
Rogue Community College District
Special Board of Education – October 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order** – The Rogue Community College (RCC) Special Board of Education Meeting – Work Session, was called to order by Kevin Talbert, Ph.D., Board Chair, at 4:00 p.m. on October 22, 2019, at the RCC/Southern Oregon University (SOU) Higher Education Center (HEC), Room 129A/B, 101 S. Bartlett Street, Medford, Oregon. Due notice was given.

This meeting format was unanimously agreed upon at the Board of Education (Board) retreat on September. The special meeting will begin at 4:00 pm and focus on discussion only. The regular board meeting will begin at 5:00 pm and include all action items, board reports, and executive session.

2. **Determine Presence of Quorum** – A quorum of the Board was present including Claudia Sullivan, Kevin Talbert, Pat Ashley, Pat Fahey, Ron Fox, Roger Stokes, and Shawn Hogan. Kevin Talbert recognized the participation of the full board.

Guests in Attendance – RCC Employees: Kori Ebenhack, Juliet Long, Greg McKown, Laurie Roe, Grant Walker, Nikki Koenig, Chelsea Daugherty, Judy Basker, Rene McKenzie, Teri Smith, Vicki McCrary, and Associated Student Government (ASG) representatives Loren Langdon, Kelsy Carlson, Jennifer Cunningham.

3. **Board Discussion Items**

There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

- A. Board Commitments from the September 20, 2019 Retreat

Kevin Talbert asked if there were any changes to the agenda and received none. Due to staff changes, there were no written minutes available for the board retreat; however, Shawn Hogan had his written notes. The Board reviewed the three major goals established at the retreat:

1. Expanding collaborative partnerships;
2. Supporting student success through an equity lens; and
3. Supporting sustainability.

The Board agreed to continue expanding collaborative partnerships by resuming meetings with local school district superintendents and their board members. We met with Medford and Grants Pass in 2018-19, and since then, Medford has a new Superintendent. However, we have not met with the smaller districts.

Cathy Kemper-Pelle is presenting at the November 18 meeting of the Southern Oregon Educational Service District superintendents' meeting regarding dual credit. She will share that information at the subsequent board meeting.

Board members suggested Ashland, Three Rivers and Medford as possible districts to meet with in 2019-20. After discussion, the Board agreed to meet with Medford's new superintendent and board first, followed by Ashland and then Three Rivers. Due to scheduling challenges, this will be the maximum number of districts we can meet with in a school year. The president's office will take the lead on scheduling as soon as possible and include two RCC board members, two

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school district board members, the RCC president, and the school superintendent. Kevin Talbert is hopeful that all of the RCC Board will participate in these dinner meetings over the year.

In previous RCC-school district meetings the conversation was generally around what is working and what is not. Both parties learned, and out of those conversations came to-do lists for the superintendent, college president, and their delegates. One of the results of the meeting with Grants Pass High School was a data sharing agreement with RCC to help them prove to the state that they are achieving their goals.

Since K-12 is currently asking for input on how to spend funding from the Student Success Act, the president and Ron Fox will report at the next board meeting on the OSBA Regional Meeting on October 30.

This provided a segue way to the recent Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) Board Meeting in Pendleton, OR where our president spoke on the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Academy at RCC. Few community college board members present at OCCA understood how school districts could spend their Measure 98 dollars. It was agreed that RCC should continue to focus on the Academy as a viable K-12 partnership.

Kevin summarized that the Board has a clear path to follow regarding item A, collaborative partnerships with K-12 school boards.

B. Schedule of presentations to the board

At the retreat the Board decided to focus the special one-hour presentations on accreditation work and Achieving the Dream (ATD). They also discussed considering the budgeting process into the timing of these programs as they may influence priorities and strategies for academic year 2020-21. It was agreed that presentations in November, January and March will provide a good overview of college operations, institutional effectiveness, outcomes assessment, and needs for the future. These three presentations will be done before the Board meets with the accreditation site visit team April 15-17, 2020.

The Board will continue to hear short 15-minute presentations throughout the year, and November will focus on apprenticeships. President Kemper-Pelle and her Executive Team will be responsible for the topics covered in these short presentations as well as the one-hour presentations.

The Board indicated interest in being part of feedback meetings with the ATD coaches, and Cathy Kemper-Pelle clarified that the fall meeting is to review our goals for the year while the one in spring will focus on goal attainment. The spring meeting is more appropriate for a board member to attend.

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C. Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) meeting at Table Rock Campus
October 10, 2019

Both RCC and Southern Oregon University (SOU) board members and administrators joined HECC commissioners and staff for dinner on October 9 at SOU. Cathy Kemper-Pelle shared that she had a conversation with Ben Cannon, HECC Executive Director, in which they discussed the challenges of implementing the state-wide transfer articulation legislation and how the Southern Oregon Higher Education Consortium might serve as a model for the state. Ben also indicated that he was very excited by what RCC is doing in career and technical education, especially the CTE Academy. In summary, the commissioners were able to witness the close collaboration between RCC and SOU.

Several board members participated in the October 10 HECC event. The Board thanked Shawn Hogan for officially welcoming the Commission to the Table Rock Campus (TRC) as both an employer and an RCC board member.

Participating board members shared their impressions of the HECC meeting, and two board members accompanied HECC members on a tour of TRC. Juliet Long, Interim Vice President of Instructional Services, indicated that she received great feedback from participants, and that HECC commissioners and staff agreed to go over their tour time limit to see all of the campus. Juliet was acknowledged for hosting the event with HECC on the Table Rock Campus and handling a few technology issues associated with the meeting.

Board members also shared that the October 9 presentation by RCC student, Kristy Laschober, was extremely motivational because she overcame extremely difficult obstacles with the help of RCC Student Services staff and great instructors. As a transfer student to SOU, her talk underscored that smooth transfers are possible.

D. Oregon School Board Association Fall Regional Meeting, Medford, October 30, 2019

Ron Fox will attend the Fall Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) working dinner. President Kemper-Pelle is planning to attend this event as well. This is a good opportunity for RCC to share with school board members our goals for relationships with local school boards.

E. Oregon School Board Association Annual Convention, Portland, November 14-17, 2019

After discussion the Board decided that more can be accomplished by meeting with local school boards, and that will be the focus of this board's efforts. Travel will be reserved for the OCCA

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Annual Conference and the Governance Institute for Student Success, both at Salishan Resort in November 2019.

The Board thanked Vicki McCrary for the cost analysis for these two events, allowing them to make data informed decisions about their participation. All reservations for these events have been completed.

F. Other Topics

As chair, Kevin Talbert noted that this was the end of the published agenda for the information work session and opened the meeting to additional topics. There was a request for clarification regarding the board goal of sustainability, as this term has multiple meanings. It was unclear to members if this referred to people, tuition, budget and finance, programs, or the environment.

Cathy Kemper-Pelle reminded the Board that their goal was in support of her goal of environmental sustainability. Further discussion included creating policies and procedures that reduce RCC's carbon footprint and set an example as an environmental leader in our community. The term "resiliency" was suggested, and a request was made that each division of the college update the board on current environmental efforts across the college. This will be considered for a future presentation to the Board.

Discussion continued regarding various types of sustainability, and Kevin Talbert reminded the group that the decision at the board retreat was to focus on environmental sustainability. There was also a discussion about the expectation that financial sustainability is an inherent expectation of every community college board. It was suggested the Board look at best practices in environmental sustainability at Portland Community College – Rock Creek and Southern Oregon University, among others. In conclusion, the board agreed to revisit this topic next month when minutes from the September 20 board retreat are available.

4. Adjournment – Kevin Talbert adjourned the meeting at 4:51 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Vicki McCrary, Assistant to the President – Operations