

MINUTES OF THE INFORMATION SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB

An open information session of the Board of Trustees of the Community College District of the County of Macomb was held Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in Room K315 of the John Lewis Student Community Center, South Campus, 14500 Twelve Mile Road, Warren, Michigan, pursuant to notice.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kelly at 6:35 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present:

James F. Kelly, Chairperson
Connie Bolanowski, Secretary
Roseanne DiMaria, Treasurer
Frank Cusumano, Trustee
Joseph DeSantis, Trustee
Nancy Falcone, Trustee

Absent:

Christine Bonkowski, Vice Chairperson (excused)

Also present:

James Jacobs, President
Elizabeth Argiri, Vice President, Business
Jill M. Little, Vice President, Student Services
Patricia Martz, Secretary to the President
Gerri Lynn Pavone, Executive Director,
Research and Planning
James Sawyer, Provost/Senior Vice President, Learning Unit
Casandra Ulbrich, Vice President, College Advancement
and Community Relations
Hunter L. Wendt, General Counsel/Executive
Director, College Police
Denise Williams, Vice President, Human Resources
Anita Banach, Director, Personnel Services

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Falcone, supported by DiMaria, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried.

4.0 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

5.0 REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS AND MATERIAL

None

6.0 ISSUES AND UPDATES

Dr. Jacobs discussed the Digital Promise national conference which was hosted by Utica Community Schools at the Lorenzo Cultural Center in October. He also shared information on a national survey conducted by the College Board concerning community college trends, including tuition, student aid and enrollment and compared Macomb's cost to attend with the other national averages. He also informed the Trustees about a donation received from the Estate of Andrew Lonyo in the amount of \$375,000, the largest donation the college has ever received from one individual. Dr. Jacobs stated that Mr. Lonyo was a great professor at Macomb and very dedicated to the college, having donated generously in the past as well. He also noted that regarding the purchase authorizations under agenda item 11.3, there are two purchases, a fire rescue vehicle and a HAAS Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machine, which are being purchased through federal Perkins Act funds.

6.1 Capital Outlay Plan

Ms. Argiri stated that the capital outlay plan which was submitted to the state on November 1st is posted on the college website. This is a very substantive and comprehensive document which contains not only information on the college programs, but also includes specific information about the college's capital outlay submission. She further explained that since South Campus C building is the college's top priority and the college received planning authorization from the State of Michigan for that, we must continue to include that as the college's number one capital outlay request. Dr. Jacobs encouraged the Board to review this comprehensive document and if they have any questions, they can be discussed at the next board meeting.

6.2 Baccalaureate Degrees

Trustee Cusumano referred to an email he sent to the Trustees on his research regarding BA programs and the role of the community and future jobs. He commented that there will be a significant amount of jobs opening up in the applied science areas and also that 50% of the jobs are still in manufacturing in Michigan. He stated that the baccalaureate degree issue comes down to the role of the community college, and it is his position that the focus should be on these manufacturing jobs. He further stated that he does not see a need for the college to offer baccalaureate degrees.

6.3 Commencement Caps and Gowns

There was a discussion regarding the Memorandum to the Board concerning commencement caps and gowns. At the conclusion of that discussion, Trustee Cusumano requested that the Board and administration consider having the college pay the expense of the commencement caps and gowns for students for one year to determine the fiscal impact before taking a formal vote on his proposal.

6.4 Posting of Board Materials

In response to the issue of posting board material, Trustee Cusumano stated that the public must go to the Library to access board materials, while collective bargaining unit presidents are provided with a board packet containing that information. He stated that this is an issue of transparency and does not believe it is appropriate to make board material available to some and not to others.

6.5 Winter Commencement

Dr. Jacobs informed the Trustees that the winter commencement will take place on Saturday, December 14th. He stated that the question has been raised about whether to continue holding the winter graduation commencement on Saturday. He reminded them that the December winter commencement used to be held on Friday evening and was changed to Saturday in 2009 as a result of a significant snowfall on the Friday that commencement was to be held that year. He asked the Trustees for their thoughts and they were in agreement to make themselves available on either day. Trustee Cusumano requested data on how long it takes the average Macomb student to obtain their associate's degree. He referred to conversations he had with students who indicated that it took them five to six years. Dr. Jacobs stated that the majority of students attend college part-time while working. He further added that there are national studies being conducted on increasing scholarships and federal aid to students so they can attend college full-time in order to obtain their degree in a shorter period of time.

7.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Falcone, supported by Bolanowski, to move into executive session.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Cusumano inquired about the reason for going into executive session. Mr. Wendt replied that it is for purposes of discussing collective bargaining.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Falcone, Bolanowski, Cusumano, DiMaria, Kelly

Nays: DeSantis

Absent: Bonkowski

Motion carried.

RECESS

The meeting recessed at 7:04 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 7:13 p.m.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Falcone, supported by DiMaria, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Secretary