

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD PLANNING MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB

A Special Board Planning Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Community College District of the County of Macomb was held Tuesday, July 15, 2014 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 7:03 p.m. Trustee Bonkowski was appointed Acting Secretary.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present: James F. Kelly, Chairperson
Christine Bonkowski, Vice Chairperson
Roseanne DiMaria, Treasurer
Frank Cusumano, Trustee
Joseph DeSantis, Trustee

Absent: Connie Bolanowski, Secretary (excused)
Nancy Falcone, Trustee (excused)

Also present: James Jacobs, President
Elizabeth Argiri, Vice President for 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
Denise L. Williams, Vice President, Human Resources

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried.

4.0 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

5.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING

Dr. Jacobs distributed a copy of the Guiding Principles which the college adopted in 2005, stating that the planning process will involve minor modifications to the mission statement, vision, and core values, as well as developing institutional priorities and a strategic plan. He informed the Trustees that President's Council has had ongoing meetings to discuss planning, with Ms. Pavone leading this effort, and he will be sharing information with them this evening for their input. Input on these proposed modifications will also be sought on these proposed modifications from all levels of the organization. Trustee Kelly inquired if administration will be seeking input from external stakeholders as well. Dr. Jacobs responded that part of the preparation for the upcoming Higher Learning Commission visit is to bring together external stakeholders, people in the community, to listen to their needs. Ms. Pavone noted that this is only the first step in creating a strategic plan so this phase will not be shared externally. However, the planning process will be ongoing through June 2015 and more people will be involved in the planning phase. Ms. Pavone further noted that the Higher Learning Commission places importance on engaging people at all levels of the organization in discussions so that they understand how the institutional priorities tie into their day-to-day tasks. Trustee Kelly suggested revisiting the mission and vision after the planning process has been completed.

Dr. Jacobs referred to the core values and stated that the category of leadership was modified to add a dimension of encouraging an environment of transparency and accountability and establishing collaborative purpose and direction. In addition, another area being emphasized is diversity, which has been added as a category under core values.

Dr. Jacobs stated that as part of the strategic planning, the college will (1) continue striving toward improving student success, (2) forge partnerships and assess changes in the community to more effectively respond to its needs, (3) continue to press for efficiency and effectiveness in the institution, encouraging data-driven decision making, and (4) continue to expand grant and foundation activities. Trustee Kelly referred to the statement of data-driven decision making and requested that the Board be provided with some of the data that is compiled in order for the Board to see the measure of effectiveness. Trustee Cusumano also stated that he would like to be provided with more data, in particular, on the completion rate of students through possibly an annual report. Dr. Jacobs stated that under student success strategies, we will be emphasizing retention and degree completion. He also noted that while Macomb does well on degree completion compared to other institutions, a large number of Macomb students do not complete degrees – their intended goal is to transfer. That is measured on a regular basis and steps are taken to provide students with appropriate information on developing clear pathways and preparing them for transfer.

Dr. Jacobs continued to review the strategic plans under efficiency and effectiveness, including utilization of increased efficiencies of internal operations under the new contracts, focusing on talent management and retention of staff, and utilizing the renovation process to preserve infrastructure and energy cost savings. He then reviewed the partnership strategies, including an emphasis on community development and developing a Center for Entrepreneurship. In regard to the operational activities, the 60th anniversary of the college in September will be used to highlight the college's role in the community, the college will continue preparing for a successful HLC reaccreditation in 2016-2017, and a framework will be developed for the 2020 operating millage renewal.

Trustee Cusumano inquired as to whether the college does any vocational education with high schools. Dr. Sawyer responded that under The Early College this year, the college launched the design academy with a focus on product development and there are plans to expand other career and technical education (CTE) programs. In addition, the college has a dual enrollment program where students from various high schools attend and take CTE courses. Dr. Jacobs added that Governor Snyder signed legislation to encourage career and technical education apprenticeship programs starting at the high school level, and there is a bill before the legislature that would provide funds for community colleges to develop apprenticeship linkages. He noted that career opportunities for high school students is an area that has great potential.

Dr. Jacobs concluded by expressing his appreciation to the Board for their support and thanked them for their input.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Acting Secretary