



**MIRACOSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
One Barnard Drive, Oceanside, CA**

MINUTES OF REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

MARCH 14, 2024
(Approved April 18, 2024)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Trustees of the MiraCosta Community College District met in open session on Thursday, March 14, 2024, in Room 1131, at the San Elijo Campus. President Rick Cassar called the meeting to order at 3:59 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE / ROLL CALL

Board members present:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Rick Cassar | Frank Merchat |
| Raye Clendening | Anna Pedroza |
| Heather Conklin | Jacqueline Simon |
| George McNeil | Kenneth Pilco (arrived at 4:15pm) |

Administrators present:

Superintendent/President Sunny Cooke
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Denée Pescarmona
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Tim Flood
Dean Nick Mortaloni

III. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

A. Special/Closed Meeting of February 15, 2024

B. Special Meeting of February 15, 2024

C. Regular Business Meeting of February 15, 2024

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Simon, the board approved the special/closed meeting minutes, the special meeting minutes, and the regular meeting minutes of February 15, 2024.

Vote: 7/0/0

Aye: Cassar, Clendening, Conklin, McNeil, Merchat, Pedroza, Simon

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS ON AND NOT ON THE AGENDA

Interim Dean Russell Walden provided a warm welcome to the board. He announced the development of a student-centered, zero-based scheduling process is underway at the San Elijo Campus (SEC). The data-based scheduling process will determine the courses students need to complete their degree in a timely manner. This means more classes will be offered simultaneously at SEC. In conjunction with some online courses, students can not only start, but also finish their coursework at the SEC. He is very excited for these course offerings to start in fall 2024.

Dean Jonathan Fohrman introduced Dr. Olivia Quintanilla, recipient of the California Colleges Board of Governors 2023/24 Exemplary Program award for the Ethnic Studies Program, specifically for curriculum development. Dr. Quintanilla is MiraCosta's first and only full-time Ethnic Studies instructor and she highlighted departmental accomplishments, grants received, and new course offerings. She noted two associate faculty members have joined the recently established Ethnic Studies Department, and an additional fulltime faculty recruitment is underway and the person is expected to begin in fall 2024.

V. CHANGES IN AGENDA ORDER

None.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

A. Facilities Futures Update

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Tim Flood, along with Gensler's Dennise Gurmilan and Brian Watson, provided highlights of the facilities work completed to date.

The college is halfway through the recommendation phase of the planning process. The timeline and planning framework were reviewed, which will guide campus development as we move forward. Draft recommendations and options for each of the campuses were also reviewed. They noted the importance of connecting the various campus hubs through the center of the Oceanside campus and creating a community hub. The campuses are not simply expanding, but spaces and the way they are used are being redefined and include flexibility in plans and how spaces will be used. Additionally, focus will be on a one-college concept that offer a variety of modalities to students, rather than separate campuses.

It was emphasized this campus development vision is a long-term plan, more than ten years out, which will be broken down and incorporated into the district's five-year plans that will be updated and presented to the board annually.

The district plans to offer a variety of non-traditional apprenticeships, paid internships, and programs that will serve a broad variety of student demographics including older adults and working parents. This is important because of the decline in the younger population projected for at least the next 20 years. Trustee McNeil reported that four elementary schools in Oceanside and two in Vista have closed due to low enrollment.

Flood and his team will continue to gather input and refine the plan and will return on May 16 to update the board.

VII. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Ratify Recommendations of Superintendent/President in Approving Personnel Actions**
- B. Adopt Annual Resolutions Authorizing Designated Agents**
- C. Approve 2023/2024 Legal Services**
- D. Approve Travel to Holistic Leadership Council 2024 in Riviera Maya, Mexico – Spring 2024**
- E. Approve Notice of Completion for Bid #C11-23 San Elijo Building 800**
- F. Approve Renewal of Oracle Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) PeopleSoft Applications Software Update Licensing, Maintenance and Technical Support Services**
- G. Approve Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) Refresh Project**

- H. Approve Annual Apple Technology Replacement Purchases**
- I. Approve Annual Dell Computer Replacement Purchases**
- J. Approve Communication Site Lease Agreement Amendment**
- K. Ratify and Approve Contracts and Purchase Orders**

By motion of Trustee Clendening, seconded by Trustee Conklin, consent items A-K were approved.

Vote: 7/0/0

Aye: Cassar, Clendening, Conklin, McNeil, Merchat, Pedroza, Simon

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

VIII. ACTION

A. Approve Submission of 2024 California Community Colleges Trustee Board Election Ballot

By motion of Trustee Merchat, seconded by Trustee Simon, the board approved the submission of the 2024 California Community Colleges Trustee Board election ballot.

Vote: 7/0/0

Aye: Cassar, Clendening, Conklin, McNeil, Merchat, Pedroza, Simon

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

B. Approve Health Services Fee

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Simon, the board approved the increase in the Health Services fee to \$22 for each term (fall, spring, and summer).

Student Trustee Pilco cast an advisory vote in support of the Health Services fee increase.

Vote: 7/0/0

Aye: Cassar, Clendening, Conklin, McNeil, Merchat, Pedroza, Simon

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

IX. SECOND READING – BOARD POLICIES (Action Required)

A. Board Policy 6620 – Naming of Facilities

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Merchat, the board adopted Board Policy 6620 – Naming of Facilities.

Vote: 7/0/0

Aye: Cassar, Clendening, Conklin, McNeil, Merchat, Pedroza, Simon

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

X. FIRST READING – BOARD POLICIES

A. Board Policy 5030 - Fees

Board Policy 5030 was reviewed and discussed and will be brought to the board for a second read and adoption at a future meeting.

XI. COLLEGE-RELATED REPORTS

A. Trustees Activities

Trustees Cassar, Clendening, Pedroza, and Simon attended the Palomar Showcase.

Trustees Cassar, Clendening, McNeil, Pedroza and Simon attended the Farmer's Market at the San Elijo Campus, commemorating the market's one-year anniversary.

Trustees Clendening, McNeil, and Simon attended the Foundation's Scholarship Celebration.

Trustee Conklin received an orientation and tour of the San Elijo Campus, and she thanked all who helped with that. She noted that, while out in the community, she has connected with a number of individuals who expressed they are proud MiraCosta alumni.

Trustee Clendening attended several events celebrating Black History Month and represented the board of trustees at the foundation's quarterly board meeting at the TCI on February 27. She acknowledged the departure of Bea Palmer and retirement of Lois Templin from the college, and she thanked them for their contributions over many years.

Trustees Simon and McNeil attended a Foundation scholarship celebration. Trustee McNeil also attended the MiraCosta production of *Anything Goes*, several rugby games, and met via Zoom with a MiraCosta graduate, who recently graduated with a master's degree in engineering. The student credits MiraCosta for helping him achieve his academic goals.

Trustee Cassar reported he was part of a committee from a subset of the board that met and reviewed the trustee appointment process, and he reviewed the committee's findings:

- As is our tradition, a subset of the board met to review the recent appointment process and to look at what went well and where we have areas that we might like to change. The process had been created with legal and was compliant with the Brown Act. Voting procedures were reviewed prior to the interviews and those were followed and documented.
- There were minor modifications considered for increased transparency that were considered and may be implemented in a future appointment (if needed)
- While there has not been a tie in the appointment process to date, and our voting procedures have served us well, the group did want to discuss and recommend a tie breaker process should that be needed in the future. This will come to the board for a vote in a subsequent meeting.

B. Students

Student Trustee Kenneth Pilco reported a number of events have been taking place on campus. Many students and prospective students have been on campus, which has been exciting. He and ASG leaders are looking forward to attending a number of upcoming conferences, one of which takes place next week during spring break. ASG elections are approaching.

C. Classified Employees

Classified Senate (CS) President Omar Jimenez stepped back into the role of president. CS is reigniting the Caring Campus initiative by sending CS representatives to a learning institute along with several other CS staff members. Additionally, the election process will begin by April.

D. Faculty

Academic Senate (AS) President Leila Safaralian acknowledged Katrina Tamura, associate faculty member in the Noncredit ESL program, for receiving the 2023/24 Hayward Award, which recognizes exemplary community college faculty members who excel in teaching, engage in professional activities, and show a strong commitment to their students, their profession, and their college. Tamura will attend a Board of Governors event with Dean John Makevich, where she will be presented with the award.

A Highway 78 Math Competition was hosted by MiraCosta on Saturday, March 2. Palomar, MCC, CSUSM, and local high school students participated. A tenth grader from Great Oak High School won everything.

The AS theme in March is grants. Additionally, AS is working on faculty hiring, calendar research, scheduling, and AS bylaws. The calendar review taskforce is sharing three models with MiraCostans in two town hall meetings, with the goal of finding the model that will best serve our students.

Led by Zhenya Lindstrom, a summit to discuss course scheduling was held on February 29, with a second summit to follow on March 29.

Safaralian thanked Rick White, CSIT faculty, as well as the CSIT department, for their work on creating an AI degree to be offered by MiraCosta College.

E. Assistant Superintendents/Vice Presidents

1. Instructional Services

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Pescarmona reported fall and summer schedules will be released in mid-April, and registration for students begins in early May.

Enrollment is still up seven percent this spring in FTES, with great fill rates in late start classes.

MiraCosta College received two CA Apprenticeship grants. The first is a \$1.5M award for software developers, which implements an IT apprenticeship program for software developers, information security analysts, data analysts, IT help desk professionals and digital marketers. MiraCosta will partner with OpenClassrooms to place 150 apprentices in our region. The grant focuses on adult learners who have completed high school or high school equivalency. By leveraging local networks and MiraCosta College's marketing efforts, we will enhance our mission of serving the historically minoritized members of our community, including people of color, the unhoused, formerly incarcerated, recent immigrants, and those with disabilities. The second grant is a \$500,000 award to expand the apprenticeship work being done through our BioScience hub.

SDUHSD is excited to partner with MiraCosta College to host the 11th annual SDUHSD College and Career Night at our San Elijo Campus on Thursday, April 11.

Pescarmona encouraged all to check out the Theatre Department's production of *Anything Goes*, playing now.

Plans are underway for two scheduling summits to examine and improve how course scheduling aligns with student goals. Faculty and staff are actively participating. The college is committed to refining scheduling practices to serve its students better, and faculty and staff are actively engaged in making this happen. We are exploring how to do this better – working together with students, administration, and faculty.

2. Student Services

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Wojcik was away on district business and unable to attend the board meeting. Dean Nick Mortaloni reported the Encuentros Conference was held at the Oceanside Campus last week. Becoming a data scientist and construction management were sessions that had great interest.

BSU leaders will welcome student leadership from Oceanside and El Camino high schools tomorrow. Mortaloni thanked Omar Jimenez for facilitating this. A team of students will have the opportunity to tour HBCUs, which in the past has been a life changing experience.

3. Administrative Services

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Flood reported cyber security training sessions will take place next week at the Oceanside Campus, the Community Learning Center, and the San Elijo Campus. An electrical engineer report regarding last fall's power outages was completed, which investigated the causes of the outages, since the cables only lasted about half of their expected lifespan. Although nothing concrete was identified for the cause of the outages, recommendations were made around implementing testing practices that will allow us to monitor the health of the system.

Bike lanes will be installed near the San Elijo Campus along Manchester, and the sustainability club and advisory group are excited to be a part of that project.

4. Human Resources

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Ng submitted a written report. Merchat acknowledged Ng for including a Futures piece in his report and at the Human Resources retreat.

F. Superintendent/President

Superintendent/President Cooke thanked Chief IDEA Officer Dr. Wendy Stewart, who held the first signal-spotting workshop. Additional signal-spotting workshops will be held monthly going forward. Two internal Futures cohorts have recently started for our employees, and approximately three cohorts for community college colleagues are also expected to run through summer.

Cooke acknowledged MiraCosta student Gabriel Bartoli, who has received two Phi Theta Kappa awards, and she congratulated four students who have made it into the semi-final rounds for the Jack Kent Cooke awards.

Cooke noted there is substantial movement in the college with retirements and interim opportunities, and she thanked MiraCostans who are trying new things and also those who are making sure the gaps are covered.

Cooke will attend the statewide CEO meeting tomorrow through Sunday, as well as the last of the CAGP Institutes next week during spring break.

She thanked faculty, staff, and administrators for their work in support of students.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Rick Cassar
President

Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President