

APPROVED MINUTES OF 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 Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., in K307 of the John Lewis Student Community Center, South Campus, 14500 Twelve Mile Road, Warren, Michigan.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Haase at 6:40 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present: Jennifer Haase, Chair
Frank Cusumano, Vice Chair
Katherine Lorenzo, Secretary
Roseanne DiMaria, Treasurer
Kristi Dean, Trustee
Joseph DeSantis, Trustee
Vincent Viviano, Trustee

Also present: James Jacobs, President
Elizabeth Argiri, Vice President, Business
Sharon Kowal, Executive Administrative Assistant to the President
Jill Thomas-Little, Vice President, Student Services
Gerri Lynn Pavone, Executive Director, Research and Planning
James Sawyer, Provost/Senior Vice President, Learning Unit
Casandra Ulbrich, Vice President, College Advancement & Community Relations
Hunter L. Wendt, General Counsel/Executive Director, College Police
Denise Williams, Vice President, Human Resources

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried.

4.0 AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

5.0 REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS AND MATERIAL

Dr. Jacobs stated that in regards to the article in *The Macomb Daily*, the captain of the women's basketball team was arrested by Warren police on January 3. During the arrest she was injured and is unable to play basketball for the remainder of the season. Ms. Thomas-Little said Macomb's Athletic Director has been working with the student in applying to the NJCAA to appeal for another season of eligibility.

5.0 REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS AND MATERIAL (continued)

Trustee Cusumano asked about any violation in the athletic code of conduct. Ms. Thomas-Little said within the athletic code there is a regulation regarding the use of drugs and alcohol, which she did admit to, and was suspended for two games. Since she is injured she has already served her suspension.

Dr. Jacobs stated that the College is not involved in any way with the legal situation but will continue to monitor the situation.

Trustee Lorenzo stated that since there are two new Board members she would like the second reading of the naming policy to be moved to the February meeting to give them an opportunity to review the changes to the policy. Trustee Haase asked if the policy was a time sensitive matter. Dr. Ulbrich said there should not be any impact at this point.

Mr. Wendt gave an overview of the major changes; the change in the formula for an installment gift in terms of the percentage down, as well as, whether or not the College erects/places the name now or when the gift is complete. Historical information about the policy will be provided to Trustees Lorenzo and Dean before the next Board meeting in order to give them an opportunity to learn the background of the policy.

Dr. Jacobs distributed the letter from the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce (DRCC) in response to his correspondence regarding the Detroit Promise program. He explained in detail the Board's decision at the December 20, 2016 information session granting the DRCC a one-time exemption of paying their tuition bill past the due date giving them until mid-February to pay the debt.

The letter from the president of the DRCC reassures that the payment will be made by mid-February. Dr. Jacobs says the letter reveals that the money the DRCC uses to pay the tuition for the Detroit Promise students comes from the Michigan Education Excellence Foundation (MEEF), a foundation that gives money to many K-12 education efforts. Dr. Jacobs sent correspondence to the CEO of the MEEF, Peter Remington, who is based in Lansing requesting a meeting to discuss future payments and the reasons they need to be paid in a timely manner.

There was discussion about due dates, student payments, financial aid payments and the administrative process. This is a third-party pay so the due date for payment is later in the semester. Dr. Jacobs stated that what is important is the College has their attention. He added that if DRCC doesn't make the payment by February 15, the issue will be brought back to the Board for further discussion. Trustee Viviano stated they only get this extra time once. Trustee Haase added that the Board made it clear that this wasn't going to happen again and that the decision was made because of the 70 students already part of the Detroit Promise program. Those students will not be deregistered due to non-payment by the DRCC because they are not to blame.

Trustee Cusumano asked what the discussion with Mr. Remington would involve. Dr. Jacobs stated that Administration would detail the payment process used by the College and how payment is expected from DRCC. Dr. Jacobs stated he would let them know when the meeting with Mr. Remington will be, if they are interested in attending. At this time, with the Board's decision, the students were not deregistered and they are not aware the payment has not been made.

6.0 ISSUE AND UPDATES

Dr. Jacobs reported that the College was contacted by the County requesting use of the college-owned property on the northwest corner of 15 Mile and Hayes Road to be utilized as a staging area for the equipment needed during repair to the sewer break/sinkhole in that area. General Counsel is working on contracts with several entities. Mr. Wendt stated that the College has secured insurance, at the cost of the contractor, an indemnification of the College for their use of the property, but there has not been discussion, in great detail, in terms of the rest of the agreement. The Board will be kept advised of the situation.

Discussion followed at the prompting of Trustee DeSantis regarding the past sewer breaks and if fees were paid by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Board. Mr. Wendt said this will be the third time there has been staging at this location and fees were paid each time. Trustee DeSantis is concerned that the College does not give this utilization away. Mr. Wendt said the Board has been supportive about entering into an agreement; the agreement includes the College receiving a certain amount of money also indemnification and insurance and a restoration of the land to its previous condition. Also, because of the extensive nature of this repair it may be necessary to include environmental surveys. Trustee DeSantis stated he was glad they had this discussion and to learn the College was covered.

Trustee DeSantis inquired about the solar energy facility that is also on College property. Mr. Wendt stated that he believes it powers some of the monitoring equipment. Discussion continued on the location of the solar panel and how it affects the property value and its location in an easement impedes the ingress and egress. Mr. Wendt said the solar panel is owned by Clinton Township and he was not made aware that it would be installed on College property. He continued that if the Board wants to discuss relocating the panel with Clinton Township after the sewer project is complete he will make arrangements for a meeting.

Dr. Jacobs stated there on January 15 there was a healthcare rally on South Campus sponsored by the Michigan Democratic Party. The speakers included Senator Sanders, Schumer, Stabenow, Peters and a number of people from the Michigan House of Representatives. There were 6,000-7,000 people on campus. All costs of the rally were paid for by the Democratic Party. This event did fall within the College's concept of availing space for community events.

Dr. Jacobs reminded the Board that the February 15th meeting will be held at East Campus. Two simulation demonstrations, of recently purchased equipment for use in the Police Academy, will be shown starting at 5 p.m. The information session and regular meetings will immediately follow.

6.1 Schedule Michael Hansen visit, President, MCCA

Dr. Jacobs said the College belongs to the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) which is an organization that represents all of the community colleges in Michigan. The president, Mike Hansen, asked if he could attend one of the Board meetings in order for him to discuss the role of MCCA. The Board agreed to have Mr. Hansen attend a meeting in April/May.

6.2 Winter Semester Enrollment

Dr. Jacobs said the winter semester has begun and credit hours are down 2.7 percent as compared to last winter semester. Once again students are taking fewer credit hours which is typical in the winter semester. In comparison:

Oakland Community College	-10.3% in credit hours	-9.9% in enrollment
Lansing Community College	-12.3% in credit hours	-13% in enrollment
Henry Ford College	-.87% in credit hours	-1.9% in enrollment
Grand Rapids Community College	-4.9% in credit hours	-4.5% in enrollment

Macomb is in a decline, but it is less than almost all the other colleges, and thus, Macomb remains the largest community college in Michigan. Macomb has enrollment, at this point, of 20,300 while Oakland Community College has 18,044 students. In terms of size, the population of Oakland is 1.2 million and Macomb is 840,000, so Macomb is one-third less in size as a county but has a 12% greater enrollment.

Trustee Dean asked what the factors are. Dr. Jacobs said the decline is due to a substantial number of students aged 24+ years enrolling less than what was anticipated. Also as the economy expands adults go to work and do not return to school. Dr. Jacobs stated that there are a couple of factors resulting in less of a decline here than other colleges; Macomb has a much more substantial enrollment practice and retention policies and have almost 700 high school students involved in the Early College program. Macomb has a substantial marketing campaign. In fact, this week the College started marketing towards students at other colleges/universities to take summer classes at Macomb. He encouraged going on YouTube and viewing many of Macomb's videos. Everyone needs to pay attention to the College's effort to market the institution - to make sure the institution is seen as a place where people want to go. Trustee Dean has a marketing idea and would like to share it with Administration; an appointment will be scheduled for discussion.

6.3 Emerging Financial Issues

Dr. Jacobs said that Administration will be coming to the Board very soon about some issues around the College's financial situation. As known, enrollment is important because more and more tuition is paying the revenue of this institution. The reason for that is both the amount of money received from property taxes has declined and the amount of money received from state aid is very much uncertain. The College will not know the state appropriations until April or May. Macomb's budget is based upon an assumption that on July 1, 2017 a balanced budget has to be submitted - but there is uncertainty where the revenue will come from. There are three issues that will be discussed in the next couple months; tuition, property taxes and state aid.

Dr. Jacobs also addressed the comments attributed to Warren Mayor Jim Fouts. During discussion of this issue, Trustee Cusumano suggested the Board put forth a generalized statement regarding the College's commitment to diversity and inclusivity and Chairperson Haase agreed. Mr. Wendt advised that the Board could, of course, make such a statement. Ms. Pavone indicated that such a statement would be in keeping with Macomb's Guiding Principles. Dr. Jacobs offered to compose a short two or three paragraph resolution in line with what Trustee Cusumano and Mr. Wendt said, which he will send to the Board before the February meeting and they can decide if it should be added to the agenda.

7.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by DiMaria, supported by Dean to move into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining and attorney/client regarding a contract.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: DiMaria, Dean, Cusumano, DeSantis, Lorenzo, Viviano, Haase

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

RECESS

The meeting recessed at 7:40 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

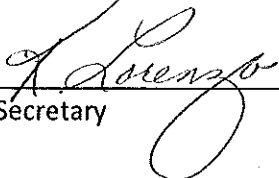
8.0 ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB BOARD OF TRUSTEES


Secretary