



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT VIII
BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District VIII, 3000 Landerholm Circle SE, state of Washington, was held on Wednesday, February 15, 2023. This meeting was conducted in a hybrid fashion with the physical location in B201 and the remote location on Zoom: bellevuecollege.zoom.us/j/89965303055. A telephone line, +1 253 215 8782, was also available. Merisa Heu-Weller, Chair, presided.

MINUTES

Chair Heu-Weller called the business session to order at 2:09 PM.

I. **ROLL CALL**

Chair Merisa Heu-Weller, Vice Chair Rich Fukutaki, Trustee Greg Dietzel, Trustee Richard Leigh, Trustee Conor O’Meara, Trustee Pradnya Desh, President Gary Locke, Assistant Attorney General Tricia Boerger, and Board Secretary Alicia Keating Polson were present.

There were 36 guests in attendance.

II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

Trustee Desh made a motion to approve the agenda (February 15, 2023) and minutes (January 18, 2023.) Trustee Leigh seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

III. **CONSTITUENT REPORTS**

A. Student

The Student report was provided by Rebecca Mbaka, President of Associated Student Government (ASG).

- ASG continues to encourage in-person events and has, since the last report, organized an MLK event and Valentine’s Day activity. The latter had 180 students in attendance and ASG collaborated with clubs to provide multiple activities within the event
- ASG is preparing for the S&A process. The Treasurer is sending out applications for students at large.
- ASG is working to form a student council of 9 seats. The selection process is time consuming with much interest. Seats will be selected based on essay questions.
- Chair Heu-Weller asked if there was food at the in-person events. ASG President Mbaka answered that there was a lot of food, which was a draw for students.

B. Classified

There was no Classified report.

C. College Assembly

The College Assembly report was provided by Valencio Socia, Chair of College Assembly.

- BC Governance (BCG) held its first Annual Retreat in winter quarter, on Friday February 3rd, and BCG plans to hold annual retreats mid-year in future, due to the timing for assessment. Thanks to Council and Assembly Chairs, members of the President's Cabinet, and nearly 40 governance members for a thoughtful and engaging afternoon. Conversations were framed around restorative justice principles presented in a keynote address by Michelle Strange, Director of Restorative Practices, and councils took time to reflect on their goals through this lens.
- Council chairs from Classified, Faculty, and Exempt Councils reported updates in January, focused on goals and the establishment of measurable benchmarks for their work. Classified Council is in need of a Chair, and many councils have a vacant seat or two. Yesterday's February meeting included Council updates from Resources & Planning, Infrastructure, Student Success, and Inclusion & Diversity.
- An energetic BC Governance election season will be launched later this quarter. The goal is to build enthusiasm around campus for staff, faculty, and students, so every Council will be full next year. Having a strong governance system with open communication has worked well, but it requires involvement from across the college.
- BC Governance appreciates the continued support from Interim President Locke and Cabinet members who serve as resource liaisons to each council, as proposals make their way through the system to improve college culture and operations.
 - Every cabinet member has presented a report at an Assembly meeting. Assembly looks forward to inviting other leaders from around campus attend future meetings.
 - The Assembly has endorsed two proposals at this last meeting that will be going to President's Cabinet.

D. Faculty

The Faculty report was provided by Sue Nightingale, President of the Bellevue College Association of Higher Education (BCAHE).

- Nightingale thanked Interim President Locke for accompanying her to Olympia to speak with legislators regarding fiscal requests.
- There are several bills in progress, supported by the labor unions. Many bills demonstrate a great deal of concern for and effort to help students with basic needs. Such bills focus on food and housing security, the coverage or partial coverage of Running Start fees by the state, the state covering the cost of books, and making College in the High School free. However, a request for generous compensation for employees fell like a lead balloon. Nightingale continues to try to communicate the impact of

Katrina Malkin	Health Sciences, Education and Wellness Institute (Nursing)
Komal Ram	Institute for Business and Information Technology (Business Management)
Leo Kiralla	Social Science (Psychology)
Michelle Schewe	Library Media Center (Student Success Librarian)
Pratima Suneel	Institute for Business and Information Technology (Info Systems Technology)
Shadia Kanan	Health Sciences, Education and Wellness Institute (Nursing)
Tessa Cornish	Science (Biology)

V. **QUARTERLY REPORTS**

A. Enrollment

Zach Morgan, Executive Director of Effectiveness and Research; Christina Castorena, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs; and Rob Viens, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs presented the quarterly Student Success Report.

Overall, Bellevue College credit enrollment for Fall 2022 fell short of projections by 2.6%, and dropped about 7.5% from Fall 2021. This drop in enrollment brings Bellevue College closer to other SBCTC counterparts in the long-term as those counterparts have largely mitigated their losses. However, for Winter 2023, enrollment has exceeded projections by about 4%, driven by sustained increases in international enrollment and strengthened enrollment in traditional state enrollments.

It is now projected that enrollments for this year will be near what was projected when the 2022-2023 budget was adopted. Future years' enrollments are projected to decline at a slower pace than previously expected, though the college is cognizant of the approaching 'demographic cliff' as the K-12 districts of its service area see shrinking enrollments in the younger grades.

B. Finance

Dennis Curran, Vice President of Administrative Services, and Sharon Kussy, Budget Director, presented the quarterly Finance Report.

The Board was provided with an update on the budget for fiscal year ending June 2023 along with an update on the development of the FY24 budget:

- The FY23 year-end is projected to have a surplus of \$73K.
- Projected FY23 revenues are \$5.2M higher than budgeted, while expenses are \$5.4M higher. Current FY23 EOY is projected to end with a small surplus of \$73K.
- Projected tuition is just \$2.2M higher than budgeted for FY23, and is based on actual enrollment numbers for summer, fall and winter, and projected enrollment numbers for the spring 2023 quarter.
- FY24 revenue is projected to have 0% growth when compared to FY23 projections, but expenses are currently projected to be 1.6% higher (\$1.9M). The current \$2M deficit

projected at the end of FY24 will be the focus of the next several weeks as the college prepares the budget for Board of Trustee approval.

VI. **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION REPORT**

Consuelo Grier, Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, provided the DEI report.

- Happy 15th day of Black History Month – the theme is resilience and empowerment of black women throughout history, and activities can be found on the Multicultural Services website.
- ODEI focus continues in the in main 4 buckets:
 - 2 cohorts for educational equity course: Section 1 for full and part time faculty, and Section 2 for tenured faculty.
 - Community engagement: ODEI is partnering with Bellevue school district for BOOM, BOOM & Shout. This program is for 7-12 across all gender identities, taking place on March 30, and brining ~500 students to campus.
 - Culture shift: it is difficult to measure change and shift, it takes time, and can feel like nothing is happening.
- Michelle Strange, Director of Restorative Practices, provided an update on the work happening around restorative practices at the college.

VII. **PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH PROCESS UPDATE**

Vice Chair Fukutaki provided an update on the presidential search process:

- The search for the president position went live in early December with the posting of the presidential profile. This profile describes the roles and responsibilities and desired qualifications and qualities of the next president and was guided by the work of the BC Priorities Report. Since the position posted, our executive search firm, EQU Advisors, has been hard at work generating a robust and diverse candidate pool for Bellevue College. Our search consultants received many nominations for potential president candidates from our BC community, as well as beyond, which kept them busy over the last two months reaching out to prospective candidates.
- Candidates were encouraged to submit application materials by February 3 for full consideration, which means the Presidential Search Advisory Committee is currently in the process of reviewing these applicant materials and interviewing candidates using the desired qualities and qualifications identified in the presidential profile and the BC Priorities Report as their criteria. The Presidential Screening Advisory Committee will soon provide a recommendation to the Board of Trustees of 3-4 finalists who should be considered for invitations to interview on campus.
- Alicia Keating Polson is working on scheduling a Special Meeting later this month to discuss the qualifications of the presidential candidates, including the 3-4 finalists recommended by the Presidential Search Advisory Committee. The Board will make a decision on the 3-4 finalists at that meeting and then move quickly to confirm the specific dates of the finalist interviews, which are scheduled to occur the weeks of March 6 and March 13. Once the schedules are confirmed, the names of the presidential finalists will be shared with the campus.

- It is important to keep in mind that while we are shopping for our next president, we are also selling our college, so we should put our best feet forward.
- During their interview days, each candidate will participate in a Presidential Candidate Open Forum, which will be open to all members of the BC community. This session will be hybrid, so available both in-person and remotely. The sessions will also be recorded for those unable to attend. The tentative Presidential Candidate Open Forum dates are as follows:
 - Wednesday, March 8, 11:15am – 12:15 pm
 - Thursday, March 9, 11:15am – 12:15 pm
 - Tuesday, March 14, 11:15am – 12:15 pm
 - Wednesday, March 15, 11:15am – 12:15 pm
 - Thursday, March 16, 11:15am – 12:15 pm
- More specific details will be shared with the campus by March 1.
- It is anticipated that we will remain on schedule with the timeline the Board announced in November, which likely will result in the selection of Bellevue College’s next president by the end of March 2023.

VIII. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Gary Locke, Interim President of Bellevue College, provided the monthly president report.

- Discovery Day was this last Saturday. There were over 500 attendees, and lots of interest in Running Start. There will be another Discovery Day in 2 months.
- Locke thanked the faculty who have completed the Online Excellence Program, most of which have completed both modules well in advance. Thank you to the faculty union for embracing this.
- Enrollments are a concern, but the college is finishing this year in good shape. Fall enrollments are less than hoped, and growth in international enrollment has been helpful while decreases in all other categories are a concern. Thanks to Jean D’Arc Campbell, Dean of International Education and Global Initiatives, and his strategies for diversifying partnerships.
- The college is working towards partnerships with local companies for upskilling their current employees.
- The current budget projection suggests unfilled positions may remain unfilled even as key positions that serve students. COLAs may present challenges in the following year as they are not fully funded, creating a 35 million dollar hit to funding across state, and several million for the college alone.
- Associate Justice of the Washington Supreme Court Mary Yu has agreed to be our commencement speaker in June.

IX. **BOARD REPORT**

There was no Board report.

X. **PUBLIC COMMENT/UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS**

Sascha West, student at Bellevue College, provided public comment on a dental and medical clinic on campus.

Zach Morgan, staff member at Bellevue College, provided public comment on the Healthy Minds Study Survey.

There was no unscheduled business.

XI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 3:56 PM, Chair Heu-Weller announced the Board would convene for 30 minutes in executive session under [RCW 42.30.110\(1\)](#) for the following purpose: (g) To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee; and (i) To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation. Chair Heu-Weller announced that no final action would be taken during the executive session. In accordance with [RCW 28B.50.102 \(2\)](#), Trustee O'Meara excused himself from the executive session.

At 4:25 PM, Chair Heu-Weller announced the executive session would be extended by 15 minutes.

At 4:40 PM, Chair Heu-Weller announced the executive session would be extended by 5 minutes.

The executive session ended at 4:45 PM.

XII. **BUSINESS SESSION**

Chair Heu-Weller reconvened the business session at 4:48 PM. Chair Heu-Weller excused Vice Chair Fukutaki and Trustee Leigh from the Equity in the Training Process training session due to their previous participation in the training in November 2022.

XIII. **BOARD TRAINING**

Abner Pagunuran and Jahkari Aujla-Singh presented the Equity in the Screening Process training to the trustees.

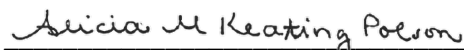
XIV. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Heu-Weller adjourned the Board of Trustees meeting at 6:12 PM.



Merisa Heu-Weller, Chair
Board of Trustees

ATTEST:



Alicia Keating Polson
Secretary, Board of Trustees
Community College District VIII