

AGENDA ITEM 6.(a)
 MEETING DATE January 7, 2009

**SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
 GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

TO: Members of the Governing Board

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A SPECIAL TRUSTEE,
 RESOLUTION NO. 08/09-19**

REQUESTED ACTION: APPROVAL

SUMMARY:

On Monday, January 5, 2009, the Board of Trustees met with Dr. Jack Scott, California Community College State Chancellor, who discussed with the Board the state of the College. At the recommendation of the State Chancellor, the Board agreed to adopt a resolution in support of a special trustee.

Approval of the attached Resolution No. 08/09-19 is requested at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: **APPROVAL** **DISAPPROVAL**
 NOT REQUIRED **TABLE**

Lisa J. Waits, Ed.D.
 Interim Superintendent/President

PRESENTER'S NAME

4000 Suisun Valley Road
 Fairfield, CA 94534

ADDRESS

(707) 864-7112

TELEPHONE NUMBER

Administration
ORGANIZATION

January 6, 2009
**DATE SUBMITTED TO
 SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT**



LISA J. WAITS, Ed.D.
 Interim Superintendent/President

January 6, 2009
**DATE APPROVED BY
 SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT**

**SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD**

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A SPECIAL TRUSTEE

RESOLUTION NO. 08/09-19

WHEREAS, Solano Community College is one of the most important providers of higher education in Solano County serving 20,000 students annually;

WHEREAS, The Solano Community College District Board of Trustees is responsible for the governance of Solano Community College;

WHEREAS, The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) placed Solano Community College under “Warning” status in 2008;

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees has received a report from Education Management and Assistance Corporation (EdMAC) describing numerous deficiencies in the District’s procedures and recommended changes to those procedures;

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that it properly exercises its role as a Board;

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees recognizes the need for it to conduct itself in a manner consistent with ACCJC standards;

WHEREAS, the District is informed that the ACCJC is likely to impose a more severe sanction at its upcoming January 2009 meeting;

WHEREAS, This represents a serious threat to the continued existence of Solano Community College;

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees recognizes the seriousness of this situation, accepts this responsibility for its role and intends to take every possible step to return Solano Community College to good standing with ACCJC;

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees recognizes that it is absolutely necessary to retain a consultant to be known as a special trustee to provide advice and guidance, make recommendations to the Board of Trustees and District administrators, and act as an agent of the

**SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD**

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A SPECIAL TRUSTEE

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District on matters pertaining to accreditation, fiscal controls, administration, and other critical functions; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees held special meetings on January 5, and January 7, 2009, to begin to address these issues.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Trustees of the Solano Community College District hereby resolves as follows:

1. The Board of Trustees shall immediately begin the process of retaining an independent contractor to act as a special trustee in order to provide support and guidance to the Board of Trustees and District administrators. In doing so, the Board of Trustees shall consult with the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.
2. The Board shall participate in a series of workshops on governance and boardsmanship as follows: January 10, 2009 and February 20, 2009.
3. The Board shall conduct its affairs in a collegial manner seeking consensus amongst the Board members.
4. Board members shall refrain from micromanagement of the operations of the District and College.
5. The Board shall generally rely primarily upon the advice, judgment and recommendations of the special trustee. This means that the recommendations of the special trustee will normally be accepted by the District and approved by the Board, and only in exceptional circumstances and for compelling reasons will the recommendations of the special trustee not be accepted or approved.
6. The Board understands that the special trustee may make reports to the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges as deemed necessary and shall be responsive to suggestions by the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges. The District shall be provided with a copy of any written reports provided to the Chancellor.

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7. To the extent permitted by law, the Board shall authorize the special trustee to have full access to all minutes, agendas, complaints, records, and reports in the District's possession. District staff shall further be directed to cooperate fully with special trustee.
8. The Board shall with utmost speed respond to the ACCJC recommendations that have been received previously and that may be received in the future.
9. The Board shall with utmost speed respond to recommendations of EdMAC that have been received previously and that may be received in the future.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, This 7th Day of January 2009, by the Governing Board of the Solano Community College District.

A. Marie Young, Board President

Denis Honeychurch, J.D., Vice President

James M. Claffey

Pam Keith

Phil McCaffrey

Stephen Murphy, J.D.

Rosemary Thurston

David R. Brannen, Student Trustee

Lisa J. Waits, Ed.D., Interim Secretary