

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
Washington State Community College District 17
Regular Meeting
March 18, 2025
8:30am
Spokane Community College
In Person and Zoom Option

Present: Trustee Anna Franklin, Trustee Glenn Johnson, Trustee Steve Yoshihara. Also present: Chancellor Kevin Brockbank, President Jenni Martin, President Kimberlee Messina, Chief of Staff and Strategy Lori Hunt, Chief Human Resources Officer Fred Davis, Chief General Services Officer Nichole Hana, Chief Financial Officer Linda McDermott, Chief Institutional Advancement & External Affairs Officer Melanie Rose, Vice President of Instruction Jaclyn Jacot, Vice President of Student Affairs Patrick McEachern, Vice President of Workforce Development Julie Parks, District Director of Head Start/ECEAP Bobbi Woodral, Director of Accounting and Budgets of Head Start/EHS/ECEAP LeeAnn VanLengen, Dean Andrea Reid, SCC Faculty Jaye Hopkins, AHE President Beverly Daily, AHE Vice President Jason Eggerman, SCC Faculty Katie Satake, WFSE Representative Ward Kaplan, SCC Classified Staff Representative Alison Cooley, SCC ASG President Taneisha Takyuka, SFCC ASG President Lexii Locke, Attorney General Carrie Culver, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor and Board of Trustees Breanne Riley (recording secretary)

Excused: Trustee Todd Woodard, SCC Classified Staff Representative Abigail Affholter, Vice President of Learning Bonnie Glantz, Vice President of Student Services Patrick Tanner, SCC Faculty Christina MitmaMomono

Guests: SCC Alum Marilyn Smith

SCC Celebrating Student Success

Andrea Reid gave an introduction of Jaye Hopkins. Jaye Hopkins gave an overview of the Science Scholars program. The 3 goals of the grant are to give money to students, increase science student success through holistic support, and evaluate which supports are most effective. Jaye Hopkins reviewed the approach to each of the 3 goals for the Board of Trustees. Lessons that were learned from the first 15 students in the program were reviewed. The post-COVID adjustments to the program were then reviewed. Science Scholars alum Marilyn Smith introduced herself and spoke of her experience in the program at SCC. Marilyn Smith gave an overview of her current work in the geology field and her educational accomplishments at Eastern Washington University. Anna Franklin remarked on the holistic support and enrollment of the program and

how impressive it is. Steve Yoshihara asked if there was an aptitude test for students and asked about recruitment at high schools for the program.

Call to Order

The Board of Trustees of Washington State Community College District 17 held a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2025. Anna Franklin called the meeting to order at 9:04am. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. It was announced that the meeting was open to the public. Individuals interested in addressing the Board were encouraged to speak up during the public comment section. The Native Land Acknowledgement was given by Trustee Johnson.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Being no objections, the consent agenda was entered into the record. Topics included the following:

- a. Minutes of the February 18, 2025, Regular Meeting
- b. Capital Projects Status & Approvals – Nichole Hanna
- c. Budget and Expenditures – Linda McDermott
- d. Head Start Updates – Bobbi Woodral

Glenn Johnson asked about funds regarding the vehicle charging stations. Bobbi Woodral reviewed the recent reports and evaluations from Head Start. The motion to approve the consent agenda was brought forth by Glenn Johnson, seconded by Steve Yoshihara, and approved unanimously by the Board. LeeAnn VanLengen presented the 2025 Head Start budget and non-federal share training. Funding sources and budgeted costs, monthly report, non-federal share were reviewed. Glenn Johnson brought forth the motion to receive the reward from Head Start finances, seconded by Anna Franklin, and approved unanimously by the Board. Anna Franklin noted that the TCE and easement were included in the consent agenda and have been approved as part of the consent agenda.

Tribal Relations Update

Naomi Bender reviewed the goals that were set for her role upon hire as well as her current work with the tribes in the Spokane area. Naomi Bender then reviewed the partnerships that are being collaborated with the tribes and Spokane Colleges. The grants that are being worked and the upcoming Government to Government summit between Spokane Colleges and the tribes were also presented to the Board. There are policies that are currently being developed to protect the smudge and smoke tribal

ceremonies that are being held on both campuses. Naomi Bender reviewed the work with tribal healthcare as well as areas that the tribes are interested in partnering with Spokane Colleges. Steve Yoshihara asked what percentage of local Native Americans transition from high school directly to college.

Contract Ratification

Patrick McEachern and Jason Eggerman reviewed the tentative agreements for the master contract that was before the Board for approval. Patrick McEachern and Jason Eggerman thanked the parties that were involved with the contract negotiations. Glenn Johnson moved to accept the contract agreements, which was seconded by Anna Franklin, and approved unanimously by the Board.

Title IX Emergency Rulemaking

Patrick McEachern reviewed that the courts have recently vacated the 2024 federal Title IX regulations and are reverting back to the 2020 regulations. The Washington administrative code governs the student code of conduct and the Title IX process is within that and is followed by Spokane Colleges. In order to be in compliance with the prior regulations Spokane Colleges needs to move back to the prior Washington administrative code that aligns with the federal 2020 regulations. If approved by the Board today Spokane Colleges will begin executing the 2020 regulations and practices and will also go through the more formal rulemaking process. Glenn Johnson moved to approve the Title IX emergency rulemaking, which was seconded by Anna Franklin, and approved unanimously by the Board.

Budget Office First Read

Linda McDermott presented the FY2025-26 tuition and fee proposals first reading. The tuition schedule and waivers, service and activities fees, lab and course fees, and administrative and use fees were reviewed.

BREAK

The meeting was reconvened at 10:27am.

Tenure Alert

Fred Davis presented 26 faculty members that are up for tenure approval by the Board of Trustees based on the tenure committees. The faculty members were named as follows: Sai Ferntree, Cameron Douglass-Parkin, Sean Finley, Tiffany Fulkerson, Melody Fyre, Katharine Gelinas, Megan Guthrie-Martinez, Kathleen Halladay, Chad Henry, Landon Johnston, Chelsea Kagan, Karlee Kedroske, Roger LaPlante, Jennifer McCoy, Heidi Moser, Mark Neufville, Cozette Phillips, Andrew Reese, Tyler Roberts, Jennifer Semb, Jon Spotts, Ryan Taylor, David Vosen, Colette Wanke, Austin White, Laura Woods. Fred Davis asked that the Board grant the award of tenure to the listed faculty members. The motion was so moved by Anna Franklin, seconded by Steve

Yoshihara, and approved unanimously by the Board. The Board was then alerted of the faculty members that will be presented for approval of tenure in May.

Human Resources Recruiting Update

Fred Davis reviewed the focus timeline, district goals, and the renewed recruiting workflow. Total applications by year have improved post-covid and total hires by year have improved as well. Steve Yoshihara asked if Spokane is seen as a desirable place to work in the academic field. Glenn Johnson asked if there was a letter that was sent to applicants that are not moved forward in the candidate pool. Fred Davis then reviewed the diversity statistics of Spokane Colleges employees. Anna Franklin asked that in light of the existing social and political environment if there has been a decrease in the number of applicants declaring their race or ethnicity. Anna Franklin then asked if there was a benefit of an immersion plan in the first year of employment at Spokane Colleges.

Chancellor's Report

Kevin Brockbank, Chancellor shared that he anticipates some budget relief relating to the funds that were over granted by the state, but the money will most likely be lost for the next fiscal year. The Launch NW proposal that relates to free tuition at Spokane Colleges is still in proviso and that is promising. The injunction regarding DEI has been lifted so Spokane Colleges is subject to some evaluations if DEI efforts at the colleges are viewed as discriminatory. Spokane Colleges is very comfortable in that all of the DEI efforts are inclusive to all people and do not exclude anyone from any opportunities. The Department of Education has taken a 50% staff reduction recently and the risk to Spokane Colleges is the financial aid distribution that is approaching April 1st, the concern is if the federal government is able to disperse financial aid effectively and efficiently. It was shared that there is still the stabilization fund that is in place should there be an issue with the disbursement.

President's Report

Jenni Martin, President of SCC reported that the Together Spokane proposal is working with the Spokane Parks Department and Spokane schools would offer a trades high school on the SCC campus. There is a lot of excitement with the prospect of the SCC pool being reopened as part of the proposal for both the SCC campus as well as the community. Glenn Johnson asked about the costs of maintenance of the SCC pool and who will pay the costs of any maintenance and/or remodel. Steve Yoshihara asked if there was a maintenance budget for the pool at SCC and if funds for the pool will need to be set aside in the future.

Kimberlee Messina, President of SFCC thanked ASG President Lexii Locke and the ASG body for their work in Olympia and that they were able to secure Senator

Riccelli hosting his town hall at the SFCC campus. Enrollment is up for the spring quarter and SFCC is very happy about that. Kimberlee Messina thanked the Board for the tenure approvals of faculty members. Trustee Johnson asked about safety measures that are currently being taken at SFCC in lieu of a recent report of a student being hit by a car while crossing the street.

AHE Report

Beverly Daily welcomed the 26 tenured faculty members that were approved today by the Board and that they are looking forward to the tenure celebration in May. Faculty is pleased to have finalized the master contract and it was a positive experience for all individuals involved in the process. Beverly Daily thanked Kevin Brockbank and the presidents for the listening sessions that were conducted on both campuses and that it was helpful to faculty. AHE leadership recently traveled to Philadelphia for the National Council of Higher Ed and they are working hard to ensure that AHE leadership is well informed about rights and challenges.

Katie Satake reported that Ryan Taylor shared that the medical assisting program is finishing with their clinicals. The students participate in an externship for their last quarter and it is being reported that the SCC students are light years ahead of the other colleges that have the same program. Amy Anderson had one of her communication classes complete small group community service projects where they provided food for unhoused individuals in Spokane.

Jason Nix reported that this was his first time attending the Board of Trustees meeting and introduced himself. The library faculty hosted a five-part series on AI and how to work with AI and use it as a tool. Jason Nix shared that SFCC students went to the College Media Advisors Conference in New York where they were able to take The Communicator and study the newspaper, along with other newspapers from around the United States, where their work was critiqued by multiple professors from around the country.

WFSE/Classified Staff Report

Ward Kaplan, reported that the union is working on contract negotiations and they intend to know more as the budget gets settled as they are concerned with potential furloughs. Kevin Brockbank noted that Spokane Colleges will not be mandating for mandatory furloughs and will be asking that the furloughs not be included in the budget when they go to Olympia in March.

Alison Cooley, reported that she and the classified tri-chairs will be looking to meet with Dr. Blake for additional classified training opportunities.

Student Government Report

Taneisha Takyuka, SCC ASG President, reported that there was a pantry night on campus and the pantry is open to students once per month for all students to have a chance to get any food and essentials that they may need. ASG is planning to change the furniture in building 6 before the end of the 2025-26 academic year. An Iftar dinner was hosted for students that are fasting in the Ramadan period and it was a great experience with gifts for students and music.

Lexii Locke, SFCC ASG President, reported that ASG has hosted skating and laser tag events off campus as a way to engage with students during the winter quarter. ASG will have applications open in the spring quarter and that has been advertised in order to start conducting interviews. Lexii Locke reported that there will be a town hall with legislators on the campus on March 22nd. Anna Franklin asked if there was an opportunity for ASG to work with Human Resources as a way to build interviewing skills for incoming ASG candidates.

Board Report

There was no report from the board.

Executive Session

The Board will convene in executive session under RCW 42.30.110(1) and the executive session to consider property personal and contract.

Executive session will last for approximately 20 minutes and is anticipated to end at 11:48am.

Potential Action Generate from Executive Session

No action was taken.

Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:48am.