



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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 16, 2023
(Approved April 20, 2023)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Trustees of the MiraCosta Community College District met in open session on Thursday, March 16, 2023, in the Room 1131, at the San Elijo Campus. President Frank Merchat called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE / ROLL CALL

Board members present:

Rick Cassar	Frank Merchat
Raye Clendening	Anna Pedroza
William Fischer	Jackie Simon
George McNeil	Inayah Abdulmateen (Student Trustee)

Administrators present:

Superintendent/President Sunny Cooke
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Tim Flood
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Charlie Ng
Interim Dean Russell Walden
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Alketa Wojcik

III. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

A. Special Meeting/Closed Session of February 23, 2023

B. Workshop of February 23, 2023

C. Regular Business Meeting of February 23, 2023

By motion of Trustee Clendening, seconded by Trustee McNeil, the board approved the minutes of the special meeting/closed session, the workshop, and the regular business meeting of February 23, 2022.

Vote: 6/0/1

Aye: Cassar, Clendening, Fischer, McNeil, Merchat, Simon

Abstentions: Pedroza

Absent: None

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

Interim Dean Russell Walden provided a warm welcome to the board of trustees.

V. CHANGES IN AGENDA ORDER

None.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

A. Mental Health Trends and Resources

Dr. Nick Mortaloni, dean of Student Affairs, and Dr. Ghada Osman, mental health counselor, provided an overview of recent mental health statistics and trends, both nationally and at MiraCosta College, reviewed new staffing and supports provided by the Health Services mental health counseling team, and discussed future opportunities for improving student support, based on what students have indicated they need. The college's diverse mental health team speaks at least eight different languages, which helps to break down barriers and to create a natural bridge and connection to community resources.

Mental health counseling appointments have increased by 39 percent when comparing 2017 to 2022. Even with lower enrollment numbers at the college, the demand for mental health appointments, as well as the acuity of presenting challenges, have significantly increased. This is a need in our community that must be addressed and is directly linked to student success, completion, and persistence. There has also been a significant decrease in appointment cancelations and no-shows, in part because of the flexibility to meet in person, via Zoom, or by phone. Mortaloni reviewed the demographic trends, which indicate decreased barriers and improved access for historically marginalized student populations.

In response to the growing demand and acuity of mental health, the district has added significant resources to the Health Services mental health counseling team over the last five to six years, including two full-time faculty (licensed mental health counselors), part-time associate faculty (licensed mental health counselors), pre-licensed mental health counselors, mental health counseling graduate interns, group counseling and workshops, off-campus referral services, and free ADHD testing. The San Elijo Campus also recently renovated the Health Services space and now has two mental health counseling offices in its newly renovated space. When the new Student Services Building is completed on the Oceanside Campus, Health Services will be located on the first floor with much needed space, including a group counseling room and eight mental health counseling offices. These changes will assist with the increased need for individual, relationship, and group counseling services.

VII. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Ratify Recommendations of Superintendent/President in Approving Personnel Actions**
- B. Adopt Annual Resolutions Authorizing Designated Agents**
- C. Approve Curriculum Approvals for 2023/24 Catalog, Part III**
- D. Approve Instructional Material Fees List 2023/24**
- E. Notice of Completion – Bid #MM-22-003 SAN Miscellaneous Enhancements Project**
- F. Notice of Completion – Bid #MM-20-017 CLC Bldg 100 & 200 Renovation Project**
- G. Approve Increase to United States Postal Services Purchase**
- H. Ratify and Approve Contracts and Purchase Orders**

Consent items E and F were pulled for discussion.

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Clendening, consent items A-D and G-H were approved.

Vote: 7/0/0

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

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Clendening, consent items E and F were approved.

Vote: 7/0/0

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

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Public Hearing: 4 p.m. – Consider Approval of Energy Service Contract with Johnson Controls, Inc.

A public hearing was held.

B. Adopt Resolution 11-22/23: Authorizing Energy Conservation Services Agreement (Government Code §4217.12) and Approval of Energy Conservation Services Agreements with Johnson Controls, Inc

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Cassar, the board adopted Resolution Number 11-22/23 to authorize the energy conservation services agreement and approve the energy conservation services agreements with Johnson Controls, Inc.

Vote: 7/0/0

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

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

C. Approve Submission of 2023 California Community Colleges Trustee Board Election Ballot

By motion of Trustee Simon, seconded by Trustee Clendening, the board approved the submission of the 2023 California Community Colleges Trustee Board election ballot.

Vote: 7/0/0

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

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

D. Ratify MiraCosta Community College District Classified Employee Manual

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Simon, the board ratified the MiraCosta Community College District Classified Employee Manual.

Vote: 7/0/0

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

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

E. Adopt Resolution No. 9-22/23 to Provisionally Withdraw Membership in the San Diego County Risk Management Worker's Compensation Joint Powers Authority Prior to March 31, 2023

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Simon, the board adopted Resolution No. 9-22/23 to provisionally withdraw membership in the San Diego County Risk Management Worker's Compensation Joint Powers Authority as stated.

Vote: 7/0/0
Aye: Cassar, Clendening, Fischer, McNeil, Merchat, Pedroza, Simon
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

F. Adopt Resolution No. 10-22/23 to Provisionally Withdraw Membership in the San Diego County Property and Liability Joint Powers Authority Prior to March 31, 2023

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Simon, the board Adopt Resolution No. 10-22/23 to Provisionally Withdraw Membership in the San Diego County Property and Liability Joint Powers Authority Prior to March 31, 2023.

Vote: 7/0/0
Aye: Cassar, Clendening, Fischer, McNeil, Merchat, Pedroza, Simon
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

IX. PERIODIC REVIEW – BOARD POLICIES (Action Required)

A. Board Policy 2105 – Election of Student Trustee

Proposed edits to Board Policy 2105 – Election of Student Trustee were reviewed and discussed. By motion of Trustee Simon, seconded by Trustee Clendening, the board adopted Board Policy 2105.

Vote: 7/0/0
Aye: Cassar, Clendening, Fischer, McNeil, Merchat, Pedroza, Simon
Abstentions: None
Absent: None
Student Trustee: Aye (Advisory Vote)

X. COLLEGE-RELATED REPORTS

A. Trustees Activities

Trustees attended the groundbreaking of the new Media Arts Building on February 27.

Trustee McNeil attended the Black Nerds Expo, and he provided an overview of the GEAR UP program, which currently has cohorts from Oceanside and El Camino high schools. He provided a handout to trustees that showed the level of outreach involved, including to parents of GEAR UP students, and about upcoming activities and trips in order to achieve optimum outcomes in the program.

Trustees Simon and Clendening attended an event at the Oceanside Museum of Art, which was hosted by the North County African American Women’s Association in concert with the Oceanside Library that focused on Black women of the West. Trustee Clendening attended a meeting at CSUSM for enrolling African American students and also attended the Sister Soaring workshop that brought about 200 women and students together. She noted that Robby Hass was honored as the Woman of the Year. Trustee Clendening attended a Scorpion electric vehicle car event involving TCI students. She reported that former Trustee Henry Holloway passed away on Tuesday of Cancer,

Trustees Pedroza, Cassar, and Merchat attended the farmer’s market at the SEC. Trustee Cassar noted there were even more booths on the second week as compared to the first week, and community members attended in spite of the rain. Trustee Cassar attended the monthly SDICCCA meeting. Trustees Merchat attended the ACCJC meet and greet on Tuesday, and Trustees Merchat and Cassar participated in an online Futures meeting.

B. Students

Student Trustee Inayah Abdulmateen reported the ASG discussed legislative priorities to be voted on at General Assembly, and the legislative affairs workgroup will be traveling to Long Beach March 31-April 2. The outstanding faculty and staff awards nomination form is ready to go. Students are encouraged to submit nominations, and the awardees will be announced at commencement.

Community nights have been very successful. Students watched *Hidden Figures* as a collaboration with the film club for Women's History Month. A few ASG leaders attended the beach cleanup hosted by the Mana club and sustainability club. Many ASG executives attended the Women in Leadership roundtable event today hosted by the Social Justice and Equity Center. ASG contributed funding to Black Student Success week with a strong push and, through our advocacy efforts, additional funds were found to cover the shortfall.

C. Classified Employees

Classified Senate (CS) President Carl Banks reported professional development activities will be offered the first three days of spring break. Elections are in process, with the elections in mid-April. Preparations for the Celebration of Excellence are underway, where a number retirements will be acknowledged.

D. Faculty

In a written report read by Carl Banks, Academic Senate (AS) President Leila Safaralian noted AS elections are upcoming. MiraCosta is hosting an AB1705 summit tomorrow. She thanked math faculty Scott Fallstrom for putting this event together.

E. Vice Presidents

1. Instructional Services

Interim Dean Russell Walden reported the Farmers Markets at the San Elijo Campus have been well-received by the community and will continue each Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the next four months.

2. Student Services

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Wojcik gave kudos to the Student Trustee Abdulmateen for being the MC at the PTK induction ceremony last Friday. On April 5, a "30 Years of Title IV in Athletics" event will be held. The Counseling Department has completed 500 more educational plans than were completed by this same time last year and working hard to meet the student needs.

GEAR UP activities for students and their parents are being held, some specifically focusing on financial aid literacy, as well as professional development training for GEAR UP staff members and tutors.

The Student Services Division is updating values and will be finalized next month. They continue to address barriers, especially for those from historically marginalized populations.

3. Administrative Services

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Flood submitted a written report. He gave kudos to the entire facilities, maintenance, and custodial staff who have worked extra hard on issues stemming from the unprecedented rain storms this winter.

4. Human Resources

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Ng reported he and Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Flood attended Office Shock Futures International

Council, which gave access to information and resources for futures thinking and was a great opportunity for MiraCosta to be a part of.

Ng and the board trustees acknowledged Human Resources Supervisor Carolyn Sneary, who retired after 27 years of service to the district.

F. Superintendent/President

Superintendent/President Cooke shared that multiple MiraCosta students were selected as Jack Kent Cooke semi-finalists. She thanked Facilities and the Kitchell teams for all of their work due to issues in the Administration Building, and the weather-related incidents across campus.

Next week is spring break, and a classified appreciation breakfast is scheduled for Monday at the Oceanside Campus, and for Tuesday at the San Elijo Campus, the TCI, and the CLC.

Cooke reported a virtual meet and greet was held with the accreditation visiting team. A variety of evidence was requested by the team, which is now being accumulated by MiraCostans. The team will meet in person on March 30 to determine if the college meets the standards, and they will inform us of the results by the first week in April.

Superintendent/President Cooke shared *The Adams Family* is taking place in the MiraCosta Theatre, and she encouraged folks to attend. Tomorrow night, the Foundation is hosting a donor appreciation event, followed by an orchestral performance for them in the Concert Hall.

Wendy Stewart was selected by Congressman Mike Levin as constituent of the month.

XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Frank Merchat
President

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