

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 4
SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE
Tuesday, June 9, 2026
4:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Mariko Doerner – Chair
Ms. Flora Perez-Lucatero – Vice-Chair
Dr. Carl Bruner
Mr. Ozell Jackson III
Ms. Vhari Rust-Clark
Dr. Thomas Keegan, Interim President

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m.

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

The Chair, Mariko Doerner, recognized that a quorum of Board members was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests were submitted.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Board recognized and honored employees retiring during the academic year and celebrated their service to the College with light refreshments.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Board Meeting Minutes – May 12, 2026
2. Board Special Meeting Minutes – May 26, 2026
3. Skagit/Island Head Start Report

It was moved by Flora Perez-Lucatero and seconded by Vhari Rust-Clark to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

COLLEGE REPORTS

1. Associated Students of Skagit Valley College (ASSVC) REPORT

Ashley Zamora, President, Mount Vernon Campus

ASSVC is reviewing applications and scheduling interviews for the 2026–27 student government. Work is also underway on a legacy binder to assist future student government leaders with their transition.

The ASSVC room in Ford 102 is being used for weekly student government meetings and as a resource space for student clubs.

The Cheer Club has submitted its constitution and is expected to become official in the fall.

Recent student engagement activities included the Cardinal Community Lunch on June 4, which served 180 students, with remaining food provided to the food pantry.

A Student Voice event was also held on June 4, and included free Red Bull and sweet treats while providing an opportunity for student engagement.

Spirit Week activities are underway, including a decade-themed day and SVC gear day.

ASSVC is also working to schedule its next district meeting.

2. Skagit Valley College Federation of Teachers (SVC-FT)

Kip Zwolenski, Union President

Kip reported that the faculty union is wrapping up the academic year and completing its annual officer process. Kip will continue to serve as president. Trustees were invited to attend the faculty gathering from 3:00–5:30 p.m. prior to commencement.

3. WPEA – Lance Levesen

Lance reported that bargaining season is underway and noted that management has been very engaged, representing a positive change from the previous two bargaining sessions. On campus, WPEA had a productive meeting with President Keegan and looks forward to continued meetings throughout the summer and fall.

Lance also shared that, for the eighth consecutive year, they helped transport two clutches of ducklings from Lewis Hall to the plaza.

4. PRESIDENT – Dr. Thomas Keegan

ATHLETICS

The Men's Golf team won the 2026 NWAC Championship, the College's second men's golf championship and first since 2005. Head Coach Daniel Graber was named Coach of the Year, and freshman Logan Medcalf was named NWAC Golfer of the Year and won the individual tournament championship. The Women's Golf team, led by Head Coach Kalan Smith, finished second in the NWAC Championship Tournament, its best finish in program history. A celebration for the Men's Golf championship will be held on campus.

PERSONNEL UPDATES

Blake DeYoung was hired as Director of the San Juan Center, replacing Randy Martin. DeYoung previously served as Executive Director of the San Juan Island Museum of Art and brings strong connections to the San Juan community.

The search for the Whidbey Island Campus Administrator is underway, with six finalists selected from more than 20 applicants. Interviews will be conducted in the coming weeks, with an anticipated July 15 start date. Additional Whidbey Island staffing needs are also being addressed.

The Vice President for Student Services search received 50 applicants. Screening will be followed by on-campus interviews and public forums at both campuses, with an anticipated mid-August start date.

The College is also finalizing responsibilities for a Vice President for Community Engagement and Strategic Partnerships position, with an increased focus on community engagement and partnership development locally, regionally, and internationally.

FACILITIES PLANNING

The College is developing updated principles to guide the use and assignment of facilities in alignment with strategic priorities. The principles will guide summer maintenance, departmental moves, and future space decisions, including consideration of locating similar services together and preserving spaces for student engagement.

YEAR-END ACTIVITIES

Several successful year-end events were highlighted, including the May Pow Wow led by Amy Gustafson and the First Nations Club; the annual Student Honors Reception; and the Scholarship Breakfast, which moved to the gym this year and drew more than 500 attendees. More than \$1.5 million in scholarships were awarded to over 525 students.

Cardinal Centennial Days were held at the Whidbey Island Campus and Mount Vernon Campus. Highlights included the unveiling of the Story Pole carved by Kevin Paul at Whidbey Island and the Centennial Mural at Mount Vernon. Both events brought together current and former students, faculty, and staff to celebrate the College's history.

Appreciation was expressed to Pam Davis, the planning committee, volunteers, and staff for their leadership and support of the Centennial celebrations.

5. Strategic Priorities Performance Report | Enrollment- Yadira Rosales and Dr. Gabriel Mast.

6. BOARD OF TRUSTEES/ACT

Trustee Perez-Lucatero attended the Centennial celebrations and shared appreciation for the events. She also reported on the Foundation's successful year-end activities, including the Scholarship Breakfast, new board members, and the significant amount of scholarships awarded. She attended Mount Vernon high school scholarship night and was encouraged by the number of students planning to attend SVC. She also attended the Baseball Alumni Game and appreciated hearing from alumni about the College's impact on their lives.

Trustee Rust-Clark attended the Honors Reception and enjoyed celebrating the students and hearing about their impressive goals and plans for the future.

Trustee Jackson attended the Scholarship Breakfast and Honors Reception and was inspired by the students, particularly adult students who shared their goals and career plans. He raised a question about the services available to help students identify and prepare for careers that provide family-sustaining wages, suggesting this as a topic for a future discussion.

Trustee Jackson also reported on the ACCT Legislative Summit and discussed changes to federal funding previously directed to Hispanic-Serving Institutions and Historically Black Colleges and Universities. He noted concerns regarding changes to the competitive funding process and the potential impact on institutions that have relied on these funds.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Elections of Board of Trustees Vice Chair 2026-2027.

It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Flora Perez-Lucatero to nominate Carl Bruner as the Board of Trustees Vice Chair for 2026-2027.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Recommendation of Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Schedule 2026-2027.

It was moved by Flora Perez-Lucatero and seconded by Vhari Rust-Clark to approve the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Schedule for 2026-2027 as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Recommendation of McIntyre Hall Performing Arts & Conference Center Budget for 2026-2027.

It was moved by Flora Perez-Lucatero and seconded by Vhari Rust-Clark to approve the McIntyre Hall Performing Arts & Conference Center Budget for 2026-2027 as presented.

The Chair requested a roll call vote: Flora Perez-Lucatero – aye, Carl Bruner – aye, Ozell Jackson – aye, Vhari Rust-Clark – aye and Mariko Doerner, aye.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Recommendation of Operating Budget – 2026-2027.

It was moved by Flora Perez-Lucatero and seconded by Vhari Rust-Clark to approve the Operating Budget – 2026-2027 as presented.

The Chair requested a roll call vote: Flora Perez-Lucatero – aye, Carl Bruner – aye, Ozell Jackson – aye, Vhari Rust-Clark – aye and Mariko Doerner, aye.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Recommendation of Student Fees – 2026-2027.

It was moved by Carl Bruner and seconded by Vhari Rust-Clark to approve the Student Fees – 2026-2027 as presented.

The Chair requested a roll call vote: Flora Perez-Lucatero – aye, Carl Bruner – aye, Ozell Jackson – aye, Vhari Rust-Clark – aye and Mariko Doerner, aye.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Recommendation of Intercollegiate Athletics Competition Budget – 2026-2027.

It was moved by Vhari Rust-Clark and seconded by Carl Bruner to approve the Intercollegiate Athletics Competition Budget – 2026-2027 as presented.

The Chair requested a roll call vote: Flora Perez-Lucatero – aye, Carl Bruner – aye, Ozell Jackson – aye, Vhari Rust-Clark – aye and Mariko Doerner, aye.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Recommendation of Service & Activities Fees Budget – 2026-2027.

It was moved by Flora Perez-Lucatero and seconded by Vhari Rust-Clark to approve the Service & Activities Fees Budget – 2026-2027 as presented.

The Chair requested a roll call vote: Flora Perez-Lucatero – aye, Carl Bruner – aye, Ozell Jackson – aye, Vhari Rust-Clark – aye and Mariko Doerner, aye.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Doerner announced at 5:49 p.m. that the Board would convene into Executive Session as authorized by RCW 42.30.110(i)(iii) to discuss legal risks of a proposed action or current practice where public discussion of those risks is likely to result in adverse legal or financial consequences to the College. She anticipated that the Executive Session would take 45 minutes and that the Board does not intend to take action when they return to open session.

At 6:35 p.m., Chair Doerner extended the Executive Session by 15 minutes.

OPEN SESSION

The Chair reconvened the meeting into open session at 6:49 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regular meeting will be October 13, 2026, at 4:30 p.m., Mount Vernon Campus, Administrative Annex – Boardroom.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Doerner adjourned the Board of Trustees meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Mariko Doerner, Chair

Dr. Thomas Keegan, Interim President
Executive Secretary to the Board