

**MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WEDNESDAY, May 27, 2026
Virtual Meeting
6:00pm**

**APPROVED
June 17, 2026**

Attendees: Chair Tom Carroll, Vice Chair Jim Dunphy, Kenn Anania, Laura Lawson, David Offutt, Daniel Pestana, Eval Silvera, Kate Welch

Absent: Carl Kowalski, Eshita Chakrabarti

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll – yes
Vice Chair Dunphy – yes
Trustee Anania – yes
Trustee Lawson - yes
Trustee Offutt – yes
Trustee Pestana – yes
Trustee Silvera - yes
Trustee Welch – yes

Chairman's Report

Trustee Carroll stated that the 2026 Commencement ceremony was incredible. He credited President Mitchell, the volunteers, Mother Nature, the speakers and graduates for a great day of celebrating our students. He also recalled that a week earlier was the Evening of Champions with nice weather and an incredible turnout in support of the college. He thanked everyone who made those events happen.

President's Report

President Mitchell thanked Chair Carroll for his kind words and stated that it's the working people at the college that make these events happen. This year, we had over 100 volunteers who put their work aside, show up, and help us do all the background things that you don't necessarily see. President Mitchell stated that Cori Foy is the Chair of the Commencement Committee, and she took the project over and did a remarkable job with her attention to detail, keeping everything going, and putting together a wonderful day to celebrate our students. He also agreed with Chair Carroll that Trustee Offutt's speech was motivating and noticed that the students were on the edge of their seats, listening to every word. Our faculty speaker, Alex Cotter, was a great choice and our student speaker, Joe Collette, is an incredible student who is going to Cornell University in the fall. The youngest person to graduate was 16 years old and the oldest person to graduate was 63.

We have had an exceptional couple of months regarding grants, and the grants people are going to present to the board sometime in either September or October. It's led by Kendra Butters, Vice President of External Relations and her team, Amanda Donovan, Executive Director of Grants and Denise Egan, Administrative Assistant II. A shout-out to Dean Katie Ruggieri, STEM, because we have taken \$4.1M in the last 2 months on grants - \$2M for our HVAC program and \$2M for our Diesel program.

Dean Michael Roggow and his staff had an Entrepreneurship Challenge for our students. The night included Trustee Eval Silvera and Trustee Kate Welch as judges. Joe Collette, the Student Speaker, was the winner.

The college donated a tree to long-time trustee, Bonnie Blackler, which is a tradition at Massasoit when trustees have served a long time on the board. We also had a Dr. Gerard F. Burke Library dedication on the Brockton campus. It was a result of a \$100,000 gift by his family, matched with the Commonwealth. We kicked off our 60th Anniversary with the Evening of Champions and there will be more along those lines in the fall.

Student Trustee Report

The Student Leadership Banquet that we held, where we awarded 3 Massasoit Green Key awards, to Clinton Mahoney, Michael Molynier and Gabby Vertz. Two of these students are in culinary and one of them was in Success. In the same event, we also announced Vet Tech Society to be Club of the year. The Senate also updated the Constitution and voted for an interim president for over the summer, which is our previous vice president and veteran student, Justin Connolly. At one of our last Senate meetings, Joseph Harris, Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment, also our co-advisor, reported that in the month of April, we gave out almost 13,000 pounds of food to 487 families. Student Life has been working to update the conference room with a new table that features more room for people requiring mobility aid, accommodation and updated technology.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Vice Chair Dunphy and seconded by Trustee Welch to approve the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll – yes
Vice Chair Dunphy – yes
Trustee Anania – yes
Trustee Lawson - yes
Trustee Offutt – yes
Trustee Pestana – yes
Trustee Silvera - yes
Trustee Welch – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Strategic Plan and NECHE Self -Study Progress Report by Dr. Rita Jones Hyde, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dr. Angelina Mederios, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs & Effectiveness

Vice President Jones-Hyde stated that this year, we are finishing up our second year in the strategic plan, and we are going to connect it to our other major initiative on campus, which is the NECHE self-study. The strategic plan is built into 5 different areas: Equitable Enrollment & Student Support, Academic Renewal and Innovation, Reimagining College Identity, Equitable Engagement and Community Belonging and Organizational & Employee Excellence.

Our year two goals include: identifying institutional strengths and opportunities for growth, enrollment operations and streamline processes to improve efficiency and outcomes, strengthen a culture of data-informed decision-making, continue aligning budget planning and resource allocation with Strategic Plan priorities, and expand collaboration and connections across divisions and with institutional partners. Several areas where the college has identified meaningful institutional progress and growth through Enrollment Efficiency (through the implementation of SLATE), Data Analytics Plan, Budget Alignment and our NECHE self-study participation Academic Program Review Reassessment, Peer Metrics & Benchmarking (to increase and strengthen our community partnerships), and Increase and Strengthen Community Partnerships.

New Slate application opened on April 24, 2026. As of Commencement we have 1400 Fall 26 new student applications and 1300 request for Information Form responses. We began admitting new Fall 2026 students during the week of May 11, sending the first batch of admit letters on Commencement Day.

Academic Renewal & Innovation (remains one of the college's most active strategic priorities) which include academic program review reassessment, new tableau dashboards provide timely program enrollment trends and proposed new programs moving through academic governance process.

Dr. Angie Medeiro, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Effectiveness, outlined the broader Tableau visualization strategy which is a tool that allows the college to present data in an interactive and user-friendly way. Angie shared a few examples of the program review Tableau dashboards that they built such as a Program Enrollment Dashboard, Data Trends, Custom Tables, Total Enrollment Dashboard and Credit Enrollee Trends.

Vice President Jones-Hyde continued discussing the smooth transition right into NECHE with Reimagining College Identity which include: BSU & Massasoit Strategic Plan, Massasoit Entrepreneurial Challenge, Community Education (Father Bill's & Mainspring and exploring new programs to meet industry needs). Updates for the Organizational & Employee Excellence Strategic plan include: The New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) Accreditation process has two primary purposes, the Self-Study is a college-wide process that examines how well the College fulfills its mission, supports students and aligns with NECHE's Standards, and the Self-Study report serves as the foundation for the peer evaluation team's visit on October 18-21, 2026. Self-Study Report reflects the two years of collaboration from more than 50 faculty and staff. More than 100 students contributed feedback through a recent assessment. Spring 2026 Professional Development Day expanded campus engagement and open community review generated 20 additional comments and recommendations

The five standards for accreditation were updated and approved in December 2025: standard one: Mission, Organization, Governance and Planning; standard two: the Academic Program, Faculty and Students; standard three: Institutional Resources'; standard four: Educational Effectiveness and the Success of All Students; standard five: Integrity, Transparency and Public Disclosure.

The draft is strong and well-developed. We are revising description and appraisal sections to enhance coherence and readability, strengthening Standard 4 with expanded detail on institutional goals and outcomes for: Student Learning & Student Success, Student Services & Co-curricular Engagement, an Post-Enrollment Outcomes.

President Mitchell asked if it was part of the formal process for NECHE to look at our draft? Dr. Jones Hyde explained that it is not part of the formal process. We like to get comments from NECHE because they know the structure the best. They like to tell us where to add more data and their comments are meant to be helpful, and it's a good way to enhance our draft to get more out of the process.

Dr. Jones Hyde asked the Board of Trustees to review the draft and provide feedback on self-study by June 17, 2026.

Chair Carroll asked if comments given stayed within the college and are not shared with NECHE? Dr. Jones Hyde confirmed that they stay within the college. President Mitchell stated that the board plays an important role in evaluating, so we look forward to the open and honest feedback. Chair Carroll commented that the presentation was impressive and asked when using AI, is it telling us something that maybe we don't know? Angie Medeiros replied that there is an agentic AI where you can have agents build these dashboards to provide insight, but she is hesitant to put student information into those systems because of security concerns.

Deferred Maintenance by Mr. William O'Neill, Vice President of Administration and Finance/CFO and Mr. Christopher Volz, Executive Director of Facilities

Vice President William O'Neill stated that he will be focusing on facilities and real property buildings. Some of the challenges include 50-year-old buildings with multiple redesigns; limited resources, design flaws, and environmental conditions. Deferred maintenance is defined as maintenance or capital projects that have gone unfunded in previous budget cycles. The theater lighting project is \$1.8M. We had to replace it entirely due to not being able to source repair parts. We were recently awarded a \$1.5M grant for a clean, heavy-duty vehicle training program in Canton. We had some reissued funding for community mental health money. We were able to turn that \$80,000 into 2 brand new workout rooms in the field house for exercise and fitness for mental health to justify those funds.

The Bright Act is a \$3.65B bond bill which has been passed by the House and the Senate, backed by fair share revenue. There is \$1.25B for State Universities and Community Colleges and \$80M for decarbonization projects, \$120M for community college lab modernization and \$30M for campus master plans. The remaining \$170M goes to different projects in Administration and Finance, Technical Security and Services and the Executive Office of Education. These all-support Executive Order 594, whose goal is to achieve net zero greenhouse gases by 2050.

Mr. Christofer Volz, Executive Director of Facilities, explained some of the issues that Facilities is currently dealing with. The main boulevard deteriorates every year during the harsh winter months. We are working with DCAMM to come up with a plan to resurface the boulevard by the beginning of the school year in September. Within the new Science building, we will have all the best equipment, and we will try and bring the other academic buildings up to the same level. One upgrade on the outside is the soffits.

The field house gets used by Stonehill College, Oliver Ames High School, and Cardinal Spellman High School for their swim teams. The field house is also used for basketball tournaments and Massasoit Job Fairs. The building is functional, but outdated. The boiler is 30 years old, and the two old electric tanks now act as storage tanks for the hot water in the building. We have put in a project request to DCAMM to help us with a boiler replacement. It would be a good EO594 project to upgrade with a more efficient electrical version quickly and in the most efficient way.

Projects that have been completed in FY19 - FY26 include Student Center, Dining Hall, Police Department renovation, TV Studio, Vet Tech, Medical Assisting, Engineering, and parking lots. Projects that are underway in FY26-FY27 are: Transformation Through Renovation Phase I, Transformation Through Renovation Phase II, Theater Lighting, Canton Boiler, and Overhang/ADA. Projected projects in FY27-FY36 are Transformation Through Renovation Level Up, Field House, H Building, HVAC Replacements, Supplemental Heating Units, and Fine Arts Lobby.

In looking at the mechanical projects, replacements, heating units, storefronts etc., we are looking at \$35.2M in deferred maintenance. The combined total is \$113.9M that will be spent on deferred maintenance, taking inflation into account.

Executive Director Voltz added that everything in facilities is always fluid. We must be flexible in everything we do. It all ties back into preventive maintenance and routine scheduled upkeep. Every August we do a planned shutdown for a weekend. It's good exercise to follow to ensure the life of what we have.

Chair Carroll commented in the planning piece that it was great that you are involving students, faculty and the campus in setting priorities. That's important as you try and balance the unending list of things that need to be done against the budget. He also asked what role the foundation could play in this? Is there an opportunity to improve our campuses to engage the foundation? President Mitchell responded that Vice President of External Relations, Kendra Butters was inquiring about some potential private foundation grants that we could pursue for some of these improvements. Chair Carroll stated that once you start, it builds momentum. If we find that pipeline into grants and into donations to help with improvements, then it creates more opportunities to bring additional people on campus.

A motion was made by Trustee Welch and seconded by Trustee Silvera to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll – yes

Vice Chair Dunphy – yes

Trustee Anania – yes

Trustee Lawson - yes

Trustee Offutt – had to leave early

Trustee Pestana – yes

Trustee Silvera - yes

Trustee Welch – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Recording Secretary – Cori Foy

Chair – Tom Carroll