



**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, October 25, 2023. Rich Fukutaki, chair, presided. This meeting was held in B201 and on Zoom. A telephone line was also available.

MINUTES

Chair Fukutaki called the business session to order at 2:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

A quorum of the Board was present.

Present: Chair Rich Fukutaki, Trustee Merisa Heu-Weller, Trustee Greg Dietzel, Trustee Pradnya Desh, President David May, Assistant Attorney General Tricia Boerger, and Board Secretary Alicia Keating Polson.

Absent: Vice Chair Richard Leigh

There were 31 guests in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Trustee Heu-Weller made a motion to approve the agenda (October 25, 2023) and minutes (September 20, 2023) Trustee Desh seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSTITUENT REPORTS

A. Student

The Student report was provided by Sean Behl, President of Associated Student Government (ASG.)

- ASG is impressed with the large number of students coming in person to campus and attending club events and activities. The scheduled ASG events throughout the Fall quarter were well attended. The Halloween event, including pumpkin carving, food, and a movie, had over 300 attendees.
- ASG is expanding its legislative efforts this year. Three ASG officers traveled to Central Washington University to attend the Washington State Student General Assembly and helped develop the Student Legislative Agenda for the year with 14 other institutions.

- The BC Student Senate has finalized the structure and guiding senate documents with the aim of having applications open in two weeks.
- The Legislative Agenda will be available for the Board of Trustees to review at a future meeting.

B. College Assembly

The College Assembly report was provided by Brandon Lueken, Chair of College Assembly.

- With a busy beginning to the year, many governance councils are currently setting goals. Councils bring set goals to the College Assembly and College Assembly's role is to help realize those goals.
- How courses are coded in ctclink, defining online courses as synchronous, asynchronous, or hybrid is being worked on. Most courses taught at BC are web enhanced.
- Brandon Lueken discussed the challenges of staff shortages, particularly in governance, with over 20 vacant positions. The issue was notably observed in faculty, where tenured faculty members were finding it difficult to manage their responsibilities.
- The College Assembly report emphasized the importance of accountability in their work, reflecting on the community's involvement in creating the 2013 strategic plan and the need to assess its effectiveness. The idea of using accountability as a basis for the next strategic plan was introduced, prompting discussion on the number of measures to include.
- There was mention of a future roadshow presenting an accountability report and planning for it. The discussion turned to the closing of initiatives, with an acknowledgment that the institution excels at starting new plans but struggles with execution and learning from them.
- A question was raised about collecting data on student preferences regarding class modalities and whether the college was considering the best interests of students. The response highlighted the completion of course surveys by students and efforts by academic affairs and professors to track course delivery and student feedback, particularly noting challenges with online courses.

C. Faculty

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

- Mental health and the proposal to expand telehealth services for counseling was brought up. There is a recognition that Bellevue College is well-resourced in this area compared to other institutions, but the importance of in-person counseling during crises is highlighted.
- There are ongoing legislative efforts in the Washington Legislative Strategies Committee to address issues such as adjunct parity and parity pay.
- The faculty report addresses the mismatch between the state's generous grants and the low FAFSA completion rates. Concerns are raised about the delays in financial aid processing, impacting students' decisions to enroll. Efforts are underway to raise awareness of this issue and advocate for solutions to improve response times for financial aid applications, potentially increasing enrollment.
- Discussion of recent trends related to faculty leaving after receiving tenure. The issue is seen as complex, involving factors such as compensation, stress, workload, and the nature of the job. Concerns are raised about the relevance of the traditional tenure process and whether adjustments need to be made. It was noted that faculty who were not adjuncts before being

hired tend to be the ones leaving, and there was a suggestion that better communication about the salary structure might be needed.

- There is a recognition of the stress faculty face, particularly with increased expectations for student care and additional responsibilities beyond teaching. The impact of these stressors on faculty retention is acknowledged, and the need to monitor and address these issues was highlighted.

D. Foundation

The Foundation report was provided by Angie Graves, President of the Bellevue College Foundation.

- The Donor Scholar Event was a success. Two of the speakers were amazing scholarship recipients whose lives are being changed by their opportunity to learn at Bellevue College. Also heard was a donor with an incredibly moving story about why he gives to help fund BC scholarships.
- During the Bulldog Activities Day, the Foundation brought real live bulldogs to campus. There were lots of smiles from the students at this fun event.
- The Foundation Gala is scheduled for March 9, 2024. A request was made to the Trustees to think about who they are going to bring to fill a table and items to contribute to support the fundraising efforts of the Gala.
- A special thanks to the Board of Trustees for their ongoing support, time, dedication and attendance at fundraising events.

E. Classified Report

A written report was provided by Raymona Baldwin, Communication Liaison for the Washington Public Employees Association (WPEA) at Bellevue College.

- Raymona has agreed to do the communication liaison position for WPEA thru the 23-24 school year. She has worked at Bellevue for eight years in the Disability Resource Center as an Assistive Tech Specialist. She has been a Steward for 6 years and her specialization in the union is to work on 1 to 1 member advocacy and some reasonable accommodation advocacy.
- WPEA has two member meetings via zoom scheduled for November 2, 2023. Text and email reminders should go out to those that we have information for that are members in good standing/ dues paying members.
- November is Open Enrollment for the medical plans for the college. It has been noted that premiums are increasing and other changes. Raymona is open to hearing comments from Classified employees.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sajonna Sletten, faculty member at Bellevue College, provided public comment on English as a Second Language program capacity.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

A. Faculty Commons

Sajonna Sletten, Chair of the Faculty Commons and Senior Associate Professor of English as a Second Language, presented on the Faculty Commons.

The Faculty Commons at Bellevue College provides space and organized activities for faculty seeking opportunities for: Faculty Development; Community and Wellness; Mentoring and Advocacy; and Career Development. The Faculty Commons is a contractual entity that was designed into the BCAHE Faculty Contract during the 2010-11 negotiating year. The contractual mission of the Faculty Commons is designed to provide, facilitate, and support faculty-guided innovation and adaptation of curriculum and pedagogy as well as other forms of faculty professional development that contribute to student success and to the educational mission and goals of the College. The Commons supports both full-time and adjunct faculty.

B. Center for Career Connections

Dan Fey, Director of the RISE Learning Institute and the Center for Career Connections, presented on the Center for Career Connections.

The Center for Career Connections at Bellevue College is a dynamic hub dedicated to empowering students, alumni, and community members in their pursuit of meaningful and rewarding careers. With its comprehensive array of resources and services, the center serves as a valuable bridge between education and the workforce. Whether it's career exploration, assessments, resume building, interview preparation, work study, or connecting individuals with internships and job opportunities, the Center for Career Connections is committed to fostering professional growth and helping people realize their full potential. Its team of professional staff are passionate about guiding students, alumni, and community members towards successful career paths, ensuring they are well-equipped to thrive in a competitive job market. The Center also houses the College's highly regarded student success cohort programs, including Neurodiversity Navigators, Disabled Students Navigating STEM, and STEM to Stern. At Bellevue College, the Center for Career Connections plays a pivotal role in shaping the futures of its students, alumni, and community members and enhancing their employability.

ACTION

A. Off Cycle Tenure

Motion 29.23

Trustee Dietzel moved that the Board of Trustees of Community College District VIII hereby grants tenure beginning Spring Quarter 2024 to Kattie Dang, Counseling Center (Counselor). Trustee Heu-Weller seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

A. President's Report

David May, President, provided the President's report:

- The search for a Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs has officially launched. Applications are due by January 10th, and the goal is to have a provost selected by March, with a summer start date.
- The Vice President of Student Affairs position will be launched in the next few weeks.
- BC Bulldog Days were successful, fostering student engagement with activities such as a food drive and a chalk art contest. A scavenger hunt, deliberately designed to guide students to various campus locations, including the President's office, aimed to enhance student engagement, providing an enjoyable opportunity for them to gather, socialize, and indulge in candy.
- Enrollments are in a positive state, and campus housing is currently 95% full.
- A productive meeting with the Bellevue School District leadership occurred on campus last week to strengthen partnerships and improve the transition between the K-12 system and Bellevue College. An invitation was extended to Bellevue College Discovery Day on Saturday, November 18th. Bellevue School District leadership will relay this invitation widely to their students, families, and faculty.
- Recognition was given to Bellevue College student-athletes, particularly the volleyball and soccer teams, for their outstanding achievements in both academics and sports. Both the volleyball and soccer teams have made it to the playoffs. Student athletics do tremendous work on the fields, courts and in the class are to be commended.

B. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Report

- No report

C. Board Report

- No report

UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS

There was no unscheduled business.

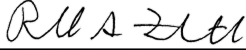
EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:30 PM, Chair Fukutaki announced the Board would convene for 20 minutes in executive session under [RCW 42.30.110\(1\)](#) for the following purpose: (g) To review the performance of a public employee. Chair Fukutaki announced that no final action would be taken during the executive session.

The executive session ended at 3:50 PM.

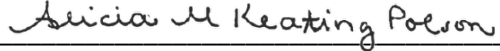
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Fukutaki adjourned the Board of Trustees meeting at 3:51 PM.



Rich Fukutaki
Chair, Board of Trustees
Community College District VIII

ATTEST:



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