

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 4
SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE
Tuesday, November 12, 2024
4:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m.

II. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

The Chair, Ozell Jackson, recognized that a quorum of Board members was present.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests were submitted.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

No guests at this time.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Board Meeting Minutes – October 8, 2024
2. Skagit/Islands Head Start Report

It was moved by Megan Scott O'Bryan and seconded Flora Perez-Lucatero by to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VI. COLLEGE REPORTS

1. ASSVC – Leah Eberle for Jasmin Flowers

The Mount Vernon and Whidbey Island campuses supported conversations around voting and elections with Dr. Dave Paul.

Disability Access presentations were held at each campus, with Whidbey Island featuring Justin Smock, who discussed ADHD and how to work with, support, and live with ADHD. At Mount Vernon, David Wilder presented a workshop titled "His Life in a Chair," sharing his experiences living with Cerebral Palsy.

Veteran's Day was celebrated at both campuses with a flag-raising ceremony and a BBQ.

The District Student Government has begun discussions about increasing the Student Tech Fee, which has remained unchanged since its introduction in 2003.

Each campus is working on a legacy project to benefit students. Whidbey Island is collaborating with the welding club to create a sculpture of Bruiser the Elk for display on campus, while Mount Vernon is in the brainstorming phase.

Mount Vernon celebrated Día de Los Muertos with *ofrendas* decorated by Student Life, BSU, Maestro's, SOL, and the Greenhouse Garden Club, which contributed marigolds for the event.

Whidbey Island campus hosted a Halloween party in collaboration with Student Life and the Rainbow Alliance.

2. SVCFT – Kip Zwolenski

No report at this time.

3. WPEA – Lance Levenson

Lance announced and welcomed Lindsay Cahoon and Amy Williams to the Shop Stewards Leadership Team at Skagit Valley College as of October 17th.

He also thanked President Villa for including him in his Executive Performance Evaluation.

Lance shared a letter from Pat Sullivan, Director – Office of Financial Management (OFM) that was sent to WPEA President Amanda Hacker on Sept. 27, 2024. He shared portions of a letter that WPEA President Amanda Hacker sent to Pat Sullivan on October 1, 2024 in response to Pat's letter.

4. PRESIDENT – Dr. Christopher Villa

President Villa attended the ACCT Leadership Congress held in Seattle, WA last month along with several of our Trustees, they learned that as a college we need to be prepared to effectively integrate artificial intelligence in addressing college policies, procedures, and operations. They all attended a variety of workshops and those that resonated most for him

focused on successful strategies at other colleges that improved student enrollment, dual credit, and energy efficiency in relation to building maintenance.

President Villa attend the Faculty/Staff of Color Conference in Spokane last month and was pleased to learn more about Ethnic Studies and American Indian Studies at Washington Community and Technical Colleges. The workshop he attended addressed the historical and current developments with respect to the advocacy associated with the need to expand this curriculum at all of our colleges. In addition, he attended a presentation by SVC's Dr. Kai Dupe from the Computer Science department that addressed the historical and current factors that have contributed to the significant underrepresentation of African-American and other ethnic minority students in STEM fields, particularly, software development engineers.

SVC is preparing for our legislative advocacy efforts in Olympia early next year, the Washington Community and Technical Colleges have identified three priority areas in which we will be advocating for our students, faculty, and staff. These are (1) to maintain the previously approved state allocation (28.6 million in fiscal year 2025, carried forward in 2025-27); (2) provide our faculty and staff fully funded competitive compensation in the next biennium (\$183 million) and (3) support college operations, including ongoing support for equity and inclusion programs (90 million).

5. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Claire Peinado, VP of Student Services

Dr. Peinado presented a comprehensive report on Student Services at SVC. The report highlighted the admission redesign project, which aims to simplify and enhance the admissions process. Dr. Peinado also introduced Cardinal Connect, a new student engagement tool designed to enhance student success throughout their academic journey at SVC.

Additionally, the report emphasized the success of updated disenrollment procedures. Implementation of multiple disenrollment periods has effectively reduced the loss of full-time equivalent (FTE) students at the beginning of each quarter. This new approach gives students additional time to arrange funding while enabling departments to proactively manage caseloads through outreach, funding assistance options such as workforce grants and financial aid, and close collaboration with the Business Office to manage holds. These efforts reflect a student-centered approach, ensuring that barriers are addressed proactively and that students have the resources they need to succeed.

6. CORE THEME REPORT – ACCESS was presented by Dr. Claire Peinado, VP of Student Services.

7. BOARD OF TRUSTEES/ACT

The Trustees who attended the ACCT conference provided an overview of the key topics and discussions. They highlighted important points that connect to the college's priorities and goals.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

1. Athletic Waivers Recommendation – Approval from the Board of Trustees to authorize the President to waive up to 100% of the athletic fees.

It was moved by Carl Bruner and seconded by Megan Scott O’Bryan to approve the athletic waivers recommendation as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Recommendation to approve the SVC Strategic Plan 2024-2028.

It was moved by Flora Perez-Lucatero and seconded by Mariko Doerner to approve the SVC Strategic Plan 2024-2028 as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

December 10, 2024, 4:30 p.m., Mount Vernon Campus, Administrative Annex Boardroom

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Jackson adjourned the Board of Trustees meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Ozell Jackson, Chair

Dr. Christopher Villa, President
Executive Secretary to the Board