SARASOTA MILITARY ACADEMY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

19 MAY 2026

Board of Director Members' Attendance

Present:
Dr. Thomas J. McElheny, Former Capt, USMC, Chair
Erica Gregory, Lt Col, USAF (Ret), Vice Chair
Pete Skokos, Treasurer (virtual)
David Black
Jerry Neff, BG, USA (Ret)
Charles Shugg, Brig Gen, USAF (Ret)
Ron Skipper, Former Capt, USAF
Richard Swoope, COL, USA (Ret) (virtual)
Michael Tollerton, Former CPT, USA
W. Scott Wallace, GEN, USA (Ret)

Absent: Ben Knisely, COL, USA (Ret), Secretary; SMA-LTC Caitlin West, Assistant Head of High School; SMA-LTC Abby Williams, Assistant Head of High School; SMA-CPT Mick Fallis, HS Athletic Director; SMA-CPT Jared Lauther, MS Athletic Director

SMA Administrative Staff in Attendance:
SMA-COL Christina Bowman, CEO/Head of High School
Dr. Cheryl Korwin, Head of Middle School
SMA-LTC Bryan Burns, Assistant Head of Middle School (virtual)
MAJ (Ret) Russ Osterfeld, SAI
SMA-MAJ Savannah Kalka, Director of Finance

Guests in Attendance: SMA-MAJ Marsha Reinig-Umana, MS Faculty Representative; CSM Jack Phinney, JROTC Instructor; CW4 Wes Rinehart, JROTC Instructor; REGT CDR Joey Miguel; Cadet Samuel Bonser; Corinne Arriaga, Sarasota County Transportation; Alvimarie Corales, Sarasota County Transportation; SMA-CPT Esther Jaffee, HS Faculty Representative (virtual); SMA-CPT Kathy Simon (virtual); Herb Jones, Chair Emeritus (virtual); Jenny Glassmoyer, Avodah CPA (virtual); Jessica Albert (virtual); Nikki Orth (virtual)

Location: SMA High School

The chair called the meeting to order at 2:31 pm.

Chair Thomas McElheny started the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to Approve the 28 April 2026 Minutes:
Mr. Ron Skipper moved to approve the 28 April 2026 minutes; Mr. David Black seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

SMA-COL Christina Bowman introduced the new cadet Regimental Commander, Joey Miguel, to the board and REGT CDR Miguel shared his goals for next year with his staff and culture. MAJ Russ Osterfeld shared that REGT CDR Miguel is part of his Service Academy Cohort.

SMA-COL Bowman introduced the Sarasota County Transportation, Ms. Corinne Arriaga and Ms. Alvimarie Corales, to explain the plans for the buildout of 10th Street and N. Orange Avenue roundabout, how it impacts our campus, and the proposed schedule of implementation. Ms. Arriaga discussed the city's need of a .0148 acre, or 600 total square feet, for an easement for this project and requested a decision before the end of year. Mr. Black requested a new plan scaled to the exact easement needed. Chair McElheny stated this addition will add value to the property with the bicycle paths, wider sidewalks, and paths to the bayfront.

Head of Middle School: Dr. Cheryl Korwin provided a read-ahead report. She complimented her staff on the ELA and Science scores as the highest since COVID, with 8th graders resulting in a double-digit increase, and that increasing overall math scores is still a work in progress. Dr. Korwin shared upcoming 8th grade promotion ceremony on Friday, May, 22.

MS Faculty Representative: SMA-MAJ Marsha Reinig-Umana provided a read-ahead report. She mentioned the staff deeply value the board's commitment and stated the request of faculty is to have some board meetings at the prep.

MS Athletics Report: SMA-CPT Jared Lauther provided a read-ahead report.

CEO/Head of High School Report: SMA-COL Bowman provided a read-ahead report. She discussed the need for approvals of the new cleaning service contract, the new transportation contract with SSAS, and the 2026-27 Mental Health School Allocation Plan.

Mr. Skipper moved to approve the new 2026-27 Cleaning Service Contract for each campus; BG Jerry Neff seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

SMA-COL Bowman thanked Mr. Pete Skokos, who was instrumental in completing the transportation contract with SSAS and stated SSAS has already approved and the need for the board's approval.

Mr. Black moved to approve the new 2026-27 Transportation Contract with SSAS subject to SMA-COL Bowman decision to amend the termination language; Ms. Michael Tollerton seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

Mr. Black moved to approve the 2026-27 Mental Health School Allocation Plan; Brig Gen Charles Shugg seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

SMA-COL Bowman mentioned junior cadet, Mason Thien, received the Anne Frank Humanitarian Award and the upcoming details on the Memorial Day parade.

HS Faculty Representative: SMA-CPT Esther Jaffee provided a read-ahead report.

HS Athletics Report: Coach Mick Fallis provided a read-ahead report.

Cadet Report: N/A

SAI Report: MAJ Osterfeld provided a read-ahead report. He mentioned a successful first-time at the National Drill Competition with the color guard, commanded by REGT CDR Miguel, achieving the highest SMA award of 7th place out of 115 schools. MAJ Osterfeld stated another successful and very well attended Service Academy Fair hosted by both Senator Scott and Congressman Steube and the JROTC/Senior Night. He mentioned a record 41 cadets attending this year's JCLC camp in June.

Treasurer's Report: SMA-MAJ Savannah Kalka provided a read-ahead report. She discussed balance sheets for both campuses and stated a current healthy fiscal position. Chair McElheny recommended the board approve a 2% non-recurring bonus to faculty and staff that are returning next school year.

Mr. Skipper moved to approve a one-time 2% bonus to all faculty and staff returning next school year; Ms. Tollerton seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

SMA-MAJ Kalka discussed working on the consolidation merger budge for various FTE numbers with Ms. Jenny Glassmoyer of Avodah, CPA and that she will be able to present numbers at the next board meeting.

Mr. Black discussed meeting with three local firms for information on the potential sale of the high school campus and will present once we resume in August. Brig Gen Shugg discussed the possibilities of a new athletic field and a company who designs fields will be presenting at the next board meeting.

Vice Chair Erica Gregory inquired as to the next step once the board votes on campus option, to which Chair McElheny replied that the structure committee will work with the administration.

Nominating Committee Report: N/A

Facilities Committee Report: N/A

Chair Report: N/A

PTCC Report: N/A

Alumni Recognition: N/A

Old Business: BG Neff discussed the need to continue the commandant search and that he has a few interested candidates. Chair McElheny agreed and recommended for GEN Wallace to form a group to continue the search.

New Business: N/A

Public Comments: CSM Jack Phinney inquired as to the new design impeding on the Raiders course already in place, to which Chair McElheny replied that the athletic field dimensions will be presented at the next board meeting.

Board Comments: N/A

The next board meeting will be on 23 June 2026 at 2:30pm at the High School campus.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 3:54pm.

Dr. Thomas McElheny, Chair — 6/23/26 Date

COL Ben Knisely, Secretary — 6/23/26 Date