

**MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WEDNESDAY, June 17, 2026
Dr. Gerard F. Burke Library
Brockton, MA
6:05pm**

**APPROVED
September 23, 2026**

Attendees: Chair Carroll, Trustee Anania, Trustee Chakrabarti, Trustee Kowalski, Trustee Lawson, Trustee Pestana, Trustee Welch

Absent: Vice Chair Dunphy, Trustee Silvera, Trustee Offutt

Trustee Anania participated in the meeting remotely

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Trustee Anania – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti - yes
Trustee Kowalski – yes
Trustee Lawson – yes
Student Trustee Pestana – yes
Trustee Welch – yes

Chairman's Report

Chair Carroll welcomed everyone to the meeting. In preparation for tonight's meeting, there was a recent study by Education Trust of Massachusetts, which surveyed about 1,500 parents asking what their thoughts were on getting a bachelor's degree? Only 45% were supportive, which is the lowest number in 3 years. Even though Massasoit has free college, we still need to think about value and what will draw people to institutions like ours for their higher education needs. This was Student Trustee Daniel Pestana's last board meeting, and we want to thank him for being an excellent student trustee, keeping us updated from the students' point of view and letting us know of all the activities that were happening.

President's Report

President Mitchell thanked Chair Carroll and reminded everyone that there is a Board of Trustees retreat on Friday, August 7, 2026. Fall semester is just around the corner and a reminder that Opening Day will be on Tuesday, September 8th at the college. It is the day before school starts and we will be having an All-College meeting, a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Science building and a groundbreaking ceremony for the Health Science Building. President Mitchell then asked Vice President Harris to talk about our suicide prevention protocol. Vice President Harris stated that a pair of state court cases involving MIT and Harvard in 2018 and 2019 held that institutions of higher education have "a special relationship" with their students. This relationship creates a limited duty to take reasonable measures to protect students from self-harm if the institution has actual knowledge of a suicide attempt at the institution or of a student's stated plans or intention to commit suicide. Since Spring, Student Services and Enrollment Management has worked with Massasoit Police and the Office of General Counsel to formalize the college's current practice and guidance as it pertains to student suicide prevention. We expect to bring the draft to Cabinet and Senior Leadership over the next few weeks for consideration and adoption. Once adopted, the protocol would apply to all members and employees of the college, and we have developed a plan to educate members of the community about the responsibilities under this protocol. Vice President of External Relations, Kendra Butters, spoke about an alumnus who attended Massasoit in 1995, was a member

of our NJCAA Region 21 Championship, has been living in Scotland for the last 30 years, and is returning to Massachusetts for the World Cup.

Student Trustee Report

Trustee Pestana shared that he and Ms. Judy Franciosi, Coordinator of Student Activities, will be meeting with the incoming Student Trustee Donovan Boyd to discuss transitioning into the student trustee role and “learning the ropes a little.” The staff in Student Life are working on data analysis using the Engage platform, which we heard all about over the last school year, and which the board approved in December of 2024. After completing its first year of implementation, we have some statistics to share: the Platform hosted 990 events, 2,164 members signed up, it connected 17 recognized student clubs, including 6 new student clubs and 28 departments spanning all divisions across the college.

Trustee Pestana thanked Chair Carroll and the board for his involvement this past year. He stated that he did not know what to expect when he first started as a trustee but quickly learned that everyone involved just wanted to see our students succeed. It meant a lot to him knowing that the board was interested in what students had to say and took their words seriously.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Anania and seconded by Trustee Kowalski to approve the consent agenda.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Trustee Anania – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti - yes
Trustee Kowalski – yes
Trustee Lawson – yes
Student Trustee Pestana – yes
Trustee Welch – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve sabbatical leave for the Spring 2027 semester to Sara Goke, Assistant Professor, Liberal Studies & the Arts, and Melany McFadden, Professor, STEM presented by Dr. Rita Jones-Hyde, Vice President of Academic Affairs (vote needed)

Vice President Jones-Hyde stated that Melany McFadden, who is a part of the Earth Science/Physical Science Department and has been at Massasoit for 13-1/2 years. Her proposal is about national parks and creating a new course for us which would be very amenable for our liberal arts students for a 3- credit science course. These parks preserve key environments and histories of the nation for everyone to enjoy forever. Melany is proposing to take some of those experiences, put them into a video and create a 3-credit course, and the foundation for a new 3-credit science course called Geology of the National Parks.

Sara Goke is our Academic ESOL Coordinator in the Modern Language Department and has also been at Massasoit for 12 years. According to a 2024 census report, the diverse City of Brockton reported 36.3% of the city’s population identified as foreign born. Sara is proposing to re-evaluate the program from the credit side and create a bridge from our ESOL non-credit courses into the Academic ESOL to get credit for taking these classes. We would then like to have these students enter our composition programs after that. This will give the opportunity and time to evaluate what the best pathway forward is for these students.

A motion was made by Trustee Chakrabarti and seconded by Trustee Lawson to approve the 2027 Sabbatical leaves for Melany McFadden and Sara Goke.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Trustee Anania – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti - yes
Trustee Kowalski – yes
Trustee Lawson – yes
Student Trustee Pestana – yes
Trustee Welch – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation and recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve the Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Spending Plan of \$63.3M plan presented by William O’Neill, Vice President of Administration/CFO (vote needed)

Vice President of Administration/CFO, Mr. William O’Neill proposed the FY27 spending plan of \$63.3M which is a \$3.5M increase over FY26. Our enrollment projection is 113,511 credit hours (1,797 more than FY26). The proposed fee increase is \$5 per credit hour. One thing to note, this is the first time in several years that our projected full-time payroll expense is going to exceed our state-appropriate dollar amount.

A motion was made by Trustee Carl Kowalski and seconded by Trustee Kate Welch to approve the Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Spending Plan of \$63.3M

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Trustee Anania – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti - yes
Trustee Kowalski – yes
Trustee Lawson – yes
Student Trustee Pestana – yes
Trustee Welch – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve an expenditure of \$375,000 for a five-year renewal of the Technolutions’ Slate CRM platform presented by Joseph Harris, Vice President for Student Service & Enrollment Management and William Morrison, Chief Information Officer (vote needed)

Vice President Harris stated that a lot of people from across the institution continue to work very hard to move this important project forward. Phase 1 - the slate-to-banner integration is in progress. All other parts of the system are live and in daily use. Massasoit continues to work with our partner, Ferrilli, to resolve issues as they are identified. UAT sessions will be held daily through the end of this project. In the meantime, Admissions and Student Central are admitting students manually. CIO William Morrison stated that last year Slate was presented to the board with a one-year option. We did not want to commit to a long-term contract until we were satisfied that the product met our expectations. Throughout the process, we validated that it is every bit as configurable as advertised. The Slate subscription is included in the FY27 spending plan that Vice President O’Neill just presented. President Mitchell added that we are the last community college to implement a CRM and it ties into our strategic plan.

A motion was made by Trustee Kowalski and seconded by Trustee Welch to approve the Expenditure of \$375,000 for a five-year renewal of the Technolutions' Slate CRM platform

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Trustee Anania – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti - yes
Trustee Kowalski – yes
Trustee Lawson – yes
Student Trustee Pestana – yes
Trustee Welch – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve the Presidential Evaluation committee by Chair Tom Carroll (vote needed)

Chair Carroll stated that it is time to evaluate President William Mitchell. He is recommending that the board create a subcommittee comprised of Vice Chair Dunphy, Trustee Welch, Trustee Kowalski and Trustee Offutt to do the initial evaluation work and then share it with the whole board at the August retreat. At the September board meeting, we would finalize it, incorporate that into the final evaluation and send it to the commissioner at the Board of Higher Education.

A motion was made by Trustee Lawson and seconded by Trustee Chakrabarti to approve the Presidential Evaluation committee

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Trustee Anania – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti - yes
Trustee Kowalski – yes
Trustee Lawson – yes
Student Trustee Pestana – yes
Trustee Welch – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Dunphy and seconded by Trustee Pestana to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Trustee Anania – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti - yes
Trustee Kowalski – yes
Trustee Lawson – yes
Student Trustee Pestana – yes
Trustee Welch – yes

The motion passed unanimously.