

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 4
SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE
Tuesday, March 14, 2023
4:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Megan Scott O'Bryan – Chair
Ms. Mariko Doerner – Vice Chair
Ms. Kathryn Bennett
Mr. Ozell Jackson III
Ms. Flora Perez-Lucatero
Dr. Christopher Villa, President & Executive Secretary to the Board

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

II. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

The Chair, Megan Scott O'Bryan, recognized that a quorum of Board members was present.

III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

No guests.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Board Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2023
2. Skagit/Islands Head Start Report

It was moved by Ozell Jackson and seconded by Kathryn Bennett to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. COLLEGE REPORTS

1. ASSVC – No report

2. SVCFT – Kip Zwolenski

Kip reported that the AFT Lobby Day was February 20, 2023. He also reported on the Dual Credit house bills – SB5048, College in the High School and HB1316, Running Start. He expressed his support for the faculty that were being awarded tenure at the meeting and support for the BAS in Early Childhood Education.

3. WPEA – Lance Levenson

Lance shared his concerns on employee retention and how WPEA members have seen their purchasing power decrease by 34% (34% is the amount of inflation over the amount of COLAs members received) since 2002. Lance said if we hope to retain employees we need to increase their pay.

4. President – Christopher Villa

On February 21st, Dr. Villa had the opportunity to visit with the Burlington Soroptimist Club and learn about the work they are doing to support women to gain the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. Thanks go to Anne Clark and Brad Tuininga for arranging his visit and the opportunity to meet with Sue Krienen. Discussed the possibility of organizing a young women's conference at SVC in the near future that will have a focus on CTE and STEM.

On February 21st, Dr. Villa had the opportunity to participate in a Skagit Regional Public Facilities District (PFD) board meeting to learn more about its association with McIntyre Hall and SVC. Thanks go to Darcy Wells, PFD Board Chair, and Mark Estvold, PFD Executive Project Director, for inviting him and expressing their strong interest in collaborating with SVC in the near future.

On February 22nd, SVC had the privilege to host a special event honoring three Skagit Valley College legends, Gary Knutzen, Steve Epperson, and Dave Quall. Thanks to Mitch Freeman and Nancy Anderson for organizing the event.

On February 27th, Dr. Villa attended an induction ceremony honoring SVC's Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) students and incoming inductees and officers. In addition, Dr. Villa has been selected along with 27 other new community college presidents (among 406 new community college presidents) in the country to receive the *Paragon Award*, an award in which PTK recognizes new presidents for their focus on student success and supporting high-achieving students to become student leaders. Dr. Villa will be attending the National PTK Annual Convention in Columbus, OH on April 22 to receive the award on behalf of SVC.

On February 28th, Dr. Villa had the opportunity, along with Claire Peinado and Mitch Freeman, to meet with athletic student leaders to discuss student leadership within their teams and in the community. Dr. Villa will be following up to meet one-to-one with each of these student athletes in the near future.

Dr. Villa met with the faculty evaluation team from the American Culinary Foundation (ACF) on March 1st during their review of the SVC Culinary Arts Program. SVC's Culinary Arts faculty and students served a wonderful three course meal for the evaluation team and SVC leadership members.

On March 8th, the last of three President's Receptions was held at the SVC San Juan Center on San Juan Island. A positive reception in which approximately 45 community members participated. Many thanks go to everybody who has been so supportive of Dr. Villa's presidency this year.

On February 23-24th, Dr. Villa attended a WACTC President's Meeting in Lacey, WA and learned that the Washington state revenue forecast is scheduled to occur on March 20th, and the state legislature will reveal their budget in March. Workforce education continues to be prioritized by state Legislators among the four SBCTC priorities.

Local Legislators are holding Town Halls to hear the community's thoughts on important legislative issues and to share their work this session. The Town Halls are free and open to the public, everyone was encouraged to attend.

5. Vice President's Report

Anne Clark, Vice President College Advancement & International Program

The Foundation has been notified of a \$100,000 bequest from the estate of Nancy Chapman to benefit Champions of Diversity scholarships. Brad Tuininga, Executive Director, is meeting with Nancy's daughter on March 7th to discuss how to honor Nancy's legacy.

College Advancement has hired a Communications and Social Media Manager, Sofie Thulen, they will begin March 16.

Video campaign for Manufacturing Technology for spring, summer, and fall enrollment.

<https://youtu.be/QT1p1fiv6g>. Marketing also had 30 media mentions in the last month.

International currently has 22 applications for Spring Quarter from China, Philippines, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan, Japan, South Korea, Bangladesh, Sierra Leone, Libya, Kenya, Vietnam, Ethiopia, Gambia, and Burkina Faso.

Ed Jaramillo - Vice President of Administrative Services and Institutional Planning and Effectiveness

SVC has been asked to participate in a state workgroup to investigate and recommend to SBCTC the possibilities to create centralized business services across different regions of the State. VP of Admin Services will represent SVC.

SVC hired a permanent bilingual IT help desk person this will give us new capabilities to serve our diverse populations.

We have received two budget data calls from the legislature (through SBCTC):

SB 5557 for compensation for part-time faculty.

SB 5327 pay for projected tuition increase is expected to be 2.4% based on current inflation factors.

Claire Peinado – Vice President for Student Services

Josh Steinagel is moving from his current role to serve in the SVC HR department (an area in which he's currently earning a Bachelor's degree). Josh has made considerable contributions in dual credit.

The IREPO staff is getting ready for our biggest months in Running Start as students complete applications and complete intake. The team is in the process of scheduling our Running Start Intake Series at local high schools, and this year we will be offering the RS Intake Series on both the MVC and WIC campuses as well. We have events scheduled with BEHS, MVHS, Concrete HS, Sedro Woolley HS, Oak Harbor HS, and Anacortes HS. We also have info sessions available by zoom. Running Start numbers continue to be positive, and are excited to kick off the new Intake Redesign.

The team has been busy! To date, SVC has processed 712 course registrations for College in the High School compared to approximately 500 last year.

Staff are providing workshops in the high school to support students in gaining confidence in working through the steps to register, including activating their ctLink accounts and registering for classes.

Megan Lloyd is working with Lynnette Bennett to redesign CTE Dual Credit articulation processes, and working in partnership with ESD 189 and SVC's Computer Science department chair Catherine Wyman, with the goal of working with several area school districts to create a Computer Science pathway from high school CTE departments into our CS programs.

This year, the college acquired six new articulations at Anacortes HS, Mount Vernon HS, and South Whidbey HS.

The IREPO Dual Credit Navigators have established office hours at several of our feeder schools, and created on-campus office hours at both MVC and WIC for current Running Start students who need help.

TRIO is in transfer guidance mode for spring, as transfer essays and applications are due within the next few weeks. We had a series of application, scholarship, and essay writing workshops that were well-attended, and we will be doing a long weekend at Central Washington University and WSU Pullman at the beginning of April to visit admissions offices at both campuses. TRIO is a part of the Transfer Fair on April 20th, in Angst Hall, and Jocie is working on setting up one at the WIC campus as well.

Revamping tutor training is on Jocie Slepyan's list as the 1050 legislation will require more student tutors in future. Becoming a tutor is an awesome professional development opportunity for students, and TRIO has a unique opportunity to help these students grow as academic mentors and guides. Jocie and Beth will work on a College Success Skills course specifically for tutors as they guide students in time management and stress navigation with students that they are tutoring in a specific discipline. Jocie will also connect with department chairs to see if tutors can join academic department meetings and build closer relationships with the faculty in their tutoring discipline.

The TRIO Department of Education Annual Performance Report is due March 31st and Nicole and Jocie are working on the report.

Women's Basketball - Coach Castle and the WBB program are 17-11 on the season and in a 3rd place finish NWAC North Region. Coach Castle honored 2 sophomores this past Wednesday- Liv Tjoelker and Kailyn Allison.

They are guaranteed to advance the NWAC Basketball Championships next week in Pasco, Washington at Columbia Basin CC. WBB will play on *Wednesday March 8th at 12:00 PM* vs a TBD opponent.

WBB SEND OFF- we will join together as a college community to congratulate the WBB team and wish them good luck as they compete for an NWAC Championship! The sendoff will occur Tuesday March 7th at 9:15am in the Cardinal Center.

Coach Carl Howell and the MBB finished the season at 17-12. Coach Howell's team has battled a number of uncontrollable situations, but have found a way to continue competing each game. Coach honored 6 sophomores Wednesday Night including Omari Maulana, Hodges Flemming, Latrell Jones, Raito Hitotsuyanagi, Jarron Quarles, and Josiah Miller.

We have created several opportunities for programs to raise financial support for their programs that include: Utilizing the E-Team fundraiser platform- students reach out to family members, supporters and alumni and ask for donations. E-Team has helped SVC programs raise funds that range from \$5,000 to nearly \$20,000 that go DIRECTLY to their program. Also, teams are able to volunteer at the concession stand at home games to earn money for their program. Currently we have raised over \$197,000 (Gross)

SVC Legends Night occurred Wednesday February 22nd. We honored 3 exceptional SVC Athletic staff members: Allene Quall (for Dave Quall), Gary Knutzen, and Steve Epperson. These 3 men had a tremendous impact on the valley, SVC, and SVC Athletics. We had over 80 friends, family and other guests join us in the Gary Knutzen Center prior to the start of the Men's Basketball game. At halftime, we were able to recognize them in front of 300+ spectators!

SVC Athletics is in partnership with the Skagit Valley Pickleball Club in putting together three tournaments per year. The next tournament will be held on April 27-30 called the Tulip Tussle. Registration for this Tournament opened up today, Wednesday February 1st and we already have 150 registered players.

We are planning to have a beer garden and a variety of food trucks available for spectators and players. We expect to have upwards of 600+ participants and hundreds of spectators come to our campus.

Kenneth Lawson, VP of Instruction

The SVC Biology Department was awarded the CURES grant to develop a Biology major lab series that incorporates undergraduate research experiences done in collaboration with community partners.

Skagit Valley College nursing graduates had a cumulative 93% NCLEX first-time pass rate for 2022, one of only 7 schools in the state to have pass rates in the 90s for 2022.

The Manufacturing Technology program has received “Career Launch” endorsement from the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and Career Connect Washington. The endorsement recognizes programs that provide educational pathways that include meaningful on-the-job work experiences and paid internships. Career Launch endorsement also provides access to funding opportunities for equipment that aligns instruction with industry practices, as well as enrollment expansion.

SVC faculty continue to work on developing courses that will meet the new Equity requirement, which shall replace the current Diversity requirement by Summer of 2025.

The learning outcomes for the new requirement center around building students’ knowledge, skills, and abilities to act ethically and effectively in an increasingly diverse society by recognizing and using their own power and privilege to increase social equity.

This is not easy content to teach, particularly for students who may be unaware of, or, worse, sometimes actively resistant to consider, their own biases and/or privileges, and how those biases reflect the systemic nature of racism and other forms of discrimination that make up the contours of our history and contemporary society. For this reason, courses that meet the Equity requirement will tend to be rooted within those disciplines that have explicit training related to equity and social justice and will be taught by faculty who have the pedagogical training to teach these outcomes in an effective way.

Congratulations to Nancy Bixler, Brittany Knutson, and Mariko Thomas who were recently selected by the Equity Steering Committee to participate in an intensive workshop and training to develop new Equity courses this spring. Angela Logan, the current department chair for CMST, deserves recognition as well as she has already done some exciting work to transform how CMST 210—Interpersonal Communication—can effectively teach the new Equity learning outcomes.

VI. BOARD OF TRUSTEES/ACT

Board members, Megan, Mari and Ozell, gave an update on their time in Olympia meeting with the Legislators in our district, the Legislative Reception we hosted with Bellingham Technical College and Whatcom Community College and the Transforming Lives Award Dinner.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

1. Recommendation of Tenure – Rocio Herrera
It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to approve the granting of tenure to Rocio Herrera – effective Fall Quarter 2024.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Recommendation of Tenure – Denise Jones

It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to approve the granting of tenure to Denise Jones – effective Fall Quarter 2024.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Recommendation of Tenure - Alexis Meyers

It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to approve the granting of tenure to Alexis Meyers – effective Fall Quarter 2024.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Recommendation of Tenure – Allen Paz

It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to approve the granting of tenure to Allen Paz – effective Fall Quarter 2024.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Recommendation of Tenure – Karen Schaewe

It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to approve the granting of tenure to Karen Schaewe – effective Fall Quarter 2024.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Recommendation of Tenure – Andrew Vinyard

It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to approve the granting of tenure to Andrew Vinyard – effective Fall Quarter 2024.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Recommendation of Tenure – Kasey Williamson

It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to approve the granting of tenure to Kasey Williamson – effective Fall Quarter 2024.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Recommendation of Fee Changes for FY 2024.

It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to approve the fee changes for FY 2024 as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Recommendation of the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education degree.

It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to approve the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests were submitted.

IX. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

May 9, 2023, 4:30 p.m., Mount Vernon Campus

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Chair announced that the Board would convene into Executive Session in order to review the performance of a public employee and to discuss matters that could lead to possible litigation per RCS 42.30/110(I)(iii). She stated that she anticipated the Executive Session would take 30 minutes and that the Board does not intend to take action when they returned to open session.

Convened into Executive Session at 5:42 pm

XI. OPEN SESSION

The Chair reconvened the meeting into open session at 8:23 p.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Megan Scott O'Bryan, Vice Chair

Dr. Christopher Villa, President
Executive Secretary to the Board

These minutes were corrected by action of the Board of Trustees on May 26, 2026, to include action items inadvertently omitted from the original approved minutes.