

Session #922

A meeting of the Mt. Hood Community College District Board of Education was held on September 14, 2016, with a workshop in the President's Office at 6:15 p.m. There was a Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at Mt. Hood Community College, 26000 S.E. Stark Street, Gresham, Oregon.

WORKSHOP

Board Members in attendance: Susie Jones (Chair), Michael Calcagno, Teena Ainslie, Sonny Yellott, Kenney Polson, Tamie Arnold

Staff present: Debra Derr, Carrie Toth

Calcagno reviewed two notices received by Head Start. No board action is required, and it is being remedied by staff. Derr is confident that it will be corrected.

Jones reintroduced the topic of committees. She reviewed the new board goals, from which the committees formed. Calcagno and Zordich will serve on the Bond committee; Polson and Jones will serve on the policy committee; Arnold will consider what she would like to participate in. Jones and Derr recommended putting the visioning committee on hold; Derr would like to develop ways in which we can explore what we need to do for the next 20 years, especially regarding our technology, our business and industry partners, and the jobs that will be needed in our community.

Arnold noted that she would like to see a goal related to how we can better prepare our high school students, and how we can strengthen that connection; we need to be innovative. Derr noted that we have more students now than we ever have in College Now and are focusing on ways to involve students in college-level coursework. The students earn credit and have a transcript. She suggested Dan Ryan from All Hands Raised as a future board guest.

Jones stated that the board will talk in regular session about their committees.

CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Board Members in attendance: Susie Jones (Chair), Teena Ainslie, Sonny Yellott, Kenney Polson, Michael Calcagno, Tamie Arnold

A meeting of the MHCC District Board was called to order at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Arnold moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Calcagno moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Timothy Welp asked to address the board regarding Head Start bargaining. He is the field rep who is working with our 200 or so Head Start workers. They have been working with the Head Start administration since the spring and have been able to agree on a number of important issues. He feels as though the rapport has been productive, but the outstanding issues are highly concerning. He stated that core issues include a huge amount of turnover, which is a concern for the staff's ability to be effective. Over 200 workers do not have a functioning salary schedule, while the other unions at MHCC do. They have had a salary freeze for many years, and with the cost of living increasing, it is very difficult. New workers come in at higher wages than employees who have been there for many years. He wants to work together and problem-solve. He again stressed the difficulty of turnover and inefficiency, which leads to morale issues. The next bargaining session will take place on September 26th.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Derr introduced Sergey Shepelov and Sheri Mosher and gave an overview of the Accreditation process. She stressed the importance of Key Performance Indicators, which Sergey and Sheri have worked to identify.

Shepelov presented an updated version of the college dashboard, which allows the board to view specific information and reports under the "Mission" tab. The priorities listed were identified by the strategic plan and are clickable. Related initiatives and specific information will be added. Jones asked if narrative notes can be added, and Shepelov noted that there is a place to add details. Calcagno asked if the board is able to view information on first generation, minority, and other demographic factors. Shepelov responded that this will be possible if the information is defined and collected by the College. Mosher noted that the next goal will be to show how we use this data to assess and improve.

BUSINESS/ACTION

6.1 Head Start Policy – Gender Parity

Jean Wagner presented the Head Start Gender Parity Policy for a second reading. Calcagno moved to approve the policy. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

6.2 Second Reading of Policy Updates

Three policies were pulled for further review: Administrator Evaluations, Smoking, and Authorized Use of College Equipment. Toth and Derr will revise and present the policies in the future.

Calcagno moved to approve policies 2100, 4000, 4020, 9182, 9183, 9183.1, and new policies 'Mother-Friendly Workplace' and 'Board Legislative Program'. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Toth and Derr will continue to bring policies forward at future board meetings.

6.3 Second Reading – Board Committees

Jones presented a second reading of the Board Committee policy. Polson moved to approve the policy. The motion was approved and carried unanimously.

6.4 President's Goals

Derr noted that some of the questions regarding measures were hopefully defined in the KPIs and are consistent with the Strategic Plan. The board will receive regular reports from her throughout the academic year.

Arnold moved to accept the goals. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

6.5 Resolution Seeking External Assessment on Student Support Concept

Michael Calcagno presented a resolution for Oregon Solutions, a neutral body that allows vetting and research around a particular concept. This resolution would sanction that partnership to allow the Oregon Solutions assessment to determine the merits of the Upward Mobility Center concept. Ainslie made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

CLOSING REPORTS

BOARD COMMITTEES

Jones reminded the Board that they set goals to explore a new bond package; look at policies and look at Carver policy governance; work to increase MHCC's visibility in the community; and create a district-wide strategic vision. From those goals, the board formed committees, with members serving on a volunteer basis. Calcagno and Zordich are co-chairs of the bond committee. Jones and Polson serve on the Policy Committee. The visibility committee is currently without members. Jones reminded the committees to form charters, plans of work, and timelines, with the expectation that they would report at regular meetings.

The bond committee met and is identifying community members it might want to serve on the committee, looking at trends, and other items. Additionally, Bill Becker, Charles George, and Jarrod Hogue are pulling together requested information on the Applied Technology center and workforce trends.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Derr noted that faculty will return one week from today and invited the board to convocation. There is a very robust in-service schedule this year, put together by Bill Becker and David Pontious. The facilities staff has been working hard on the campus. Ainslie commented that the new ADA parking is welcoming and looks wonderful.

Derr mentioned that we are a partner of the Wisconsin HOPE Lab - we are one of the community colleges taking a leadership role in their study, which will enable us to gather data. Board members are invited to attend a reception and lecture at PCC Cascade by Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab.

The College is moving forward with presentations to staff on the Climate Survey and is collecting feedback. Derr met with Andrea Henderson and participated in the OCCA Executive Committee retreat. Derr stated that we are moving into a robust legislative session; she will plan a legislative breakfast for early December. Overall, the budget is facing a service level gap of over a million dollars. We will have a Plan A and Plan B, depending on what measures pass.

Derr said that we have established a robust bridge for some of our most at-risk students, and the planning group has done a remarkable job. Last year we had 60 Summer Bridge students; this year, we had 160. The Gresham Area Chamber magazine has a full article on MHCC on our positive economic impact on the community.

DeMent gave an update on the debt refinancing. We have been working with Moody's to reaffirm we have a solid rating; they also emphasized the importance of our reserves. We have an official statement that will be made public tomorrow.

BOARD MEMBER/ ADVISORY COMMENTS

Pitts has been working with David Pontious on the in-service items for part-time faculty. It can be difficult to find times that work for part-timers. They have had evening professional development opportunities for those who cannot be there during the day. The PFTA leadership has applied to the Foundation for funds to provide stipends for those sessions.

Forbis noted that our financial statement this year was submitted - we were notified that we got a certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting. He commended the accounting department for their work.

Polson passed.

Ainslie asked what the increased enrollment might be for MHCC, and how we are affected by the closure of ITT Tech and other for-profit schools. Derr responded that we are holding a career transfer fair for several local schools for students affected by the closure of ITT Tech. The reality is that the largest percentage of students who have lost their opportunity are nursing students at all stages of a nursing degree. We may find students who can go into some of our other programs. We will also have some faculty to look at student transcripts and see how we might help. Jones asked if funding could increase for financial aid for public institutions with many for-profit schools going out of business. Derr responded no, not with the way financial aid is structured.

Yellott passed.

Jones passed.

Arnold passed.

Calcagno gave an update on the BRT project. He noted that the original blueprint for the Max Blue Line was to end at the College, and the current project was intended to go from OHSU down Powell and to the college. Unfortunately, due to budget issues, the college is no longer being considered in those plans by the steering committee, with the end of the route being Gresham Transit Center. According to the committee, they do not have the funding. Calcagno will continue to advocate for the College in opposition to the plan. Metro and Trimet are trying to put together an alternate proposal, possibly by increasing the frequency of Line 20. Arnold asked if the board could write a letter of concern about the impact of removing MHCC from the plans. Calcagno will draft a letter. Jones noted that Shirley Craddick indicated that the high cost is due largely to needing a hub on campus.

ADJOURNMENT

Arnold moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Clerk

Board Chair

Minutes recorded by Carrie Toth, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education.