



ACTION

MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

DATE: *March 17, 2021*

ITEM TITLE: 4.1b

CONTACT PERSON: *Laurie Popp, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education*

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 20, 2021

Session 1024

A meeting of the Mt. Hood Community College District Board of Education was held on January 20, 2021, with a Regular Board Meeting at 6:30 pm, held via Zoom meeting.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER / DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Members present: Diane Noriega, board chair, Annette Mattson, board vice chair, Diane McKeel, Jim Zordich, Andrew Speer, LaVerne Lewis, Kenney Polson

Additional Attendees: Dr. Lisa Skari, president, Jennifer DeMent, chief operations officer, John Hamblin, executive dean for Student Development, Al McQuarters, vice president of Instruction, Al Sigala, executive director of Development and District Communications, Jeanna Hunt, FTFA president, Christy Weigel, CEA representative, Nicole Johnson-Moses, ASG president

Noriega called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and declared a quorum was present.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

Zordich motioned to approve the agenda. Speer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2.0 PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

3.0 REPORTS

3.1 Correspondence

Dr. Skari shared that the college has been recommended for funding by the National Science Foundation for a \$600,000 grant that would provide scholarships for students in the Cybersecurity program. We have been notified the college has made the cut for the pre-



apprenticeship grant competition. The US Department of Education announced there are 95 finalists in the *Rethink Adult Ed Challenge*, which is a \$750,000 competition to advance pre-apprenticeship programs. The challenge winner will receive \$250,000 and up to five runner-ups will receive \$100,000 to further their pre-apprenticeship programs. We were notified by Senator Merkley's office that Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) will receive a \$5 million grant in the *Strengthening Community College Training Grants* program. MHCC is the lead college for the Oregon Consortium, which includes Central Oregon, Chemeketa, Clackamas, Lane, Klamath Falls, Portland, Rogue, and Southwestern Oregon Community Colleges. The main focus of the training are in the areas of cybersecurity and advanced manufacturing, and our goal is to work with industry partners to create industry certified online credentials in those two areas that can be offered across the State.

January is board recognition month, and Dr. Skari recognized board members for their time and effort in supporting the college and our students. She extended sincere appreciation on behalf of the college for their year-round contributions serving on the board, and stated they should receive a small token of appreciation in the mail. Students from the music program played a music ensemble for board members. Jeanna Hunt shared comments on behalf of the FTFA executive team, and Nicole Johnson-Moses read thank you notes from ASG student leaders in appreciation of all the board does in support of students.

3.2 Special Report: Enrollment Forecast

Dr. Skari provided a report on enrollment forecasting. She began by referring to an analogy she shared at the board retreat last year, and referred to the advice for the board about scanning the environment, looking for what is ahead, and figuring out how to help us safely navigate where we are going. This report was an evidence-based forecast, and the models are pre-COVID and do not take into account the effects of the pandemic. The data does not include actual student demand or all populations, and is not about panic. She provided statistical data showing projections for slowing growth and the potential change in enrollment numbers among U.S. Public High School Graduates. She provided information from the *WICHE Report*, which is based on birth rates, and highlighted the State-by-State projected percent change from Class of 2019 to 2037 for public and private schools.

Dr. Skari shared information from Nathan Grawe's book, *Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education*, and a recent article he published in *The Chronicles of Higher Education* about an update to his forecasting model. She referenced an article in the *Portland Business Journal* that showed the ten most diverse public school districts in Oregon last year, and that 50% of those school districts are in the MHCC service area. Dr. Skari responded to several questions about the data in the presentation, and a question about next year's budget forecast, and stated the college is currently working on the budget forecast and will be looking at four or five different variables for next year. Dr. Skari stated she would send a copy of the full WICHE Report to board members. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is attached to the minutes.



3.3 Financial Update – 2nd Quarter (Oct – Dec)

Jennifer DeMent provided a financial update for the 2nd quarter that ended December 31, 2020. She provided an update on the year-end forecasted revenue numbers compared to the adopted budget numbers.

- State Aid - MHCC's distribution was reduced by approximately \$600,000 or 1.8%, due to actual enrollment changes over the prior 3 years, as compared to other Oregon community colleges.
- Property Taxes – recorded when received or paid, not when imposed. They are forecasting the property taxes to be about 3% less than forecasted, which is about \$450,000.
- Tuition – revenue reflects a similar decline in enrollment. The tuition is projected to be about 17.3%, or \$3.4 million less due to enrollment reductions.
- Fees – revenue increase is due in large part to distance learning fee collections. The fees are up about 25% or \$1.07 million dollars.
- All other revenue categories are forecasted to close the year the same as budget.
- Total revenue is forecasted to close \$3.4 million or 5% less than budget.

DeMent provided an update on the year-end forecasted expenditure numbers compared to the adopted budget numbers.

- Personnel – personnel services were about 2% less than budgeted, with an estimated savings of \$1.02 million.
 - Savings in part-time hourly, student employment and part-time instruction; also savings from furlough days last summer and COLA holdback for managers and confidential employees.
- Materials & Services – are forecasted to have savings of 21.7%, which is \$2.01 million under budget.
 - Savings in supplies, utilities and other contracted services.
- All other expense categories are forecasted to close about the same as what was budgeted.
- The college has received an additional \$8 million in federal stimulus funds due to the COVID pandemic, which has covered the additional COVID related costs and funds to provide expanded support for students.

The net operations are forecasted to use approximately \$498,000 of fund balance, and to close the year with approximately \$9.6 million in fund balance, or 51 days of operating expense. DeMent responded to a question about the PERS rates, and stated the PERS rates change every two years and they anticipate a change with a rate increase in July 2021. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is attached to the minutes.

4.0 BUSINESS / ACTION

4.1 Consent Agenda: Approvals & Information

a) Minutes – Board Training/Work Session 1020, December 2, 2020



- b) Minutes – Board Regular Session 1022, December 16, 2020
- c) Monthly Personnel Report
- d) Monthly Financial Report
- e) Monthly Head Start Report
- f) COVID-19 Activity Report
- g) Resolution to Transfer Budgeted Appropriations

Zordich motioned to approve the consent agenda. Mattson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5.0 CLOSING REPORTS

5.1 a) Board Members

Board members shared their participation in community meetings and events since the last board meeting. The Community Engagement spreadsheet will be updated to reflect the community activity.

b) ASG Representative

Nicole Johnson-Moses, ASG representative – she provided an update on ASG student activities, and highlighted several upcoming events in February. The Finance Council is planning to hold an Open Budget Forums on February 9 at 2:30 pm and February 10 at 11:00 am. The Student Activities team is working on several events to support and engage students. She reached out to Imperfect Produce in hopes of establishing a partnership where ASG can sponsor a group of students to have fresh food delivered directly to students. They plan to work closely with the Student Basic Needs Team, and will focus on serving families who have expressed difficulty making it to Barney’s Pantry during normal hours. She has maintained contact with Portland Adventist in hopes of holding a food distribution event for students that need additional access to fresh foods. She shared highlights about a book scholarship program they offered to students during this term.

c) Advisory Representatives

Jeanna Hunt (FTFA) – she shared comments about the program cuts that were made last year and that she remains extremely disappointed. She shared her thoughts about the current environment at the college, and that some students are struggling in the current virtual environment. She shared several suggestions made by faculty to address this.

Christy Weigel (CEA) – she provided an update on behalf of the Classified Employees Association that they reached an agreement on the MOA for working conditions during COVID. They are still in the bargaining process regarding the bookstore outsourcing and hope to come to a resolution on this in the near future.

Marilyn Pitts (PTFA) – did not attend.



d) Executive Leadership

John Hamblin – he provided highlights from the 2nd quarter division report for Student Development that was included in the board packet.

Al Sigala – he provided highlights from the 2nd quarter division report for Development and District Communications that was included in the board packet.

Al McQuarters – he provided highlights from the 2nd quarter division report for Instruction that was included in the board packet.

Jennifer DeMent – she provided highlights from the 2nd quarter division report for Administrative Services that was included in the board packet.

5.2 President's Report

Dr. Skari provided her President's Report to the board:

This morning we welcomed in a new administration, and the first black female vice president of the United States. As a woman, I have always hoped for this day, but I questioned if I would ever see it in my lifetime. But we have arrived, but it almost does not feel as if anything has changed. We still face tremendous challenges in our community around equity, justice, and indifference, or maybe that is the lesson. There will always be work that needs to be done and our community needs us to be there and step up.

Before our meeting started, I was listening to David Grohl from the Foo Fighters who had dedicated a song to all the educators for everything they have done this year and every day. It is times like these we learn to live again.

So in that spirit, I am so proud of my faculty colleagues who spend their days lighting fires of thought, imparting knowledge, and supporting students in their learning. I am equally proud of all the staff who spend their days supporting students through the labyrinth we call college, and helping them get out the other side. And to my management team, I am extremely proud of their dedication and work to devise and implement strategies that support student success. And to each of you, I am very thankful for each of you board members, for your dedication to our students, our college, and our community. So thank you. Thank you all.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

Zordich motioned to adjourn. Polson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Clerk

Board Chair

Minutes recorded by Laurie Popp, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education.