

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MICHAEL J. GRANT CAMPUS, BRENTWOOD, NY
BOARD ROOM, LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER
SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

The meeting was held on Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the Learning Resource Center, in Brentwood, NY.

PRESENT:

Shirley Coverdale	Chair
Gordon Canary	Vice Chair
Gemma deLeon-Lopresti	Vice Chair
E. Christopher Murray	Trustee
Belinda Pagdanganan	Trustee
Jerome Bost	Trustee
Priscilla Zarate	Trustee (<i>via Zoom</i>)
Dominic Hardy	Student Trustee
Dr. Edward Bonahue	President
Ashley Pope	General Counsel
Alla Brodsky	Deputy General Counsel
Sara Gorton	Interim V.P. of Business and Financial Affairs
Mary Lou Araneo	V.P. for Institutional Advancement
Shady Azzam-Gomez	V.P. for Information Technology Services
Dr. Patty Munsch	V.P. for Student Affairs
Dr. Irene Rios	Interim V.P. for Academic Affairs
Kaliah Greene	V.P. Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness
Angelica Rivera	V.P. for Human Resources

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Coverdale asked Carol Wickliffe-Campbell for the recognition of guests. Ms. Wickliffe-Campbell introduced Legislator Stephanie Bontempi, and Nick DeBello, representing AME.

Public comments on agenda items: none.

Chair Coverdale requested a motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Bost so moved, Vice Chair deLeon-Lopresti seconded. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously (7-0).

Chair Coverdale then introduced Interim VP of Financial Affairs Sara Gorton to present the College's financial reports. For the FY'24 budget update Ms. Gorton reported the College continues to close out the fiscal year throughout the month of September. Overall tuition revenue on the credit side came in just under budget, which was offset by exceeding the budget in the areas of non-credit categories. There were also increases in student fees and other revenues from facilities usage and interest on investments that continue to trend over budget. Ms. Gorton recognized Neftali Collazo and Steed Alberti their work on excellent utilization of the College's facilities for special events. Ms. Gorton also recognized ITS, Plant Operations, and Public Safety for their work in making these events useful for the community and profitable for the College. Total revenue projection for FY'24 is \$1.9M, about 1% above budget. FY'24 expenditures continue to be similar to last month. Total salaries are still tracking very close to budget. The College experienced significant savings on the permanent salary lines; some of that is offset by the need to have instructors and faculty overload. Full-time salary lines are about \$1.5–1.6M under budget.

We are seeing savings in employee benefits and supply categories. There were some increases in contractual expenses, such as utilities and insurance. These were offset by reductions in computer services where SUNY chargebacks came in lower than expected. Total expenditures came in about 2% underbudget, which is about \$ 4.3M in savings. Realizing the effects of all the efforts of the College to reduce the fund balance usage and develop long-term solutions for financial stability. The projected fund balance usage is about \$6.5M, about \$6.3M underbudget. The projected fund balance as of August 31, 2024 is down to about \$25.1M, representing about 12.6% of the total operating budget, still within the desired range of 10% recommended by SUNY and Middle States. The FY'24 audit will begin in a couple of months. The College had to issue a new RFP for audit services this year, as the contract with the prior consultant expired. Ms. Gorton noted there was no resolution for sponsor services for the month of August. Chair Coverdale and Vice Chair Canary thanked Ms. Gorton and her team for these efforts.

Trustee Murray joined the meeting at the conclusion of Ms. Gorton's report.

President Bonahue provided an overview of College resolutions 2024.65 to 2024.72. Chair Coverdale provided a more detailed overview of College resolution 2024.72, which reflects a recommendation from NYCCT requesting all community college trustees reiterate their governing authority relative to recent and contemplated actions by SUNY with respect to community college presidents and the independence of

community colleges. Vice Chair Canary, Trustee Murray, and Trustee Bost discussed their support for resolution 2024.72.

Chair Coverdale called for a motion to approve College resolutions 2024.65 to 2024.72. Trustee Pagdanganan so moved, Trustee Murray seconded. College resolutions 2024.65 to 2024.72 were approved unanimously (8-0).

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.65 – Accepting a Grant Award from the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) for a Project Entitled “Addiction Professional Community and Technical Colleges Internship Program” (OAS01-C006833-367000)

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College has received a grant in the amount of \$119,700, from the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) for a project entitled, “Addiction Professional Community and Technical Colleges Internship Program,” for the period of August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the program will provide tuition and fees scholarships along with paid internship opportunities to Addiction Studies undergraduates, and

WHEREAS, matching funds are not required, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that a grant in the amount of \$119,700, from the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) for a project entitled, “Addiction Professional Community and Technical Colleges Internship Program,” for the period of August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2026, is hereby accepted, and the College President, or his designee, is authorized and empowered to execute any necessary documentation, including a contract with the administering agency, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2024–2025 College operating budget be amended as necessary to reflect the applicable portion of the grant award.

Project Director: Dr. Hector Sepulveda

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.66 – Accepting a Grant Award from the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) for a Project Entitled “Addiction Professional Community and Technical Colleges Scholarship Program” (OAS01-C006818-367000)

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College has received a grant in the amount of \$197,141, from the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) for a project entitled, “Addiction Professional Community and Technical Colleges Scholarship Program,” for the period of August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the program will provide tuition and fees scholarships along with paid internship opportunities to Addiction Studies undergraduates, and

WHEREAS, matching funds are not required, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that a grant in the amount of \$197,141, from the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) for a project entitled, “Addiction Professional Community and Technical Colleges Scholarship Program,” for the period of August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2026, is hereby accepted, and the College President, or his designee, is authorized and empowered to execute any necessary documentation, including a contract with the administering agency, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2024–2025 College operating budget be amended as necessary to reflect the applicable portion of the grant award.

Project Director: Dr. Hector Sepulveda

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.67 – Accepting a Grant Award from the State University of New York for an Innovative Instruction Technology Grant (IITG) Entitled, “Advancing Student Success and Equity through Transferable Skills Development”

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College has received a grant award in the amount of \$47,207, from the State University of New York for an Innovative Instruction Technology Grant (IITG) entitled, “Advancing Student Success and Equity through Transferable Skills Development,” for the period of September 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, and

WHEREAS, the project is aimed at empowering incoming under-represented minority SCCC students through a multifaceted approach encompassing open educational resource, module development, comprehensive survey research, and A.I. data driven analysis, and

WHEREAS, matching funds are not required, and

WHEREAS, an in-kind contribution, in the amount of \$29,415 will be met through space, equipment, administrative support, and the associated benefits of faculty and staff, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that a grant award in the amount of \$47,207, from the State University of New York for an Innovative Instruction Technology Grant (IITG) entitled, “Advancing Student Success and Equity through Transferable Skills Development,” for the period of September 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, is hereby accepted, and the College President, or his designee, is authorized and empowered to execute any necessary

documentation, including a contract, with the administering agency, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2024–2025 College operating budget be amended as necessary to reflect the grant award.

Project Director: Dr. Keith Baessler

Note: No full-time personnel

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.68 – Accepting a Grant Award from the County of Suffolk, Department of Health Services, to Receive Funds for a Mental Hygiene/Opioid Settlement Funding Contract (Addiction Studies Program)

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College has received a grant award in the amount of \$257,924 from the County of Suffolk, Department of Health Services, to receive funds for a Mental Hygiene/Opioid Settlement Funding Contract, for the period of September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College has been designated to receive funds from the County to expand Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) training by supporting education costs for students, and to remove barriers to education and job placement by providing tuition assistance/scholarships and offering internship placement with provider partners to accept the College’s Addiction Studies program student interns, to address critical workforce shortage in the behavioral health field, and

WHEREAS, matching funds are not required, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that a grant, in the amount of \$257,924, from the County of Suffolk, Department of Health Services to receive funds for a Mental Hygiene/Opioid Settlement Funding Contract, for the period of September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2026, is hereby accepted, and the College President, or his designee, is authorized and empowered to execute any necessary documentation, including a contract with the administering agency, in such form as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2024–2025 College operating budget be amended as necessary to reflect the applicable portion of the grant award.

Project Director: Dr. Hector Sepulveda

Note: No Full-Time position

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.69 – Confirming Executive Committee Approval of a Waiver of Fees for the Use of Specified Facilities by Long Island Head Start through June 30, 2025

WHEREAS, Long Island Head Start is a not-for-profit corporation established for the purpose of providing programs for infants, toddlers, and preschool age children to support children’s growth and development through a variety of services, including early learning, health and development services, and family well-being services in licensed Head Start centers throughout Suffolk County; and

WHEREAS, in or about July 2024, Long Island Head Start’s Riverside facility leased from the Town of Southampton was unexpectedly determined to be structurally unsound for occupancy and the operation of the Long Island Head Start’s programs and services for children and families located in and around the Town of Southampton and the Town of Riverhead, including children with disabilities and children from families with incomes below the poverty level, and

WHEREAS, Long Island Head Start needs temporary facilities on an emergency basis from which to operate its Head Start programs and services for the 2024–2025 academic year to serve the children and families who would have otherwise attended or received services from the Riverside facility, while it locates an alternate facility for its programs and services after the conclusion of the 2024–2025 academic year, and

WHEREAS, Long Island Head Start has requested to utilize kitchen space at the College’s Peconic Café on the Eastern Campus for its child meal preparation operations and classroom and office space at the College’s Culinary Arts & Hospitality Center, beginning as soon as possible and concluding on June 30, 2025, for the purpose of operating the Head Start/preschool programs and meal services that would have been operated from the Riverside facility during this period, and

WHEREAS, the College has determined that its current utilization of these facilities is such that the spaces can be made available for Long Island Head Start’s use in exchange for a fair and reasonable consideration, as described herein, provided such use does not cause the College to be in violation of any of its existing contractual obligations, certificates of occupancy, licenses or permits, or otherwise unreasonably disrupt College operations, and

WHEREAS, the College has further determined that providing use of these facilities to Long Island Head Start is compatible with the College’s educational mission as a student-centered college community serving Suffolk County and beyond by providing open access to exceptional educational opportunities and vision to be the education partner of choice for all Suffolk County students, families, communities, and businesses, and

WHEREAS, in support of its mission, the College has an existing partnership with Long Island Head Start to provide clinical training, internships, and practical learning

opportunities to the College's students enrolled in relevant programs, including Early Childhood Education and Nursing, at Long Island Head Start's sites throughout Suffolk County, and the Parties desire to maximize opportunities for students of the College and access to families served by Long Island Head Start to learning opportunities offered by the College, and

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2024, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, as authorized by Article V(F) of the College Bylaws, conditionally approved a waiver of the facilities use fees that would otherwise be charged pursuant to the College's Facilities Use Policy for the contemplated use of the above facilities by Long Island Head Start through June 30, 2025, provided all costs reasonably anticipated to be incurred by the College in providing such use are reimbursed by Long Island Head Start, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the September 9, 2024, conditional approval by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees for a one-time waiver of facilities use fees for Long Island Head Start's use of classroom and office space at the Culinary Arts & Hospitality Center and kitchen space at the Peconic Café on the Eastern Campus, is hereby confirmed in all respects, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the College President is hereby authorized and empowered to execute a license agreement with Long Island Head Start, upon such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the College General Counsel, for the use of certain classroom and office space at the Culinary Arts & Hospitality Center and kitchen space on the Eastern Campus, or such other comparable space if deemed necessary and in the best interests of the College.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.70 – Adopting a Freedom of Expression & Assembly Student Policy & Procedures

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College is committed to respecting and fully supporting the rights of free speech guaranteed by the constitutions of the United States and the State of New York and values the free expression of ideas, and

WHEREAS, the College desires to implement recommended policy updates from the State University of New York to support students' rights of free inquiry and expression and to provide meaningful opportunities for students to express their views while ensuring that the time, place, and manner of such expression does not interfere with the safety and security of the campus communities or disrupt operations, consistent with applicable law, and

WHEREAS, the attached Freedom of Expression & Assembly Student Policy & Procedures (see *Attachment I*) has been developed to accomplish the above objectives and is recommended by the Office of Legal Affairs, Division of Student Affairs, the College President, and the Board of Trustees Governance Committee, and would

supersede the Public Demonstration and Mass Gathering Policy previously adopted by the Board of Trustees with respect to students and student organizations, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby adopts a Freedom of Expression & Assembly Student Policy & Procedures (see *Attachment I*), which shall supersede the existing Public Demonstration and Mass Gathering Policy with respect to students and student organizations.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.71 – Adopting a Bulletin Boards & Posters/Flyers Policy

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Community College desires to ensure that recognized student organizations, College programs, departments, and units that want to share information about upcoming events and activities are able to do so through various means of communication, including flyers and posters, while preserving the right to manage posting and advertising on its campuses in order to maintain orderly and attractive campuses and make event information accessible to the College community, and

WHEREAS, the College desires to implement recommended policy updates from the State University of New York as enhancements to the College’s existing policies governing bulletin boards reserved for general use by the College community, as distinguished from public use by unaffiliated individuals and organizations and bulletin boards reserved for use by specific departments, offices, or organizations, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees previously adopted a Distribution of Handbills Policy restricting distribution of handbills in instructional spaces and posting of handbills upon walls, doors, or bulletin boards other than those designated for such purpose, and

WHEREAS, the attached Bulletin Boards & Posters/Flyers Policy (see *Attachment II*) has been developed to accomplish the above objectives and is recommended by the Office of Legal Affairs, Division of Student Affairs, the College President, and the Board of Trustees Governance Committee, and would supersede the Distribution of Handbills Policy previously adopted by the Board of Trustees, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby adopts a Bulletin Boards & Posters/Flyers Policy (see *Attachment II*), and rescinds the Distribution of Handbills Policy.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024.72 – Employment Supervisory Authority of Community College Boards of Trustees over Community College Presidents

WHEREAS, New York State Education Law Section 6306, specifies that Suffolk County Community College shall be administered by a Board of Trustees: five appointed by the

local legislative body or board, four by the Governor, and one elected from the student body, and

WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees shall appoint a President for the College, subject to approval by the State University trustees, and

WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees may enter into any contract or agreement deemed necessary or appropriate for the effective operation of the College, including, but not limited to, the employment contract with the President, and

WHEREAS, the responsibility and the authority to conduct the annual performance evaluation of the College President and to amend the terms of his contract rests entirely with the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Suffolk County Community College President's performance appraisal, performance evaluation or performance review, and terms and conditions of his employment contract can only be influenced by, altered, or amended via negotiations between the President and the College Board of Trustees.

Chair Coverdale called for the Committee reports.

Student Trustee Hardy reported for the Student Success Committee. The committee met on September 9th. Vice President Munsch gave a brief overview of what this committee's purpose and focus is within Suffolk County Community College. This month's presentation was on the SUNY ASAP Program, which is a replication of the highly successful CUNY Program. This retention program was created to give additional help to Pell-eligible students who have completed 12 credits or less. SUNY originally required 150 students to be recruited for the program; however, with immediate and creative outreach, the College was able to oversubscribe with 160. Thirty-four of the students who have children, will be receiving child care help. With this success, the Association is happy to announce our new ASAP Team, consisting of Director Gerome Bell and Advisor Sonya Lorrain. Both the Vice President of Student Affairs and Academic Affairs will continue their support as well.

Vice Chair Canary reported for the Governance Committee. The committee met on September 16th. General Counsel Ashley Pope shared that SUNY gave guidance and requested prompt action to support colleges having policies to manage and educate students about holding events on campuses. GC Pope then reviewed two new policies that are being proposed for the Trustees' approval. Both of these new policies have been examined by and updated with the Cabinet's feedback. The first policy is entitled, Bulletin Board & Posters/Flyers Policy. This new policy will replace the former Distribution of Handbills Policy approved by the Board of Trustees on January 15, 1996. It incorporates pertinent provisions from that policy as it pertains to posting of handbills,

as well as provisions of the current bulletin boards policy in the Student Handbook. The second policy is the Freedom of Expression & Assembly Student Policy & Procedures. This Policy supersedes the College's Public Demonstration and Mass Gatherings Policy insofar as that policy refers to student demonstrations and mass gatherings. This is a model policy provided by SUNY to support students' exercise of free speech/expression rights on campus. Discussion was then had about topics for the BOT Retreat scheduled for Thursday, November 14th. Committee Chair Canary suggested including a presentation from members of the BOT's Board of Ethics. Potential additional topics include Title VI nondiscrimination training and a review of traditional and innovative performance metrics for the institution. Discussion was then had about resuming Legislative Breakfasts with state, federal, and county stakeholders, which were stopped during the pandemic, to provide an opportunity to discuss issues affecting the College and our students. It was suggested that the best time to hold the breakfast would be mid to late January so newly elected officials would have the opportunity to attend and learn more about the College's mission. The next topic on the Agenda was the BOT Self-Assessment. GC Pope reminded the Committee that in March 2024 they approved a resolution for waving the timeframe for 2024 Self-Assessment, amending the completion date to December 31, 2024. Legal Affairs will provide copies of the 2023 Assessment form to Trustees. The BOT Governance Committee is requesting that the Trustees review the assessment form and provide any comments or recommended changes to Committee Chair Canary no later than the October 17th meeting. The timeline being proposed will be for Trustees to complete the evaluation prior to Thanksgiving with results available for discussion at the December 5th Board meeting. (*Whereupon the assessments were distributed to the Trustees*). GC Pope advised the Committee that two Trustees still need to set up their College emails. Sandy O'Hara is contacting the Trustees to see if they can do it before or after the meeting, or if they need help arranging appointments with Steve Clark. Discussion was had about selecting a cut-off date to transition to only using College emails. There was no new business brought to the committee's attention. The next Governance Committee will be on Monday, October 14th. The agenda items will include planning for the November 14th Board of Trustees retreat, the Board of Trustees self-evaluation, and the continuation of policy updates.

Trustee Pagdanganan reported for the Foundation. The Foundation is pleased to announce the receipt of a grant from New York Community Trust for \$285,000 for the second cohort of the Northwell Community Scholars, representing support for 15 students. Each student will receive up to \$19,000 in assistance toward tuition and fees as well as wraparound services, including books, food and transportation. The Foundation's partnership with Northwell Health has also been expanded to include a \$20,000 scholarship for the Northwell Health Physical Therapy Assistant Scholarship, which will be offered for the next five years, representing a total of \$100,000. This unique scholarship offers one student full tuition and wrap around services, and also includes an opportunity for a paid part-time internship at one of Northwell's rehabilitation facilities. The Foundation is also working with the Association, and has created a new Study Abroad Scholarship for Suffolk students who participate in the SUNY Study

abroad program. Annually up to three students will receive up to \$800 that can be used to travel abroad.

Discussion was had regarding the College's plans for resumption of College-led study abroad programs and attendant compliance-related needs should the program resume.

Trustee Pagdanganan reported for the Association. The Student Association Board of Directors met on August 28th. There were two resolutions that were discussed and passed unanimously. The first was the appointment for a position in the Ammerman Child Care Committee, the second was transferring funds from the International Study abroad program, from the Association to the Foundation for scholarships. Financials as of July 2024 was presented. The Eastern Campus Peconic Café continues to be discussed regarding losses. Incorporating new point of sale tools are being researched. The student body is very interested in having Apple Pay or Google Pay as options. The next meeting is scheduled for the end of September, and will consist of familiarizing the new Board of Directors members with the structures and expectations of the committee.

Student Trustee Hardy gave the Student Trustee report. Student Trustee Hardy said he has been doing his best to get engaged with as many people as possible on campus. He has attended every Student Government Association meeting on the Ammerman Campus and is looking to get in contact with the other Student Government Associations. He also attended the Club Fair and was happy to report that it was very well attended with the most students he has seen engaged on campus. He added that the Course Evaluation Committee seems to be still barreling forward; the chair of that committee, Andrew Suite, is very enthused with the work that they're doing and is excited to be pushing forward with that.

Chair Coverdale moved to the Chair's report. Chair Coverdale said she wanted to give some insight on the NYCCT meeting she participated in. She is glad to hear that there is so much student engagement and increased interest in what's going on; it reflects the fact that we are living in challenging times, and that the academic sectors are under great pressure. This being an election year, there is a tendency for political entities to, encroach on the territory of academic freedom and the freedom to think on one's own critically. She said this was the essence of the NYCCT meeting. There was good participation with 31 participants on the call. There was a very strong consensus that the moves on the part of SUNY, whether it's trying to find more consistency between the four-year schools and the community colleges, was seen as overreach on the part of the Chancellor. She felt it was also an affront to the balance of power that is suggested by 1/3 of funding from the County, 1/3 on the students backs, and 1/3 the on the State. As a student-centric institution, she urges everyone to pay their fair share because what they don't pay is born on the backs of students. She applauded the Board for passing the resolution. NYCCT had also asked the Chairs to sign onto a letter to express affirmation of independence and disdain for this this move. Chair Coverdale did not want to do so because in her role she speaks not only for herself but also for the Board. She is glad to see that there is a strong consensus among the Board and given that she would not hesitate to sign on to the letter now. NYCCT also urged that Trustees provide

a strong presence at their meeting in October, in Saratoga Springs, the Chancellor is expected to be there on Friday. She asked if anyone was interested in attending to let her know.

Trustee Murray asked if SUNY needed a legislation or a change in the law to do what they're trying to do. GC Pope said she did not want to speak for SUNY, but she believes they are relying on their statutory authority that appointments are subject to their approval, and they've adopted procedures to implement what they believe is their authority. The statute speaks to the Board's authority to appoint subject to the approval of the SUNY Board of Trustees. Chair Coverdale shared that there were several people in the NYCCT administration who felt they were encroaching on what was statutory Trustees' prerogative. Discussion continued amongst the Trustees on the policy and process of the approval and appointment of a President and the contract.

Chair Coverdale moved to the President's report. President Bonahue followed-up on two action items from the previous month's meeting. The first was the Board had approved a reduction in the transcript fee for obtaining an official transcript. He reported the change has been implemented. The second was a recommendation from the Facilities Committee to find an arborist who can walk the campus grounds to identify any trees that may be hazardous. Plant operations is moving forward with that request.

President Bonahue reviewed several handouts. The first was the mission statement, the Colleges vision, values, goals and objectives. The mission statement will be printed internally and will be distributed to all campuses prior to the reaffirmation of accreditation from Middle States.

President Bonahue pointed out that September is Hispanic Heritage month, and noted the calendar handout that had all the events taking place at all three campuses in September and October. He noted that over the past weekend the College hosted the El Salvadorian Independence Day on the Grant Campus with over 8,000 community members in attendance, thanks to the Special Events team, Public Safety, and Plant Operations.

For the enrollment update President Bonahue reported the College almost hit the growth goal of enrolling full-time students. However, the number of part-time students is coming in lower than expected and overall. As of yesterday, the overall FTE number is down about 1% on a year-over-year basis. The College expects enrollment for high school Beacon students will build over the next month, and as always, it will make a push for students to enroll into late start and micro-mester classes. He will have a fuller report for next month that will include those numbers.

In Academic Affairs, he announced there will be a formal signing agreement with St. Joseph's University on October 2 to update and reaffirm the longstanding joint admissions and articulation agreement. He invited the Trustees to participate if their

scheduled allowed. He noted that St. Joseph's is a specific destination of interest for many of the College's students who want to remain in Suffolk County.

President Bonahue said over the last few weeks he has been in regular communication with Deputy County Executive Dr. Sylvia Diaz about the County's development of the Brentwood Center, which is a vacant property just south of the Grant Campus on Crooked Hill Road. This property will be the future home of the National Offshore Wind Training Center, which is continuing to temporarily deliver training on the Grant Campus. As the County has reviewed their plans for the Brentwood Center, they are firmly committed to the renovations needed for offshore wind. In addition, they've reached out to the College to invite the College to take a larger role in terms of using the building for its own training programs. The College has a variety of career-facing programs where we would benefit from having some additional space for workforce programs, and is now talking to the County about potential programs and classrooms. President Bonahue is optimistic that the County wants the College to have a significant presence there and can fund the renovation of the building to meet the College's needs, which would be a huge plus. He expressed he is grateful not only to Dr. Diaz but also to County Executive Romaine, who has personally supported this partnership between the County and the College related to this facility.

In regards to advocacy, Dr. Bonahue referred to a handout from NYCCT. The handout highlights some of the same disparities that were brought to light last year. Community colleges as a percentage of enrollment have far more Pell recipients, and far more economically disadvantaged students likely to be educating students of color. It also shows that unfortunately, on the funding side, even when you combine what counties fund and what the State funds it doesn't come close to the way that SUNY funds the four-year State-operated campuses. He added that one of the most important advocacy efforts that NYCCT and NYCCAP will embrace this year is to continue to ask SUNY if it can find a way to helping advocate for increasing community college base funding. He noted it is an ask for SUNY as well as the State and the legislative delegation. President Bonahue said he would like to share this at a legislative breakfast over the winter.

In looking ahead to another development in advocacy, he reported community college business officers are working together with the Presidents and have commissioned an economic impact study to look at the way that community colleges create value both system-wide and within each community college district. The first draft shows the direct investment that the College brings to Suffolk County through student spending, employment and vendor relationships, but also the multiplier effect that our workforce training has, the value the College adds to local businesses over the long term, over many years the impact that the College has on wages. The study is still in draft form, and President Bonahue looks forward to bringing the full report when it's completed.

Lastly, President Bonahue reminded everyone that the Foundation arranged a lunch today to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Michael J. Grant Campus, and in addition it also is celebrating Sister Mary Ann Borello, a longtime faculty member and founder of the one of the first food pantries in the SUNY system, who is allowing the College to use

her legacy of service and her spirit of generosity to create a fund under her name that will support basic student needs.

Vice Chair deLeon-Lopresti and Vice Chair Canary discussed the NYCCT funding analysis handout. Vice Canary commented that from 1978 to 1982 he served with Michael J. Grant in the Suffolk County Legislature. He added Michael was a great guy and he found it so fitting that the campus was named after him since he fought tooth and nail to get the campus set up and the Grant family continues to be integral to the Brentwood community.

Chair Coverdale called for Roundtable: none.

Public comments on matters pertaining to the College: none.

Chair Coverdale requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair deLeon-Lopresti so moved, Trustee Murray seconded. The motion to adjourn the meeting was approved unanimously (8-0), and the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is October 17, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. in the Lecture Hall of the Montaukett Learning Resource Center on the Eastern Campus, Riverhead, New York.

Respectfully submitted,
Gordon Canary
Vice Chair