



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

MINUTES OF REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

**APRIL 18, 2024
(Approved May 16, 2024)**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Trustees of the MiraCosta Community College District met in open session on Thursday, April 18, 2024, in Room 204, at the Community Learning Center. President Rick Cassar called the meeting to order at 4 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

Administrators present:

Superintendent/President Sunny Cooke
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Charlie Ng
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Denée Pescarmona
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Tim Flood
Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Alketa Wojcik

III. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

A. Special/Closed Meeting of March 14, 2024

B. Regular Business Meeting of March 14, 2024

By motion of Trustee Clendening, seconded by Trustee McNeil, the board approved the special/closed meeting minutes and the regular meeting minutes of March 14, 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

Dean John Makevich welcomed the board and guests to the CLC. He proudly represented the CLC campus and all the good work the CLC staff is doing. The Adult High School commencement is scheduled for May 23, and all are invited to attend the festivities.

V. CHANGES IN AGENDA ORDER

None.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

A. New Accreditation Standards

Former Board Trustee David Broad, as a public member for the ACCJC, an institutional accreditor and peer review process among 138 institutions, provided an overview of upcoming changes to accreditation standards.

Broad reviewed the principles guiding the new standards and the philosophical approach to the four accreditation standards, with more of an emphasis on student outcomes, and continuous transformation, moving beyond mere compliance. Broad emphasized leveraging data for equitable student success. The approach aims for a simplified, reflective process, encouraging institutional self-improvement.

B. Career Education Update: Focus on Child Development

Dean Al Taccone and Associate Dean Ben Gamboa, as well as Child Development faculty (Claudia Flores, Ashley Davis, Ansina Green, Rhonda Welch-Scalco) and Child Development Center Director Yi-Cheng Hu discussed program data, challenges, and opportunities in the field of early childhood education.

Despite wage data trends having been historically lower than desired within the childcare sector, there has been a notable shift with an upward trend in market wage rates. Notably, MAAC Head Start is now providing a starting wage of \$25 per hour to graduates holding a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, signifying an encouraging development.

CAP 8 courses are being aligned with state initiatives, labor needs in North San Diego County, the statewide curriculum alignment project, and child development permits. A strategic partnership with Child Care Providers United (CCPU) provides a tailored 12-unit pathway in Spanish, enriching accessibility and inclusivity.

Further enhancing educational pathways, MiraCosta offers a paid apprenticeship program for students who work in the MiraCosta Child Development Center, where approximately 100 children are served. This innovative program seamlessly integrates classroom learning with practical experience, fostering holistic development and professional growth.

A dual enrollment certificate is also available for OUSD high school students, so by the time they arrive at MiraCosta, these students are empowered to teach preschool while furthering their education. This ensures a seamless transition to higher education, with students equipped to contribute meaningfully to their field while pursuing further academic enrichment. While preparing future educators, the Child Development Program nurtures collaborations with renowned experts and nationally acclaimed authors in the field of early childhood education. Although OUSD is currently the focus of this opportunity, the college is exploring the expansion to other school districts served by the college.

Presenters shared a Racial Equity for Adult Credentials in Higher Education (REACH) document, which highlights the transfer opportunities and how the certificates work together, clarifies pathways, and tailors schedules that allow students to complete the pathways within a schedule that works for their lives. Many students need to work, so it is important to give better information, so students can make better decisions.

Testimonials from students Nicole Tirol and Guillermo Yamasaki underscored the transformative impact of the apprenticeship program. Their firsthand experiences attest to the program's efficacy in honing skills, fostering professional growth, and facilitating seamless transitions into gainful employment within their chosen field, serving as inspiring exemplars of MiraCosta's commitment to student success.

VII. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Ratify Recommendations of Superintendent/President in Approving Personnel Actions**
- B. Approve New Position, Job Description, and Salary for Grant Project Director**
- C. Approve Out-of-Country Travel Request – Maria Figueroa**
- D. Approve Out-of-Country Travel Request – Jeff Murico**
- E. Approve Reorganization of the Instructional Services Division**
- F. Approve FF&E IT Purchase of Dell Computers OCN Reno Building 1200 Library**
- G. Approve Renewal of Okta Identity and Access Management Security Software Licensing Subscription, Technical Support Services, and Maintenance**
- H. Approve Purchase of Palo Alto Network Firewall Security Equipment and Service**
- I. Approve Purchase for Network Switch Replacement/Upgrade Project**
- J. Approve Purchase of Dell Laptops for Students Provided by the Library**
- K. Approve Amendment One to Experis US, Ltd. Contract**
- L. Approve Agreement Renewal with CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP for Internal Audit Services**
- M. Adopt Resolution No. 14-23/24: to Declare the Futility of Public Bidding for Discounted Rideshare Services for the Remainder of the 2023/24 Fiscal Year**
- N. Ratify and Approve Contracts and Purchase Orders**

By motion of Trustee Merchat, seconded by Trustee Pedroza, consent items A-N were approved.

Vote: 7/0/0

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

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

VIII. ACTION

- A. Adopt Resolution No. 15-23/24: Adopt Sole Source Exception Findings Related to ChargePoint Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and Commercial Network Service Plan**

By motion of Trustee Merchat, seconded by Trustee Pedroza, the board adopted Resolution No. 15-23/24: Adopt Sole Source Exception Findings Related to ChargePoint Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and Commercial Network Service Plan.

Vote: 7/0/0

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

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

- B. Approve Contract of Employment for the Chief Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility Officer**

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Clendening, the board approved the Contract of Employment for the Chief Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility Officer.

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 5030 - Fees

By motion of Trustee McNeil, seconded by Trustee Merchat, the board adopted Board Policy 5030.

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

X. PERIODIC REVIEW – BOARD POLICIES (Action Required)

A. Board Policy 2015 – Student Trustee

B. Board Policy 4106 – Post-Baccalaureate Nursing Students

By motion of Trustee Merchat, seconded by Trustee McNeil, the board adopted Board Policies 2015 and 4106.

An advisory vote (aye) was provided by Student Trustee Kenneth Pilco.

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

XI. FIRST READING – BOARD POLICIES

A. Board Policy 4025 – Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degrees and General Education

B. Board Policy 4100 – Graduation Requirements for Degrees and Certificates

C. Board Policy 4225 – Course Repetition

D. Board Policy 7340 – Leaves

Board Policies 4025, 4100, 4225, and 7340 were reviewed and discussed and will be brought to the board for a second read and adoption at a future meeting.

XII. INFORMATION

A. ICBOC 2023 Annual Report

The ICBOC 2023 Annual Report was provided as information.

XIII. COLLEGE-RELATED REPORTS

A. Trustees Activities

Trustees Cassar, Conklin, Pedroza, and Simon attended the town hall on the San Elijo Campus organized by Senator Blakespear about fentanyl awareness.

Trustees Clendening, Conklin, and McNeil attended Oceanside's 'Meet the City' event organized by the Chamber of Commerce. Trustees Conklin and Clendening were present at the 'Incarceration to Inspiration' event at the Brooks Theater, demonstrating their support for transformative community initiatives.

Trustee Conklin is eagerly learning about the many programs and individuals at MiraCosta. She attended the Trans Day of Visibility and the True Care Gala, where MiraCosta College was honored for its contributions.

Trustee Clendening participated in the CSUSM community-based African American Group's efforts to ensure students experience a welcoming transition to university life. Clendening, along with Trustees Conklin and McNeil, enjoyed Oceanside's 'Meet the City' event organized by the Chamber of Commerce. Clendening also participated in a VIP ribbon-cutting ceremony for a senior citizen facility in Oceanside, which could offer potential internship opportunities to our students.

Trustee Merchat took a moment to celebrate the special recognition of Trustee Clendening, who was recently inducted into the San Diego Women's Hall of Fame.

Trustee Simon attended the Foundation's Annual Donor Scholarship event and enjoyed the spirited performance of 'Anything Goes' by the Theater Department. She and Trustee Cassar attended the 'State of Encinitas City' address.

Trustees Cassar and McNeil supported our Athletics teams at a rugby match and sand volleyball game. Trustee McNeil expressed appreciation for the way in which all of the sports teams support each other.

Trustee Cassar contributed to the Cardiff School's Strategic Plan. He also recognized Student Trustee Kenneth Pilco and four other students who were named recipients for the MiraCosta Medal of Academic Merit, the highest academic award at the college.

Trustees Merchat and Pedroza continue enjoying their weekly trips to the farmers market held on the San Elijo Campus each Saturday.

B. Students

Student Trustee Kenneth Pilco reported on the ASG leaders' advocacy efforts. ASG elections and planning for finals week programming are also underway.

C. Classified Employees

Classified Senate (CS) President Omar Jimenez reported the election process is complete. Jimenez is set to continue his leadership in the second term. Marlesha Keys will serve as Treasurer, and new senators include Ingrid Phillips, Shannon Tuise'e, Kaarina Taylor, and Kimberly Holmes. Jimenez welcomed their enthusiasm and diverse insights as they take on their responsibilities.

The MiraCosta Classified Senate selected Cindy Arce as the recipient of the Spring 2024 MiraCosta Classified Senate Employee Scholarship. This scholarship recognizes Arce's dedication, hard work, and underscores her significant contributions to our college community.

D. Faculty

Academic Senate (AS) President Leila Safaralian reported this month's AS theme is C3 Teaching and Learning Center, as part of their ongoing commitment to enhance the education experience.

The Academic Senate has completed faculty committee and office assignments, and they are looking forward to hosting a special celebration on May 17 to honor the outgoing and incoming Senators and acknowledge the valued contributions of retiring colleagues.

E. Assistant Superintendents/Vice Presidents

1. Instructional Services

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Pescarmona submitted a written report. She thanked the board for asking hard questions that help us improve our programs and student outcomes. Pescarmona also shared the exciting news that Edwina Williams, a part-time faculty member at MiraCosta College, was awarded the prestigious 2024 Regina Stanback Stroud Diversity Award. This award, sponsored by the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, honors her significant contributions to promoting intercultural harmony, equity, and diversity at our institution.

2. Student Services

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Wojcik shared a number of the year-end celebrations, and she encouraged trustees to participate. As of May 6, students will be busy registering for summer and fall. Financial aid packages have been delayed and, in some cases, include errors, which has made the process more challenging for students and the Financial Aid Office.

MiraCosta College, in collaboration with Oceanside Unified School District, is applying for the GEAR UP Grant—a highly competitive funding opportunity that could bring nearly \$12 million to support our educational initiatives.

Wojcik congratulated the Health Services team who organized a successful Health and Wellness Festival on the Oceanside Campus with 25 community partners in attendance. The event was well-attended by students.

MiraCosta, for the second consecutive year, partnered with the San Dieguito School District to host a Career and College Fair, which continues to strengthen our commitment to community and educational outreach. The event was well-attended by high school students, as well as many colleges and universities.

3. Administrative Services

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Flood thanked the volunteer members of the Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee (ICBOC) for their unwavering dedication. Their efforts are instrumental in upholding MiraCosta College's commitment to excellence in our programs.

Flood shared that Tom Macias will be celebrated as a distinguished honoree by the Construction Managers Association of America (CMAA). This recognition is a testament to his invaluable support of our construction efforts and bond initiatives.

Additionally, Flood congratulated Deputy Jessica Taft, who was named Property Officer of the Year for San Diego County by the California Association for Property and Evidence (CAPE).

4. Human Resources

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Ng thanked the HR department and the faculty who have worked on hiring committees.

Ng reminded all about the upcoming Spring Celebration of Excellence on April 26, where MiraCostans will be honored for their years of service and outstanding achievements.

F. Superintendent/President

Superintendent/President Cooke thanked all faculty and staff involved in the many events across the campuses. She reminded everyone about the upcoming Athletic Alumni Night on Saturday, April 20, an event dedicated to celebrating MiraCosta's ninety years of athletic excellence.

She acknowledged the Office of Advancement team for their recent accolades from the California Community Public Relations Organization (CCPRO) awards for the "Transforming Lives" campaign, the Arts and Events brochure, their "Ghost Ship" feature, and a "Manipulated photo - Dancing at Dusk." These honors reflect the innovative and impactful work the college's advancement professionals produced.

Dr. Cooke attended a three-day AI Revolution Expo in San Diego where she represented AACC in conversations about the future, innovation, and thoughts for solving problems. A wealth of sessions were offered around cutting-edge developments in artificial intelligence. She noted the importance of being mindful that equity gaps may decrease, rather than increase, as a result of AI advancements. She also attended the Arizona State GSV Summit, a substantial 15-year initiative that has garnered the participation of approximately 7,500 individuals from higher education, the private sector, and technology fields.

XIV. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Rick Cassar
President

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