

Session #908

A meeting of the Mt. Hood Community College District Board of Education was held on December 9, with a workshop in the President's Office at 6 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 present: Teena Ainslie, Susie Jones, Jim Zordich, Michael Calcagno, Sonny Yellott, Tamie Arnold

Staff Present: Debra Derr, Carrie Toth

HEAD START TRAINING

Jean Wagner, Pam Greenough Corrie, and Susan Brady presented a Head Start training, required by the federal government as part of their grant. They distributed copies of the 2014-2015 Annual Report and gave a summary of the contents, including a financial overview, five-year goals, and services provided by Head Start. They noted a new grant from the Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships. They are now tracking how many parents are MHCC students.

Susan Brady discussed governance and where Head Start fits into the organizational chart of MHCC. The Head Start directors report to Rick Doughty, Vice President of Administrative Services. Next year, Head Start will undergo a review, which the Board of Education will have a role in as the Head Start board. The Policy Council meets monthly and forwards necessary items to the Board for approval. Brady gave an overview of the five-year goals. Currently, they have challenges around staffing and retention and insufficient space. Wagner noted that the management team is about to go into its second round of contract negotiations with the new union and stated that it has been a good relationship so far. The staff are also planning for succession, including hiring a new Head Start director, who must be approved by the board.

Yellott remarked that he would like to see some of the board responsibilities expanded.

Zordich asked about the upcoming negotiations. Wagner responded that their budget is finite, so there is not much that can be done, and that the union has been understanding of that. The budget process is very transparent.

Derr distributed information about the ASVAB, requested by the board at the November meeting.

The board agreed to discuss further items following the regular session, due to time constraints.

CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

A meeting of the Mt. Hood Community College Board of Education was called to order at 7:06 p.m. A quorum was present.

Board members present: Susie Jones (Chair), Jim Zordich (Vice Chair), Michael Calcagno, Sonny Yellott, Teena Ainslie, Tamie Arnold

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

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

PUBLIC INPUT

No public input was received.

PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

5.1 AQUATICS

Tanya Richardson presented an update on the Aquatics Center. She shared Mike Popovich's original vision for the center and listed some of the goals and accomplishments over the last year. Richardson is in her first full fiscal cycle and noted that while she has not been able to address all challenges, she has made significant progress and reduced the operating deficit of the Aquatics Center. The center has also seen a 19% growth in rentals and membership. It had 103,130 annual attendees, which has a significant economic impact on our local community. Arnold asked if the center has always operated at a deficit; Richardson responded that, yes, it has and will likely continue to do so. Arnold asked how we compare to other institutions with our deficit. Richardson responded that it is hard to measure; we are the only community college in Oregon that hosts swim meets because of our outdoor pool. She stated that they will look at concessions in the future.

Ainslie commended Richardson for her work, stating that there would be a huge hole in the community without the Aquatics Center.

Richardson stated that MHA recently signed a contract extension with the College. They have paid off arrears and are now current. She is beginning to work with the Chamber of Commerce and noted that they will be hosting a men's national meet next fall. The center is working on tracking student and staff usage and increasing their reporting capabilities.

Calcagno asked for slides in advance of the board meeting, in the future. He asked if a Veteran's rate was in place. Richardson responded that it would need board approval with the annual fee approvals. Calcagno asked if Richardson had considered a monthly pass, rather than the current punch card system. Richardson responded that they did look at annual and monthly passes but decided on the punch passes because they allow for

flexibility. The center does pro-rate the passes. Calcagno asked about the enterprise fund; Richardson stated that the Aquatics Center has been able to purchase a safety tarp and make capital improvements. She is working with the Facilities department on a project list.

Jones thanked Richardson for her presentation and noted that the Aquatics Center is a huge asset to the College; she is encouraged by the progress that has been made.

5.2 ACCREDITATION

Sheri Mosher presented on the upcoming accreditation review. She is the Director of Accreditation, and the liaison to NWCCU (Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities). We are in a 7-year accreditation cycle. The overarching goal is to engage in a thorough self-study of the College. The report is a self-reflection; we do not want our accreditation to team to tell us what we already know. What do we do well, and how do we assess and analyze that data and make improvements?

As a board, the members will look at the big picture of how the College is helping students. The Year Seven visitation of a team of 5-7 members will take place from November 7-9 of 2016. Full standards have been placed in the board's Dropbox. Under our governance structure, there is a section on our governing board with a list of criteria. Will have a visitation schedule, and the board will have an opportunity to be involved on those meetings.

Mosher is continuing to share with staff where the team is in the process. President's Council members are liaisons to each standard. The Faculty Association has been working with the team to have members present and involved – they understand how large the process is. Mosher noted that the process will begin again in 2017, which will be Year One of the accreditation cycle; it is meant to be a recurring cycle.

Jones asked if the accrediting team will give a list of findings or concerns, and if so, whether there will be time to address them.

Mosher responded that they will give us commendations and areas to address. They have asked us to provide interim reports – for example, they requested an Ad Hoc report. They can put a college on warning; it depends on what they find. They can call and clarify information or ask for further clarification; they can also ask for a plan if we are given a recommendation. Each of our sister colleges who have recently gone through the process have been given recommendations, particularly around student outcomes, according to Derr. Mosher will continue to provide updates to the board.

BUSINESS/ACTION

6.1 NEW PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The board received a handout on the new program development and approval process. Christie Plinski gave an overview of the review and approval processes.

Jones asked about the usual timeline. Plinski responded that the state process is time consuming, so we consider if we can get it done in three months, that timeline is considered

to be efficient. Jones asked if the quicker process is because we already have the existing courses. Plinski responded that, yes, having the courses in place does make it go faster; we have not had a brand new program in some time.

Yellott asks for a definition of “programs.” Plinski clarified that these are just instructional programs. Calcagno wondered if perhaps the board could be notified earlier on in the process that a program was being looked at or is in development so that they have more time to digest what is coming up. Plinski responded that they want to respect the board’s time and not just bring conceptual things forward – they carefully vet items that come to the board.

6.2 BOARD POLICY – FIRST READING

Jarrold Hogue presented a new policy for a first reading. Board Policy 6220 is intended to formalize our continuing education credits. When Hogue first joined the College, there was a lack of clarity on CEUs, and we were one of the few colleges who did not use them. Students were requesting CEUs to maintain licenses. Two years ago, we had a virtual accreditation visit, and this policy was a recommendation. Occasionally, when we offer Professional Development, people will request the CEUs. Hogue noted that they are more for professional development than for credit – one CEU is ten hours.

Jones asked who is qualified to grant the CEUs. Hogue responded that it is up to the accrediting body or the licensing body. Every organization has different standards. This standardizes the unit of time.

Calcagno asked if there are there any financial impacts. Hogue stated that, no, it would be exceptionally rare. People are usually required to complete a certain number of CEUs and need documentation for that.

The policy will be brought back in January for second reading and approval.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

GO Bond report: since the last meeting, Friends of MHCC has hired Blaine Palmer as a fundraiser to coordinate efforts. At the last bond meeting, Blaine was introduced and is finalizing a fundraising plan, and training sessions have been scheduled. Jones attended a session last week with five others. Derr stated that we must ramp up our fundraising, and we will need lots of help doing that. The Joint Leadership Council met today, and Paige and Blaine attended. Derr will be spending significant time fundraising. The second survey has been completed, and results will be ready in a week or so and presented at the next bond committee meeting. The GO Bond page is up and operational, and the committee will continue to look at key stakeholder meetings. Jones added that the second survey results will be presented on December 16th, and the consultant will recommend at that time if we should go out in May or December.

Arnold asked when the bond committee meetings are. Derr will extend invitations to the board members.

Derr stated that it has been an interesting couple of days at the College, with the washed out road during finals week. She stated that we have an amazing incident command team. Doughty credited the facilities and Charles George with their huge efforts. The collapsed road wiped out a sewer pipe, causing our collection tanks to fill. The team decided very quickly to close the college. Gresham got a temporary pipe in, narrowly missing a larger incident.

Derr attended a meet and greet with Senator Merkley to discuss current issues. She also met with the CEO of Adventist Medical Center. Jones and Polson presented on the potential bond at Gresham Barlow. Derr met with the CEO of Inside Track, whose organization has been working on intensive advising, guided pathways and career development of students. Derr noted that she will be attending OPC tomorrow. MHCC will continue to explore potential gateway partnerships with Warner Pacific. Derr recognized Megan Dugan, Library Director, for her recent Master's degree and selection to the Beta Phi Mu library science honorary society.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Corey Huston thanked the board for the opportunity to speak. The leadership of the Classified union has voted unanimously to support the bond; it took leaders of the association to build consensus and was difficult. He looks forward to congratulating the first board in 40 years to pass a bond; he noted that tough conversations will still need to occur and asked that we be mindful of how we communicate about the college. This is a great opportunity for us.

Arnold asked about what some of the concerns were. Huston responded that we have been through a massive economic shifts; Classified staff was reduced, and it takes time to build trust.

ASG COMMENTS

ASG has been busy this term – their final meetings took place last week. They will next meet during the first week of winter term. Albert noted that ASG is working in collaboration with Bruce Battle and Glenn Wright on a mascot competition – [they have a website up with the requirements](#). A small group of faculty, staff, and students will select the top entries, which will go out to students. The winner will be announced during spring term and will receive a 12-credit waiver. Only current students can submit. Albert attended last week's Foundation board meeting and introduced the student life app and a new feature called "Community Deals." He plans to attend the meetings regularly.

Lindsay Patiño noted that on January 18th, MHCC will be hosting the MLK national day of service, when over 700 students and volunteers work on service projects around the community. Board members are invited to attend. ASG hosted a food drive competition for Barney's pantry and received over 4000 items. ASG has been invited to attend PCC Board meeting at Sylvania campus to talk about our tuition freeze.

ADJOURNMENT

Zordich motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

WORKSHOP

The board members continued their workshop discussion. Calcagno and Arnold noted that they would like to revisit having board member comments in the open session, rather than in the workshop. They would also be interested in having an additional work session during the month. Jones noted that the hope was to keep the regular session focused and allow for discussion in the workshops. The board agrees to try leaving board member comments in the regular session for the next meeting, providing that they are brief and pertinent to board business.

Arnold asked for clarification on the process of getting items on the agenda and requested that the workshops be held in the Board Room. Jones responded that she and Derr set the agenda, and requests should be sent to her. Calcagno and Arnold asked that the board receive a courtesy reminder prior to the meeting to send agenda requests to Jones. Jones responded that she hopes to keep the meetings focused, as the board has enormous projects for this year, including the bond and the OSBA policy review.

Calcagno asked for feedback on his white paper. Arnold had expressed concerns regarding crime and making sure we are compliant with low-income housing requirements. She supports the concept but believes there are many unknowns. Ainslie stated that she believes it needs more discussion and noted that the board does not want to cause any misunderstandings.

Zordich stated that he does not support the concept, and that the issues are complex. He believes it is outside the scope of the board.

Jones stated that the idea may have merit, but that this is not the right time to address it, while the board is working through a potential bond, a policy review, collective bargaining, and accreditation.

Arnold noted that she supports innovative thinking and likes the concept, but that it cannot supersede the other pressing business. She sees it as a backburner idea.

Derr responded that the College is very aware of our student population and changing demographics. Extensive information was analyzed through the Strategic Plan process. There are two key pieces to address, one of which is working with communities and offering support. This is being addressed with the move toward a Guided Pathways model. The second piece is housing – how does it connect? Should it connect? She noted that a wraparound services model is very expensive, and that we do not currently have the resources; this is why the bond is so important. Housing raises a number of additional questions and concerns and is currently out of our capacity. She stated that the bond will require a number of partnerships, and that those connections are happening. She would like to address wraparound services that are currently being explored and then address next

steps in the future. With housing, even if it were not managed by Mt. Hood, any crimes or issues would reflect on the College in reality.

Jones stated that the idea should be put on pause while the board addresses its current issues. The board will decide as a whole whether or not to move forward with the idea in the future.