

**MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025**

**Library
Canton, MA**

6:00 p.m.

Approved April 23, 2025

Attendees: Bonnie Blackler, Eshita Chakrabarti, Jim Dunphy, Kacey Hilton-Gilleo, Carl Kowalski, Laura Lawson, Eval Silvera, Kate Welch

Absent: Tom Carroll

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call:

Trustee Blackler – yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Vice Chair Dunphy – yes

Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes

Trustee Kowalski - yes

Trustee Lawson – yes

Trustee Silvera – yes

Trustee Welch - yes

Chairman's Report

Vice Chair Dunphy welcomed everyone to the meeting. He is looking forward to the Evening of Champions on Thursday, May 15, 2025. We are coming upon the season of celebration at Massasoit. A list of events is in the board packet.

President's Report

Interim President Mitchell welcomed everyone to the meeting. He is looking forward to honoring Carol Bulman at this year's Evening of Champions. This year's speakers include, alumnus John Murphy, current student, Luc Louis, and alumnus and ARC tutor, Helena Beeloo. Helena has been accepted to Yale University doctoral program in Physics. We are hosting an event run by The Healey Administration Federal Funds Initiative on March 25. TRIO hit a tremendous milestone. We now have more than 450 Brockton High School students enrolled in this cohort program. Mr. Joseph Harris, Associate Dean of Student Success, reported that in year one the cohort had 8 students, year two had 326 students and year three currently has 450 students. WCVB was on our Brockton campus and covered the incredibly moving Send, Silence, Packing exhibit. We will be welcoming the Executive Director of Institutional Research, Angela Medeiros, on April 7. We will welcome two finalists for the Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment position within the next few weeks. We have been awarded an FY25 grant which assists with CDL driver license and EKG training. We continue to monitor federal activity and will continue to move forward. We welcome everyone to our campus. Trustee Blacker reported that the paperwork on the dissolution of the Alumni Association is in process. Our Enrollment is close to pre covid numbers. Currently we have 5,707 students compared to the low of 4,000 students. Our enrollment was at 6021 before COVID. The upswing in enrollment is a testament to the people who work here.

Student Trustee Report

The Board of Higher Education meeting is on April 8. Trustee Hilton-Gilleo and the Senate President attended the Student Advisory Council. They approved bills that the SAC Chair had drafted to go to the Board of Higher Education. They include an Open Educational Resource Bill and the Hunger Free Testimonial Bill. The Student Senate participated in a community service project actively preparing and packaging meals. Student Life held a successful Madi Gras event. PTK placed second in the Honors and Action Project at a conference in Connecticut. The Culinary Club has held a few fundraisers, and they are preparing for an education trip to New York City. The Gamers Club has grown immensely and will hold their first event in a few weeks.

MCC Foundation Report

Foundation President, Bob Terravecchia, has had the honor of working with President DiPasquale and Interim President Mitchell. The Foundation Directors are our ambassadors to tell the story of Massasoit, heighten our profile in the community, and to raise money. President Terravecchia and Interim President Mitchell attended Weymouth Rotary Club meeting to promote Evening of Champions. The foundation also provides mentorships and internships to help promote the students and to make them successful.

Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Trustee Kowalski and seconded by Trustee Blackler to approve items 1, 2, 3 and 4 on the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call:

Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Vice Chair Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes
Trustee Kowalski - yes
Trustee Lawson – yes
Trustee Silvera – yes
Trustee Welch - yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve the FY24 Single Audit Report presented by Sandra Bartolo, Comptroller and Michael Cosgrove, Withum.

Chair Welch, Audit & Finance Committee, reported that the Audit & Finance Committee met with Ms. Sandra. Bartolo, Comptroller and Mr. Michael Cosgrove, Withum, last week to review the FY24 Single Audit report.

Ms. Bartolo reported that the single audit is governed by uniform guidance and any agency that receives federal funding must report on federal financial assistance or aid. We prepared a report called the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and in that report, there is a cluster of information given, such as the name of the grant, the funding agency, and the dollar amount. The Single Audit Act requires that non-federal entities receiving funds over \$750,000 be audited. The auditors look at our internal controls, our expenditure and if we are in compliance with certain rules and regulations governed by the Federal government. Mr. Michael Cosgrove, Withum, added that the audit goes through the federal awards. The audit focuses on the student financial aid cluster which includes Pell grants, direct loans and work study. There were no findings. Finding is considered something out of the ordinary. The report was a positive report and represents the day-to-day management as Massasoit awards and disperses federal awards.

A motion was made by Trustee Dunphy and seconded by Trustee Silvera to approve the FY24 Single Audit Report presented by Sandra Bartolo, Comptroller and Michael Cosgrove, Withum.

Roll Call:

Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Vice Chair Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes
Trustee Kowalski - yes
Trustee Lawson – yes
Trustee Silvera – yes
Trustee Welch - yes

Basic Needs & Veteran Services Presentation by Ellyn Craig, Senior Special Programs Coordinator & Brian Schilling, Veterans Service Coordinator

Ms. Ellyn Craig, Senior Special Program Coordinator, presented the office of Basic Needs which is focused on providing essential resources to individuals in need, ensuring they have access to necessities like food, clothing and personalized supportive services to help students access and navigate community resources. “The Pantry” at Massasoit serves MCC students and community members and is operated and run by work study students. We have numerous food pantry community partners which include the Greater Boston Food Bank, Brockton Area Hunger Network, Dignity Matters, and Hope & Comfort Hygiene Plan.

Mr. Brian Schilling, Veterans Services Coordinator, presented on Veterans Services. The mission for Massasoit’s Veterans Services is to honor and support our service members both current and former as well as their families by providing the most comprehensive and caring college experience possible while helping them to reach their educational, personal and professional goals. The Veterans Services staff is well versed in education benefits for military spouses and dependents, whether that be Fry Scholarship, Post 9/11 GI Bill, BR&E (Chapter 31), Chapter 35 DEA benefits, National Guard Tuition and Fee Waiver. All military families are welcome to utilize the Veterans Center on campus. They participate in the Run to Home Base, Veterans Giving Tree, and partner with Culinary to hold a Veterans Day luncheon. Veterans’ student accomplishments include a successful transfer to Boston College, UMASS Boston, Lesley University, Northeastern University and Bridgewater State University. A Memorial Day Celebration will be held on May 27th.

Transformation through Renovation Update by William O’Neill, Vice President of Administration/CFO

Mr. William O’Neill, Vice President of Administration/CFO, discussed the \$51.8M Transformation through Renovation project and reported we are on target to begin the work this summer. Internally we are working with the design team and the logistic team to fine tune the logistics plan for the campus. Our fantastic partners, Jones Architectures are leading the way.

That the Board of Trustees authorizes an expenditure of \$146,144 for the first year and an estimated total of \$775,897 over a 5-year contract with TouchNet Information Systems, Inc. for payment processing and e-commerce solutions presented by William O’Neill, Vice President of Administration/CFO.

Mr. William O’Neill reported that this expenditure includes software licensing, hosting, maintenance and support services. The contract will commence on July 1, 2025. We use this platform to process all payments through e-commerce (credit card and web payments). This platform is fully integrated with our student information services within banner and our financial infrastructure. We are also very confident in what they offer in terms of security.

Roll Call:

Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Vice Chair Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes
Trustee Kowalski - yes
Trustee Lawson – yes

Trustee Silvera - yes
Trustee Welch - yes

A motion was made by Trustee Lawson and seconded by Trustee Kowalski adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Roll Call:

Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Vice Chair Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes
Trustee Kowalski - yes
Trustee Lawson – yes
Trustee Silvera - yes
Trustee Welch - yes