

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
EASTERN CAMPUS, RIVERHEAD, NY
MONTAUKETT LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER
MARCH 16, 2023

The meeting was held on Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lecture Hall of the Montaukett Learning Resource Center, in Riverhead, NY.

PRESENT:

E. Christopher Murray	Chair
James Morgo	Vice Chair
Shirley Coverdale	Vice Chair
Gordon Canary	Secretary
Theresa Sanders	Trustee
Belinda Pagdanganan	Trustee
Kevin O'Connor	Trustee
Zachary Frost	Student Trustee
Dr. Edward Bonahue	President
Louis J. Petrizzo	Executive Vice President and General Counsel
Alicia O'Connor	Deputy General Counsel
Alla Brodsky	Deputy General Counsel
Dr. Mark Harris	V.P. for Business and Financial Affairs
Mary Lou Araneo	V.P. for Institutional Advancement
Shady Azzam-Gomez	V.P. for Information Technology Services
Dr. Liesl Jones	V.P. for Academic Affairs
Dr. Patty Munsch	V.P. for Student Affairs
Kaliah Greene	Interim V.P. / Executive Director, Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness
Angelica Rivera	A.V.P. for Employee Resources

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 4:01 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Canary.

Chair Murray called for a motion to enter in executive session to discuss the settlement of a pending litigation. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Pagdanganan seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Whereupon the meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at 4:03 p.m. and resumed at 4:20 p.m.

Ms. Wickliffe-Campbell introduced special guests. She recognized, Tim Rotham, Legislative Aide to Jim Mazzarella and Heather Briggs from the Bonadio Group, the College's auditing firm.

Chair Murray called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting and convene the Board of Directors meeting at 4:21 p.m. Trustee Coverdale so moved, Trustee Canary seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting and reconvene the Board of Trustees meeting at 4:25 p.m. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Sanders seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray requested a motion to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2023 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Coverdale so moved, Trustee Pagdanganan seconded. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray introduced Mark Harris, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs, to present the College Budget and Financial report. Dr. Harris began with an update on FY'22 year-end financial audit. He noted Ms. Heather Briggs from the Bonadio Group was present to answer any questions after the summary of the financial audit. Dr. Harris gave a summary of the audit and said the report found no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and found the College was in compliance with the financial reporting. There were no internal control weaknesses or significant deficiencies reported, and the auditors provided the College with an unmodified audit and as an auditee was classified as a low-risk. He said that in terms of the financial statement, there were no instances of significant deficiencies, material weaknesses or noncompliance that required to be reported to the government auditing standard. He reviewed some financial highlights; looking at the College's net position for that period, there was an increase from the prior year's net position to \$226,812,564 from a prior balance of \$232,917,153, the change was primarily due to the proceeds that had been recaptured in loss revenue through HEERF. In terms of the net capital assets, there was a positive change of about \$3.469M that represented about 1.6%.

There were also changes to tuition and fees based on the decrease in FTE. Since COVID, the FTE numbers have changed and the College has seen a negative impact to the revenue itself. Looking at the State and County appropriation, there have been steady increases, especially from the County. Each year the County has given the College an average of about 1.5%, and in some cases the County has given additional resources on top of that. Thus, when looking at what the financial audit analyzed, there was a change in the College's ending fund balance relative to 2021. The fiscal fund balance for FY'21 was \$41,435,479. There was a change of approximately \$2,549,000. For the FY'22 operating budget, the College included a projection that it would use about \$4,954,803, from the fund balance. In that same FY'22 budget, the College also included the assumption that through HEERF, the College would be eligible to draw down \$9,820,976. In actuality the College was able to draw down \$14,683,558, a change of \$4.862M. With how much the College was able to draw down from HEERF,

and then to what was projected, the College would have only used about \$92,000 from the reserved fund balance. Dr. Harris reminded that last year the Board directed the College to work with the County to remove that bond liability from its balance sheet, which they did. The County then came back and indicated that after they did their reconciliation, the College had a liability to them for an amount that the College disagreed with. The College then asked the County to reconcile the interest expended from the bond for about ten years. The County came back in the College's favor, with a net positive of about \$2.6M. The net of \$2.6 Million against the \$92,000 resulted in a positive increase to the fund balance of \$2,549,408. Of the \$43.984M in fund balance, accounts receivables account for about 40%. If you subtract the accounts receivables from the fund balance, the cash position, as of 08/31/2022, would be about \$24M.

Chair Murray pointed out that both College's and the Association's audit were clean, with no issues, and noted it was a testament to both the entities of how well they're being managed and how careful they are with the finances.

VP Harris moved onto the FY'23 budget update. After reconciling the fall revenue, the College is down approximately \$1.3M, however, it is seeing a net increase for spring in the amount of about \$130K (Full-time up \$940K and part-time down about \$1.07M). The College is also seeing increases in non-credit aid/ESL of approximately \$400K, and non-credit without state aid of about \$236K. These projections are based on the current enrollment in these programs, but are expected to change over the next few months.

Overall, net tuition is down about \$350K, and the decrease in net fees is approximately \$1 Million. Based on some of the initiatives the College has taken and continues to take, through the Central Facilities department and the Plant Operations on the campuses, the College has received a rebate check for about \$125K this year. In terms of cost analysis, personnel services cost is down about \$1.2M, net contractual expenses, which include utilities, is about \$800K above budget. EMHP costs spiked by approximately \$3M for the remainder of 2023, and may increase to \$4M in FY'24 – Net change is approximately \$2.215M above budget. Based on the changes in revenue as well as cost, and because there are still six months within the fiscal year and many unknowns, for now the College will hold a conservative position of saying that the fund balance used will remain as budgeted at about \$13.6M.

In regards to FY'24, the preparation has begun. The Budget and Finance Sub-Committee met on February 10th to further the budget development discussions, and the next meeting is scheduled for March 21st. The goal of the meeting is to walk through the results of our budget meetings that were held with the cabinet officers, discuss impact of cost reductions to OTPS, finalize the percent that tuition may be increased, and then determine the next steps, recognizing that the FY'24 budget needs to be presented at the next board meeting.

Trustee Morgo said in regards to EMHP, he didn't realize it was prorated, and asked VP Harris if he had any idea from the County when this spike is going to end. VP Harris said the County has not given any indication. Typically, the change in rate takes place

January of each year, for the College it would be from January to August. The full cycle for the College will be the \$4.2M. In previous quarters, one of the things that the College did benefit from, because of COVID, is a reduction in quarterly rates. The assumption is, because there are some negative impacts of COVID, some of these expenses through the medical plan have increased. The thought process is that the savings that the College benefitted from due to lack of use during COVID, now is seeing the opposite end of it. There are no indications whether or not the spike will continue.

Trustee Canary said another area of concern that the College has to watch carefully is energy costs, because natural gas supplies are all over the charts and wreaking havoc on the marketplace, not only for heating purposes, but a lot of natural gas is used to produce electricity. The College needs to do energy audits, and look at its energy usage, because he sees this getting worse over the next couple of years.

VP Harris agreed and said one of the things that Plant Operations has been looking at are some of those audits. They have met with Dr. Bonahue and Central Facilities to see what options are available, especially in the summer, looking at those high-peak months to see how it can conserve and maximize some energy savings.

VP Harris reviewed the resolutions with financial impact. He said the College is still having issues getting the data from the County and is working with them to get accurate numbers for the EMHP bill, and next month the College will potentially have three months of EMHP bills to present. Item Number 5, presents the independent auditor's report for fiscal year ending August 31st.

Chair Murray called for a motion for the approval of College Resolutions 2023.15 through 2023.19. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee O'Connor seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023.15 - Amending the College Operating Budget to Reflect an Increase in the Grant Award from the State Education Department for the Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP)

WHEREAS, the 2022-2023 College operating budget provides \$180,000, including indirect costs, for a grant award from the NYS Education Department for the Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP), and

WHEREAS, the grant award has been increased by an additional amount of \$6,352, bringing the total amount of the grant award to \$186,352, including indirect costs, and

WHEREAS, the Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) is an academic and college preparatory initiative for post-secondary students who are economically disadvantaged or minorities historically underrepresented in scientific, technical, health and health-related fields and licensed professions, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the 2022-2023 College operating budget in the amount of \$6,352 to provide for the increase in the grant award, and

WHEREAS, no matching funds are required, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the 2022-2023 College operating budget be amended to reflect an increase in the amount of \$6,352, from the NYS Education Department for the Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP), and the College President or his designee is authorized to execute any necessary documentation, upon such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the Office of Legal Affairs.

Project Director: Arlene Jackson, Assistant Dean, Continuing Education

Note: No full-time positions
No in-kind contribution required

RESOLUTION NO. 2023.16 - Approving a Major Change Order and Amendment to the Contract for the Construction of the Renewable Energy and STEM Center on the Grant Campus

WHEREAS, V.R.D. Contracting, Inc. was awarded a contract (“Contract”) to construct the Renewable Energy and STEM Center (RESC) on the Grant Campus, and

WHEREAS, work which was not anticipated under the terms of this contract or shown on the design drawings is required, consisting of additional elevator shaft ventilation; a geothermal system bypass; a fire alarm connection to the RPZ; increased glass thickness for the green roof guardrail; millwork for the biology laboratory student desks; and

WHEREAS, at this stage of the construction the College estimates that sufficient contingency funding remains in the project budget for the unanticipated work, and

WHEREAS, including the additional work described herein increases the contract with V.R.D. by more than thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000.00), thus constituting a major change order as defined in the College’s *Procurement Policy*, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to such policy, all major change orders require the approval of the Board of Trustees, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that a change order in the amount of \$90,035.24 to the Contract with V.R.D. Contracting, Inc. for additional work to be performed for the construction of the Renewable Energy and STEM Center (RESC) on the Grant Campus, is hereby approved, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the College President is authorized and empowered to execute the necessary documentation, as approved by the College General Counsel, reflecting the change order and the nature of the additional work so authorized.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023.17 - Authorizing the Termination of the Lease Agreement with the Sayville Union Free School District for the Sayville Downtown Center

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Lease Agreement dated October 5, 2015 and amended on May 28, 2019 (“the Lease Agreement”), the College leases the Sayville Downtown Center from the Sayville Union Free School District, and

WHEREAS, the Lease Agreement will expire on August 14, 2025, and

WHEREAS, due to changing operational needs, the College and the Sayville UFSD mutually wish to terminate the Lease Agreement, effective on or about August 1, 2023, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the College President is hereby authorized to execute a Lease Termination agreement terminating the Lease Agreement and the financial obligations between the College and the Sayville Union Free School District for the Sayville Downtown Center as of on or about August 1, 2023, upon such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the College’s Office of Legal Affairs.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023.18 - Approving the Settlement of a Claim

WHEREAS, an individual commenced an action against Suffolk County Community College seeking damages for alleged violations under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the NYS Human Rights Law, and

WHEREAS, the parties have entered into discussions to resolve the matter in its entirety, and

WHEREAS, the parties, wishing to avoid the burden, uncertainty, delay, expense and distraction of litigation, have reached an agreement for the settlement of the individual’s claim, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the individual’s claim against the College be settled in its entirety for an amount mutually agreed upon by the parties, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the College President, or his designee, shall be authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to implement the terms and conditions of this settlement.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023.19 - Accepting the Independent Auditor’s Report for the Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2022

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College contracted with the independent CPA firm, Bonadio & Co., LLP, to perform an annual audit of financial operations, and

WHEREAS, Bonadio & Co., LLP has submitted an independent audit report to the College, and

WHEREAS, the Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs has reviewed the report and recommends that it be accepted, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees accepts the independent audit report prepared by Bonadio & Co., LLP for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2022.

Chair Murray called for the Student Success Committee report. Trustee Pagdanganan reported the committee met on Tuesday, March 7th and continues to work with topics related to student success. One of the important topics identified was mental health. During their meeting Dr. Patty Munsch arranged for Interim College Director for Mental Health Services, Dr. Julia Kiely, to give the committee a presentation on the work and responsibilities of the mental health team. Trustee Pagdanganan asked Dr. Kiely to give a very brief presentation on mental health. Dr. Kiely reported that College's Mental Health and Wellness Services provide free and confidential short-term therapy for students. They provide group counseling, crisis and emergency assessment, intervention, referral services, and outreach and prevention programming around mental health and wellness services. It also provides consultations to faculty and staff, if they have concerns about a student's mental health and wellbeing. During the fall of 2022, they provided individual services to 230 students, conducted 1,125 individual therapy appointments, offered 70 programs and consulted with 45 faculty and staff members across the three campuses. For fall 2022, the most prevalent diagnoses they saw were anxiety at 28%, depression at 24%, posttraumatic stress at 14% and ADHD at 7%. She added that they and the students are grateful for the support of the College and the Board, that allows them to continue to do this work to support student success.

Trustee Canary asked how many of the students had to be referred for further off-campus services, encouraging them to seek psychiatric help? Dr. Kiely said she didn't have that percentage with her but what they are seeing is that a lot of students are actually coming already connected with treatment, but needing more and looking for on-campus support in conjunction with their off-campus providers. They give many referrals, that being said, they do have challenges, the practices and the clinics are packed solid, so often they end up holding students a little longer than maybe they would have in the past to support them until they're able to go off to a provider.

Chair Murray called for the Advocacy Committee report. Mr. Zwirn said the committee had not met, but he had a quick update regarding the House bills that came out of Albany that were trending very well. He said the advocacy trip to Albany had really paid dividends this time since they had a long conversation with the speaker, Carl Hastings, who said he would not raise tuition in State universities and is going to keep the costs down. As a result, the Assembly has given the College a 4% bump on top of the \$50M that the College usually asked for. He added it's in both bills, and the MTA tax has been held flat, which is a savings to the College of \$200K. They will continue to monitor over the next two weeks and hopefully the College will come out with some good numbers.

Chair Murray called for the Foundation report. Trustee Pagdanganan said the Foundation hosted the SUNY Suffolk scholarship seminar on Wednesday, March 8th in the Babylon Student Center. Over thirty students attended the session, where they learned about the various scholarship opportunities available at the College. Students

were able to ask questions related to applications, selection criteria, deadlines and the disbursement process. At the conclusion of the seminar, students were encouraged to spend some time on the online scholarship program. Through its partnership with the New York Cancer and Blood Specialists, the Foundation held two virtual student information sessions to launch the newly-established fellowship program. Through this program, students from all disciplines are able to apply for an opportunity to shadow members of the professional staff of the New York Cancer and Blood Specialists. At this time two of the fellowships have been awarded to students in the LIT program. The students will complete one hundred hours on an NYCBS location, receiving a \$1,500 fellowship award and some terrific on-the-job experience. The College's nursing students were particularly interested in the opportunity, and NYCBS looks forward to hiring them after completion of the fellowship program. The Foundation is happy to announce that this year's golf outing will take place Monday, June 5th at the Port Jefferson Country Club.

Chair Murray called for the Student Trustee report. Student Trustee Frost announced that the Legal Studies club will be hosting a seminar in making and understanding legal arguments, hosted by Professor Tom Flesher later that evening at 6:30 p.m. at Captree Commons. Additionally, on April 29th, the College's Veterans and Mental Health and Wellness team will be joining forces and hosting a push-up and exercise competition to raise awareness for suicide prevention. Additionally, he has been working with Dr. Munsch in regards to the new student trustee election, applications were due yesterday. They are down to two potential candidates, he looks forward to meeting his successor and plans for a smooth handoff just as his predecessor did for him. He then recognized fellow student, Jose, from the Ammerman Student Government Association who was in attendance and noted he was a great advocate for their fellow students. Lastly, he referred to an article that was sent to his grandmother, an alumni recognition out of Portsmouth, Maine making the front cover. Her name is Officer Kristin Kirby, she was a student here at the College in 2018, she went on to go and get her bachelors at FIT after that, and then she joined the NYPD. She was made officer of the month three times within a year, she just recently left to move to Maine. She made the front page of their newspaper for finding a woman's black lab.

Chair Murray moved to the Chair's report. Chair Murray said he had a few points to highlight. The census report that was sent to the State will show an increase in enrollment in the spring semester, and may go up even further. This is the first time in five years that there was an increase in enrollment, something he and the trustees feel is significantly important. He gave credit to President Bonahue and the administration, for doing an outstanding job with regards to enrollment, noting almost every community college in the country is having a decrease in enrollment, and has had decreases in enrollment. He added that for some schools upstate, it's been devastating and they're looking at possibly consolidating some of these schools. However, Suffolk, through innovative programs, to shifting some resources to certificate programs, to following up with students that have enrolled and leave after, to making sure that they continue to be

students at the school, every aspect Suffolk Community College has been a leader in working to increase enrollment and to maintain enrollment, and now that effort is coming to fruition. Chair Murray noted the new Chancellor came to visit the College and met with President Bonahue and some of the trustees, before touring the Grant campus. He said he seemed impressed by the school and the quality of its programs, Chair Murray believes the College will have a great relationship with its new Chancellor.

He said the College has faced some fiscal challenges, but recently received some good news with regard to the State budget. The budget proposed by the Governor was a difficult budget that would have created problems for the College, including flat funding, an increase in commuter taxes, and it was proposing a pullback. However, the State Legislature has stepped up, both the Senate and the Assembly had proposals of a 4% increase in funding. He urged everyone to make outreach on behalf of the College to the legislature, because the more funding the College gets from the State, the more money the school has, the more it can be conservative with regard to tuition. He added the College has been and will continue to be fiscally responsible. The College is thriving and he attributed this to the leadership by Mr. Petrizzo during the COVID pandemic and now with the leadership of President Bonahue.

Trustee Canary said he agreed with Chair Murray's comments and he felt that the Chancellor left the campus with a lot of those same thoughts that the College is a well-oiled machine. He added that the College is a leader, doing cutting edge innovative things that other schools look to follow.

Lastly Chair Murray noted that today's meeting would be Mr. Petrizzo and Ms. O'Connor last board meeting. He expressed his gratitude on behalf of the board and thanked them for their service to the College.

Chair Murray moved to the President's report. President Bonahue thanked Chair Murray for his words about the College. He said it was great to have Chancellor King visit the campus. He thanked everyone who was involved and helped plan his visit. The Chancellor met with faculty and students, and he added that it was very inspiring hearing the students' stories and everything that they had to say, a good visit overall.

President Bonahue said he wanted to start by recognizing two colleagues who have given so much to the College through their personal commitment to the College. He acknowledged Mr. Louis Petrizzo and his more than twelve years at the College, first as General Counsel and then as Executive Vice President. He said he provided leadership for a number of projects and ushered the College through a broad and expansive capital projects plan, enhancing the operations of Human Resources, and has been leading Public Safety in compliance-oriented areas, as well as setting the tone for the Legal Affairs department. In 2019, the board named Mr. Petrizzo as Administrator-in-Charge, followed shortly thereafter by appointing him as Interim President. He then led the College through the uncertainty of the pandemic, and he ensured the health and safety

of the College's students and staff. Mr. Petrizzo led the shift of College operations to remote modalities and helped establish all the policies that supported that kind of instruction. Upon President Bonahue's arrival, a time when all of higher education was thrown topsy-turvy, the state of the College was strong, and he said he has been fortunate to work closely with Mr. Petrizzo, where he valued his guidance and insight with respect to institutional history and culture. President Bonahue said he was grateful that he is going to remain on call for the College on an ongoing consultation basis.

He also expressed his congratulations and best wishes to Alicia O'Connor, as she prepares to leave the College to a new opportunity at FIT. Ms. O'Connor has been with the college since 2012, she has been the right-hand person for the Board's Governance Committee, and has been the College's chief attorney for contracts, agreements and leases. Ms. O'Connor developed numerous policies and has advanced the institution's employee compliance training. He thanked both Mr. Petrizzo and Ms. O'Connor for their service and commitment to ensuring that the College was always an exceptional place for its students to learn and employees to work.

President Bonahue moved on to recognize the Association and Governance leaders that were present at the meeting. From Grant Campus Assembly Professor Tat Sang So, from the Administrators Guild Professor Sean Tvelia. From AME White Collar unit Josephine Makowski, and student Jose Riquelme, President of the Ammerman Student Government Association.

President Bonahue began his report with an update on enrollment. He said as Chair Murray had mentioned, yesterday was the census date for submitting the College's spring enrollment to SUNY. In the report submitted, enrollment headcount was trending up about 5% and the FTE was up about 4%. The State database removed a couple of hundred students from the census submitted, these were students from the ten-week late start classes that began on March 1st. This brought the College's enrollment increase back down to 3%. There is another enrollment update at the end of the semester, and he expects that the numbers will continue to go up. The College also continues to enroll students for the second seven-week term, which begins at the end of March.

President Bonahue said he had an update on the data he presented at last month's meeting in regards to the numbers of Suffolk County students leaving the County to attend other community colleges. Last week the College received a new file from Comptroller John Kennedy's office, and while the file doesn't have complete addresses for every student, it appears to give home towns for most students so the College will analyze the data and bring the results back to the board next month.

In regards to the Stony Brook Seawolves at Suffolk program, he shared last month that Stony Brook has begun to send their own freshman acceptances and denials, and now, the College is beginning to see traffic from Stony Brook redirected back to Suffolk. As of the beginning of this week, the College had about eighty prospects so far, and of

those, forty have completed their Suffolk applications. The students are given a portal so they can indicate their interest, and Stony Brook shares that data with the College.

In Academic Affairs, he said he had shared the summary details related to the College's conversations with Tesla, and he has shared that same information with leadership in the County Legislature and the Education and Labor committee. In turn, the committee has asked for some additional backup, which the College will provide. The College is disappointed to lose the Tesla partnership, even though it is proud to have partnerships with multiple corporate brands, the Tesla brand being part of that national partnership, and the public perception are a loss for the College. He added that the College will overcome that, and is already planning the next steps to increase enrollment. President Bonahue said he wanted to underscore a few details of the summary he had sent the trustees in regards to the Tesla partnership. The Tesla Start Training Program was run by the company, and not by the College. Tesla supplied its own instructor, its own curriculum, and they selected trainees for the Program, eight students per semester. Their departure does not reflect anything about the performance of any faculty or staff in the College's Automotive Program department.

Since Tesla was growing quickly, they had always been part of the planned automotive expansion on the Grant Campus. In spring of 2022, Tesla asked the College for help doubling their existing space in order to expand the number of students trained. College staff proposed a couple options that would do some innovative things with scheduling and allow Tesla to have quicker enrollment growth, but these options were declined. The College looked for opportunities to expand or convert existing facilities, but the combination of time for a capital construction project and the cost of engineering to retrofit an appropriate facility still wouldn't have allowed for growth in the timeline that Tesla was looking for. In retrospect, a lease on additional space could have been viable, but Tesla had shared with the College that they would not financially support that additional lease, they wanted that expense to be on the College. Given the calls for financial sustainability, the cost of an additional lease just didn't seem like a feasible option at the time. Dean Dave Macholz reports that interest in the automotive program is as strong as ever, and thankfully this is a program where there is a strong alignment between student interest and employer demand. For the fall '22 semester, the College received over 350 applications to fill approximately 124 seats. Dean Macholz also reports that for the coming fall semester, the College will likely establish a new high in enrollment and also create a partnership with an additional luxury brand. The College is looking forward to the next steps in the Automotive Program.

Chair Murray commented that one should look at the situation in the context of what's going on with the company. He said it is known that Elon Musk was acquiring Twitter and backing out, and then a lawsuit where he blamed Twitter for his problems all of which created a severe financial impact on Tesla. Tesla has been losing market share because everyone else is now competing in the luxury EV market. Their financial situation is in a very tough spot, losing 60% of its stock value in the last year.

President Bonahue moved on to give an update on budget planning. All divisions of the College have now submitted their budget plans for 2023-2024 and have identified at this point \$3.4M in savings from costs outside personal services (OTPS). The largest component contributing to that is in technology, where the College can stretch the replacement timeline, using existing inventory. In addition, the College has not been getting the return on investment it had anticipated from the lease at the old Sayville High School. They have found a win-win for both the Sayville School District and the College that allows the District to continue with a new tenant and the College can terminate that lease early, realizing a savings of a quarter million dollars. In addition, the College is looking at every personnel line that comes open, and is being very cautious about filling the lines that it may not be able to sustain over the long-term.

President Bonahue reported there is a new opportunity with the National Offshore Wind Training Center. Governor Hochul visited the campus in the fall to announce the transfer of the property on Crooked Hill Road from the State to the County. The County will use it as the home for the National Offshore Wind Training Center and for other purposes. The County has engaged an architect on the remodeling on that facility, which will be home to NOWTC, National Offshore Wind Training Center. However, NOWTC will take months to complete that work, and until it's done, NOWTC cannot start its training and earn income needed to fund its operations. As NOWTC was looking for an alternate site, their biggest priority was the initial offering of training that's called GUS, GUS stands for "Get Up Safely", which is the first part of training to safely access offshore wind turbines at high elevation

A couple of weeks ago, in a walking campus tour NOWTC noticed that the College has disused tennis courts that are badly cracked and cannot currently be used. The requirements for an appropriate spot for GUS training is that it needs to be a hard surface with access to power and water. The ask from them is if the College will allow them to use that flat hard top surface for 12-18 months. NOWTC will install its portable GUS system, initiate the training, ensure the College and provide indemnification, and at the end, commit to refurbishing the tennis courts. The estimated cost to refurbish is about a half million dollars, this would bring potential trainees to the campus, support and expand workforce training related to offshore wind, and also bring back the tennis courts for students and the public who use the health club. The contract is being drafted and he will bring it to the Board in the near future.

President Bonahue said the College will submit its request for federal support to expand programming in Welding, Advanced Machining and Advanced Manufacturing that will allow the College to continue its role in expanding Suffolk County's workforce, especially for companies related to manufacturing in the defense sector. The College has been communicating with the Department of Defense Naval Division, it's tasked with increasing regional skilled workforce in welding and CNC machining and they know that the College works hand in glove with a variety of major employers in defense manufacturing. The College has requested support from the County, if funded, it will allow for the expansion of existing programming at the Grant Campus as well as expansion to the Eastern and Ammerman campuses as well.

Lastly, he reported that he offered greetings on behalf of the College to NYSABE, the New York State Association for Bilingual Educators conference. Trustee Zarate is hosting the statewide conference today, he was pleased that she was able to offer him an opportunity to speak and include an opportunity for students as well. This Saturday, he will be representing the College as Grand Marshal at the Brentwood Saint Patrick's Day parade. He thanked Trustee Pagdanganan, Mr. Michael Grant and everyone who has had a hand in organizing the event and inviting me to participate.

Trustee Sanders asked in regards to the Seawolves at Suffolk partnership, if there was a plan to do similar partnerships with other four-year colleges. President Bonahue said the College had gone through a round of joint admissions agreements with universities and have asked that question. Stony Brook was the first to agree, probably because they use the same CRM that the College does, and the files could "talk" to each other. They have heard from other universities that they're not ready for that, they don't have a way of sorting the data in a way that would allow them to easily refer students back to the College. He does believe this program will take off and will be a template for the way that the College interacts with all of its baccalaureate partners.

Trustee Canary asked what the timeframe was in regards to the good news about the offshore wind training. President Bonahue said that in talking to Matty Aracich from the Building and Trades Council, one of the other organizations leading the effort, his sense is that they would be ready to move as soon as the College is ready, and they would love to begin offering some training this summer. Ms. Brodsky added that she just heard earlier that day they wanted to utilize classroom space in advance of the platform being ready starting in April.

Trustee Morgo said that he recommended Dr. Bonahue share the talking points that he presented yesterday to the Chancellor with the idea of getting out good news for the College. He asked in regards to the Suffolk County students going to other community colleges, they had also discussed possibly establishing a task force with the County legislature to try to do something, and wanted to know if there was any follow-up on that. President Bonahue said they have looked at the data, they do not have an analysis yet, but they think it's likely to show that College probably has proportionately more students from western Suffolk that are heading to Nassau and towards the City. The College does plan on reaching out to legislators from those areas as well to see if there's something drawing students to other destinations. Trustee Morgo noted that Chair Murray had alluded to innovative methods the College was creating to increase enrollment and the Seawolves at Suffolk was a great example as one of those innovative methods.

Trustee Canary said one other point on the subject of good news, the information they got from the Chancellor yesterday in regards to mandatory COVID vaccination was very positive. SUNY is waiting for the relief of federal emergency COVID requiring vaccines, which opens the doors for all the individual states to do the same, which he believes is going to be very helpful for the future.

Chair Murray moved onto Roundtable. Trustee Canary said he wanted to take this opportunity to talk about the two departing employees, Mr. Petrizzo and Ms. O'Connor. He said he and Mr. Petrizzo went way back. From the County Legislature, the Town of Babylon when he was the chief of staff and deputy supervisor, post Town of Babylon when he was working with Senator Owen Johnson, and Mr. Petrizzo was one of the part-time staff counsels who we were constantly badgering for opinions and, legal research, and he did a fantastic job in all of those realms. To now his eighth year on the board, he's had the honor of working with Mr. Petrizzo and Ms. O'Connor. He said the terms professionalism, great legal knowledge, even-tempered, are just some of things that pop out to him when he thinks of them, adding it's been an honor and privilege working with them through the years and thanked them for their years of service.

Chair Murray called for a motion to enter into executive session, to discuss medical, financial, credit or employment history of a college employee. There will be no further business conducted after executive session and the meeting will adjourn. Trustee Coverdale so moved, Trustee Canary seconded, and with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

The Board of Trustees next meeting is April 20, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Mildred Green Room, Babylon Student Center, Ammerman Campus, Selden, New York.

Respectfully submitted,
Gordon Canary
Secretary