

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 4
SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2007
4:30 p.m. – Mount Vernon Campus
2405 E. College Way
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Margaret Rojas, Chair
Mr. Jess del Bosque
Ms. Debra Lisser
Mr. Tom Moser
Mr. Don Piercy
Dr. Gary Tollefson, President & Executive Secretary to the Board

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT:

Ms. Lisa Radeleff, Administrative Assistant

I. CALL TO ORDER:

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

II. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM:

The Chair recognized that a quorum of Board members were present. The Chair requested a moment of silence in observation of the anniversary of 9/11.

III. FLAG SALUTE

IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

No guests present.

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Board Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2007

The consent agenda item was approved as presented.

VI. INFORMATION ITEM:

1. Waivers Update

Linda Woiwod, Dean of Student Services reviewed and distributed information on tuition waivers that were legislatively approved to take effect in the 2007-08 academic year.

2. Head Start Update

Dr. Joan Youngquist, Director of Skagit Islands Head Start, distributed and reviewed the End of Year Outcomes Report 2007, monthly updates for August and September 2007, information on Board of Trustees responsibilities relating to the Head Start program, and Head Start program information for 2007-08.

VII. ACTION ITEM:

1. Resolution 07-05, Support of University of Washington Branch Campus

A request was made by the administration of the University of Washington (UW), that the Board of Trustees for the four community colleges, Cascadia, Edmonds, Everett, and Skagit Valley, primarily affected by the decision to establish a new branch campus, submit a resolution in support of a UW branch in the Northwest region of the state. At the July 17 SVC Board of Trustees meeting, Dr. Tollefson distributed a copy of the resolution approved by the Everett Community College Board of Trustees.

Dr. Tollefson stated that since the July 17 meeting, the UW branch site committee has narrowed down the site selection to the Everett/Marysville area. He believes it is important to state the need for residents of Skagit, Island, and San Juan counties to have access to upper-division undergraduate and graduate higher education opportunities. He also believes it is important to encourage the UW to provide even greater access by offering programs via interactive television and online formats.

Mr. Piercy stated that he liked that San Juan County is included in the resolution and the delivery of programs via interactive television and online.

Mrs. Lisser stated her concern about the term "interactive television;" she asked if the language was broad enough. Dr. Tollefson introduced Mr. Tom Bates, Interim Dean of Distance Education & Technology, and asked him if interactive television was the correct term. Mr. Bates stated that the interactive television was the accepted terminology for that type of format.

It was moved by Mr. Tom Moser and seconded by Mr. Don Piercy to approve Resolution 07-05, Support of University of Washington Branch Campus (see Attachment A), as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

VIII. COLLEGE REPORTS:

1. ASSVC

Chris Palmer highlighted the following items in his report:

- Student government has co-signed the amount of \$10,000 for childcare services;
- Math labs have received new computers. He reported that students are very happy with the improvement and acknowledged the hard work of the Information Technology staff members;
- Fast Track to Success was held the week of September 3; he thanked Dr. Tollefson for his inspirational welcome to students;
- Student government and program board members attended a three-day seminar in Wenatchee. Three hundred students from across the state attended the seminar. Participants took classes and gathered information on projects at other schools;
- Student orientations will be held this week, tours and information on the district will be provided;
- ASSVC is continuing to work with administration on standardizing clocks used throughout the district;
- ASSVC is continuing to research carpool incentive programs and hopes to have a program implemented for winter quarter.

The Chair acknowledged the work of ASSVC, especially on the childcare issue and she asked for more information on the Fast Track program. Chris stated that approximately 100 students attended Fast Track and that it is a four-day, two credit program that teaches time management, instruction in working online and integrated new students into student learning. Dr. Tollefson stated that studies have shown that students who have participated in Fast Track have been very positively affected.

2. SVCFT – Greg Tate, Ted Maloney and Dan Nelson are serving as co-presidents of SVCFT for 2007-08. Greg stated that he is looking forward to working with the Trustees and to being part of the process.

Ted stated that in July he returned after teaching for two years at Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU). He reported that Trish Barnes is the faculty member representing SVC this academic year. Ted said he began at SVC in 1988 and feels he learned to teach while at SVC. He stated that students at BFSU love the way we teach at SVC. He hopes the Board will continue to support and expand the faculty exchange program.

Greg thanked Dr. Tollefson for the excellent in-service program held earlier in the day.

3. WPEA – No report.
4. Administrative Services

Tom Harker distributed and reviewed the final budget report for 2006-07 and the McIntyre final budget report for fiscal year 2007. He stated that McIntyre Hall ended the year with a carryover of \$89,188.

Tom stated that the purchase of the two and one-half acres of the church property east of the Mount Vernon Campus was recently finalized. He reported that the capital budget request is in the development process and that it will include a request to replace Old Main and Sprague Hall at the Whidbey Island Campus. The capital budget request is due on December 5.

Tom stated that he will provide the financials for July and August along with the Bookstore report at the October Board meeting.

5. Instruction & Student Services

Dr. Harriet Custer stated that she has been getting to know faculty and staff and the college culture. She stated that this process has reinforced what she had already discovered about the college and this morning's in-service program reinforced it even more.

Harriet stated that SVC is fortunate to have Tom Bates and Laura Cailloux in their interim roles as Dean of Distance Education & Technology and Dean of Professional/Technical Education respectively and Darlene Mindrum who will fill in as the Director of the Business Resource Center.

Harriet highlighted the following items in her report:

- SVC is engaged in a pilot project on developmental learning communities—nine classes will be taught over three quarters and each of the developmental education classes will be paired with a counselor;
- The Data Center move is a 13-phase process; to-date four phases have been completed. Information Technology staff have done a great job of scheduling and handling the move and have minimized the impact to the district;
- Student email accounts and a new portal for students, "My SVC" has been developed and implemented;
- She attended the new faculty orientation in Poulsbo last week along with seven new faculty members;
- Two new nursing faculty members were recently hired;
- SVC has been awarded an Opportunity Grant;
- AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) targets middle school students with potential but who are underachievers. Four area school districts participate in the program. Twelve AVID graduates attended SVC last year and all but one returned this fall. This year 15 of the 19 AVID graduates will attend SVC; there is a welcome reception tonight at 7:00 pm in N-121; she invited the Trustees to attend.

6. Whidbey Island Campus

Dr. Mick Donahue stated that the capital budget request will be to replace Old Main and Sprague Hall with a 40,000 square foot building.

Mick said that the Trustees may have read or heard the rumor that the South Whidbey Center will move to the school district. He stated that while that is a rumor, discussions were held last year discussing a possible move sometime in the future. Mick said that he has been approached by the non-profit organization "Goosefoot" to relocate to their development. Goosefoot would like SVC to be part of their project. The Goosefoot location is on Hwy. 20 in the Bayview/Freeland area.

Mick gave an update on the Anacortes Marine Skills Center Project. He reported that the specific location of the Marine Tech Skills Center is still undecided, though the Port of Anacortes has indicated it will discuss the issue at its September 20 meeting. Maureen Harlan has been hired as the Program Facilitator for the project.

Mick stated that the plan is to relocate the SVC Marine Tech program to the Marine Skills Center. If the current Marine Tech land is sold that money could be put into the project. Mick stated that he, Dr. Tollefson and Chris Borgen, Anacortes Superintendent, have met frequently on the Marine Skills Center.

Mick reported that he and Mike Swietzer will attend a meeting later in the week with the American Boat & Yacht Council to explore a possible a partnership to develop industry standard programs. He said that the Marine Skills Center will solidify and expand partnerships with Skagit Valley College, Western Washington University, the Center for Excellence for Marine Manufacturing and Technology and the maritime industry.

7. President

Dr. Tollefson followed up on Mick's report by saying that the Marine Skills Center has been a complicated project with numerous participants and ideas and that as of yet no management group has been established.

Dr. Tollefson thanked Ms. Rojas and Mrs. Lisser for participating in the in-service events earlier in the day. He stated that the presentation from Arlene Arnsparger, Project Coordinator for the MetLife Foundation – Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) was a powerful illustration of SVC's culture of student learning and success.

Dr. Tollefson stated that a copy of his recent activities has been distributed to the Trustees and highlighted the following recent activities:

- September 10 meeting with Representative Jeff Morris and a representative from Puget Sound Energy regarding a Solar Energy Project Grant for the new Angst Hall. The project has the potential to generate half of the energy needs for the building. Faculty have wanted to move the building from a Silver LEEDS Certification to a Gold LEEDS Certification—this solar project may enable it to happen;
- The Art Committee has been meeting with the state representative of Art in Public Places to work on art acquisition for the new Angst Hall. We anticipate receiving \$80,000 for art acquisition for the new building;
- The Asian Infusion Auction is scheduled for September 15. Dr. Tollefson thanked Tom Moser for agreeing to be the Master of Ceremonies for the auction;
- Classes will begin on September 17; enrollment is currently down about 3% compared to last year;
- Dr. Tollefson introduced Mr. Carl Young as the Executive Director of College Advancement and Global Initiatives.

8. Board of Trustees

The Chair, Mrs. Lisser, Mr. Piercy, and Dr. Tollefson attended the recent TACTC Legislative Plenary Session. Mrs. Lisser reported that the Governor has said that the “rainy day” fund is a priority so budgets will be lean.

Mr. Piercy reported that he has been asked to serve as chair of the Creating Opportunities Committee.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Josef Kunzler commented on his concern regarding the phone threats that were directed toward SVC last spring and stated his support of the College.

X. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, October 9, 2007, 4:30 p.m., Mount Vernon Campus – Czarna Collins Room

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Margaret Rojas, Chair

Gary Tollefson, President
Executive Secretary to the Board
Lisa Radeleff, Administrative Assistant