



CITY OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

Dominick Pangallo

Mayor

Scholarship & Education Committee Meeting – Draft Minutes

Monday, August 10, 2026, 6:30 P.M., meeting held remotely

Members Present: Yami Cruz, Gabby Bacha, Andrew Boucher, Josiah Guthrie, Lynne Mullen

Staff Present: Lisa Peterson

Guest(s): None

1. **Call to Order:** 6:40 p.m.
2. **Approval of May 5, 2026 Minutes:** Josiah motioned to approve as submitted, Lynne seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0-0.
3. **Approval of March 30, 2026 Minutes:** Josiah motioned to approve as submitted, Gabby seconded the motion, motion carried 5-0-0.
4. **Financial Updates:**

Taxpayer's Education Fund Balance (as of August 10, 2026): \$17,577.14

Taxpayer's Scholarship Fund Balance (as of August 10, 2026): \$2,924.35

There was 1 new education fund application this month.

5. **Education Fund Updates:**

There was 1 new education fund application this month. The committee reviewed an application from Jeffrey Stuart from the Salem High School Culinary Arts Department. Mr. Stuart's application was to allow students to learn advanced pig fabrication techniques.

After review, Josiah motioned that the committee approve up to \$1,500 to be awarded for this application. Gabby seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.

Lisa will plan to send Mr. Stuart an email this week alerting him of the award and explaining the next steps.

6. Fundraising Discussion:

- The committee discussed several local businesses they can ask for help with fundraising efforts, including Maitland Kitchen, the 99 and the Neighborhood Tavern. Gabby will plan to start a list and committee members can add to it.
- The committee devised an idea to lean on the Salem 400+ anniversary in which they will ask the community to donate 400+ times in honor of this milestone year (2026).
- There was some discussion that the Mayor could plan to be involved in rescuing Santa from the roof of the Hawthorne Hotel on the day after Thanksgiving, but the committee was unable to determine a fundraising idea related to this concept that tied back to their efforts.
- Since the closing event of the Salem 400+ is youth and future focused, the committee is wondering if there is a way for them to be involved somehow (have a table/presentation/presence at the event).
- Lisa will plan to draft a press release and clean up the donation links on the City's website.

7. Adjourned (5-0-0): 7:29 p.m.