second  
16 the motion, yes, Chris.

17 CHAIR MURRAY: All those in  
18 favor, please say aye.

19 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

20 CHAIR MURRAY: The minutes are  
21 approved.

22 Any opposed?

23 The minutes are approved.

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

1 Board of Directors, 12/16/2021

2 CHAIR MURRAY: I would like to  
3 introduce Interim Assistant Vice  
4 President for Student Affairs,  
5 Dr. Patricia Munsch, to present the  
6 Association's financial reports.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do we have  
8 a court reporter?

9 INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNSCH:  
10 Good afternoon everyone. The Student  
11 Association continues to adjust to the  
12 impacts of online learning on the  
13 student engagement operations. At this  
14 time the campus association budgets have  
15 revenue.

16 This is an anticipated -- there  
17 is an anticipated increase in on-campus  
18 programming for the spring semester as  
19 more students return to campus and the  
20 hope is that we will continue to  
21 increase student life on campus.

22 CHAIR MURRAY: I'm sorry, do we  
23 have -- is this being recorded or do we  
24 have it for the record?

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

1 Board of Directors, 12/16/2021

2 CHAIR MURRAY: I'm sorry.

3 INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNSCH:

4 No problem.

5 I'm also happy to share that our  
6 upcoming student orientation programs  
7 will return with in-person options for  
8 our students in January.

9 As anticipated, the Ammeran  
10 Campus Kids currently is operating at a  
11 loss. This is due to the current low  
12 enrollment at the childcare center.

13 As mentioned in our last meeting,  
14 a video was created to advertise the  
15 childcare opportunities, and all  
16 students who have indicated that they  
17 are parents have received the video and  
18 message with the opportunities.

19 The hope is to increase the  
20 enrollment for the spring semester. It  
21 is important to note that the SUNY  
22 operating support was just received and  
23 it is not reflected in this current  
24 budget. The Ammeran Campus Kids Cottage  
25 will receive \$99,000 and the Grant

1 Board of Directors, 12/16/2021  
2 Campus Kids Cottage will receive  
3 \$102,000.

4 Also as anticipated, the Peconic  
5 Cafe is currently operating at a loss.  
6 This is due to the low enrollment of  
7 students participating in on-campus  
8 classes and the decrease in catering  
9 opportunities for student events and  
10 programs.

11 The hope is that there will be an  
12 increase in revenue for Spring 22 when  
13 there is an increased number of students  
14 on campus and more opportunities for  
15 student programming that includes  
16 catering, although the Association has  
17 provided students both on campus and  
18 virtual programs over the course of the  
19 fall semester and the anticipated  
20 programming for spring semester will  
21 include an increase in on-campus  
22 opportunities while continued virtual  
23 opportunities as well.

24 Are there any questions?

25 CHAIR MURRAY: I'm assuming that

1 Board of Directors, 12/16/2021  
2 the hope is that when more and more  
3 people are on campus, the financial  
4 situation changes and that this is  
5 driven by the pandemic, not any other  
6 issue.

7 INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNSCH:  
8 Correct.

9 CHAIR MURRAY: Any other  
10 questions?

11 (NO RESPONSE)

12 CHAIR MURRAY: And we do have one  
13 resolution I believe for the Board of  
14 Directors.

15 INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNCH:  
16 Correct. There is one resolution for  
17 the Board of Directors. This is a  
18 resolution to raise the minimum wage of  
19 our current \$14.00 an hour employees to  
20 \$15.00 an hour employees based on a New  
21 York State minimum wage increase.

22 CHAIR MURRAY: As we talked about  
23 it in the executive, we really don't  
24 have much choice since it's by law. The  
25 minimum wage has increased.

1 Board of Directors, 12/16/2021

2 And I'm sorry I didn't ask this  
3 at the executive board, but maybe if you  
4 can find out, do you know the impact of  
5 the raises? How much gross dollar  
6 figures? And if you don't have that  
7 handy, understandable, but maybe if it  
8 is something you can look into.

9 INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNSCH:  
10 Yeah, absolutely. I will have those  
11 numbers for you at the next board  
12 meeting. It's a fluctuating number  
13 because we don't know the number of  
14 student employees at this time for the  
15 spring semester.

16 So most of the \$14.00 an hour  
17 employees are students and so that  
18 number will get solidified at the start  
19 of the spring semester and we'll be able  
20 to understand better the impact  
21 financially of that, of this resolution.

22 And the other piece is obviously  
23 because there is additional revenues in  
24 place this isn't going to be felt as  
25 strongly as it might have been if we

1 Board of Directors, 12/16/2021  
2 were fully in person and we were  
3 competing with a lot of student  
4 programming.

5 CHAIR MURRAY: Okay.

6 Any other questions?

7 (NO RESPONSE)

8 CHAIR MURRAY: If not, I would  
9 like to request a motion for approval of  
10 the Association Resolution Number  
11 2021.87. Would someone like to make  
12 that motion?

13 VICE CHAIR COVERDALE: So moved.

14 CHAIR MURRAY: Shirley.

15 Second, Kevin?

16 TRUSTEE O'CONNOR: Second.

17 CHAIR MURRAY: All those in  
18 favor, please say aye.

19 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

20 CHAIR MURRAY: Any opposed?

21 (NO RESPONSE)

22 CHAIR MURRAY: Thank you so much.

23 INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT MUNSCH:

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIR MURRAY: At this point I

1 Board of Directors, 12/16/2021  
2 would like to request a motion to  
3 adjourn the Board of Directors meeting  
4 and call the Board of Trustees meeting  
5 to order. Would someone like to make  
6 that? Kevin?

7 TRUSTEE O'CONNOR: Making the  
8 motion.

9 CHAIR MURRAY: A second?

10 MEMBER FROST: Second.

11 CHAIR MURRAY: Zach.

12 All those in favor, please say  
13 aye.

14 COLLECTIVE RESPONSE: Aye.

15 CHAIR MURRAY: Any opposed?

16 (NO RESPONSE)

17 [WHEREUPON THE MEETING OF THE  
18 BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS CLOSED BY  
19 CHAIRMAN, E. CHRISTOPHER MURRAY.]

20 o0o

21  
22 *Gabeille Carlet*  
23  
24  
25



ERRATA SHEET FOR THE TRANSCRIPT OF:

Suffolk County Community College, Board of Directors Meeting  
December 16, 2021  
Board of Directors Meeting Suffolk County Community College

CORRECTIONS:

Pg.	Ln.	Now Reads	Should Read	Reasons Therefore
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Signature of Board of Directors Meeting Suffolk County Community College

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