

SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD

ADOPTED MINUTES
Wednesday, September 15, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Solano Community College District Governing Board was called to order at 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, in the Denis Honeychurch Board Room, Room 626, 4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, California 94534, by Board Vice President Chapman.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Vice President Chapman led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Denis Honeychurch, J.D., President
Sarah Chapman, Ph.D., Vice President
Karimah Karah, J.D.
Michael A. Martin
Rosemary Thurston
Quinten R. Voyce
A. Marie Young
Jack Flynn, Student Trustee
Celia Esposito-Noy, Ed.D., Secretary

Others Present:

Shannon Cooper, Psy.D., Vice President of Student Services
David Williams, Ph.D., Vice President of Academic Affairs
LaNae Jaimez, Academic Senate
Lucky Lofton, Executive Bond Manager
Krechona Westbrook, ASSC Representative
David Williams, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Sandra Therrien, Executive Coordinator

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Karah and seconded by Trustee Martin to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (CLOSED SESSION)

There were no comments from members of the public on Closed Session items.

6. CLOSED SESSION

Vice President Chapman called the closed session to order at 6:33 p.m.

- (a) Conference with Labor Negotiator (Govt. Code § 54957.6)
Agency Negotiator: Mary Jones, Human Resources
Employee Organization: CCA/CTA/NEA, CSEA, Operating Engineers—Local 39
- (b) Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Govt. Code § 54957)
- (c) Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, Initiation of Litigation, and Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (d) of Govt. Code § 54956.9

7. RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING

Vice President Chapman reconvened the Regular Meeting at 7:01 p.m.

8. REPORT OF ACTION IN CLOSED SESSION

The Board held Conference with Labor Negotiator and CCA/CTA/NEA, CSEA, and Operating Engineers-Local 39, and no action was taken.

The Board discussed Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release and no action was taken.

The Board held Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation and Initiation of Litigation and no action was taken.

9. COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (CONTINUED)

Kelly Ryan, English Professor and alumni of SCC commented in person about the vaccine mandate. Ms. Ryan supports the mandate as a way of protecting students, faculty and staff, and urges the Board to vote in favor of the resolution.

Joshua Scott, English Professor at SCC commented in person regarding the vaccine mandate. Mr. Scott presented a different perspective and states that we need more student communication and feedback before mandating. Mr. Scott does not think the District is ready to implement the mask and vaccine mandate by October 15th and suggests forums with other department faculty before implementing mandates.

At this time, Superintendent-President Esposito-Noy read the following comments that were e-mailed and approved to be shared:

Rowena Gonzales: In my own opinion, I think it is best if there's going to be a vaccine mandate. We need to have herd immunity. That way we can slow the transmission especially now that there are variants of the virus. If we could increase immunity then we can also reduce susceptibility. The Delta variant is not something that some people should be taking lightly. It's serious, lethal and highly transmissible. I am fully vaccinated.

Debbie Moreno: I believe that it is completely unfair/fair because, as a fully vaccinated individual it only seems fair to attend school to serve as protection for a loved one or anyone around you for that matter. But, on the other hand, I feel as it should also be a student's choice because, 1) they're just not sure and scared and 2) every student SHOULD have the right to learn just like the rest of us and 3) because we are all adults and should be able to make the right decision. As for certain classes it is vital for us to be in person and be allowed to be hands on.

Ana Petero: I am writing to ask that you vote in favor of mandatory vaccinations and masks for all college employees and students. I am fully vaccinated and have an underlying condition, and I do not want to spread the virus as studies have concluded that even having been vaccinated, one can still spread and be infected with COVID-19. A mandate would make it possible for all of us to return to campus safely.

Marc Pandone: I am excited about the vaccine mandate that will be presented and passed this evening. I thank you for formulating a plan for immediate implementation. I do have lingering concerns about some language/protocols as well as procedures. The option to test out twice weekly as part of this resolution is a weak and dangerous link to this plan. It still allows unvaccinated persons in potential close contact for long periods of time on the campuses. This is not safe for the vaccinated and certainly not safe for the unvaccinated. I believe this testing twice weekly may be the carrot to force or encourage those to get vaccinated but remains a way to further prolong the possibility of infectious contact needlessly. I request this be removed from the resolution and simply state that all Faculty, Staff and Employees be fully vaccinated by Oct 15th and to submit that documentation. This is the only way assure we are creating the safest environment for everyone involved. It is the right thing to do for the unvaccinated. We should not be placing them in unsafe situations for long periods of time. I am not sure if I will present public comments this evening. But if I do I may state these same thoughts and add, would we have asked if possible for a Testing out option for Small pox or Polio. I think not. This is a worldwide

health emergency where we have direct and specific tools to combat the spread and sickness of this virus. To do anything less than a full-fledged Vaccine mandate is not leading on this issue and continues to place everyone at risk for longer periods of time. Thank you for your leadership on this issue and I hope you can appreciate how deeply I feel that I want to return to teaching Face to Face but not under a less than robust set of Safety Protocols.

Cristina Young: This is a brief note in support of the proposed resolution to mandate effective and proven (albeit not universally popular) measures that will allow us and our students to safely return to face-to-face teaching and learning. We all know this not a simple decision and will not be easily implemented- in fact, it will likely require a tremendous effort and continued support to be carried out. But it will ultimately need to our students' better health and education, and it is as a College and concerned community member that I pledge to follow your lead and participate in this very necessary and welcome endeavor. Thanking you in advance,

Michelle Smith: My name is Michelle Smith and I am a biology instructor with Solano Community College. I commend the Governing Board for proposing Resolution No. 21/22-03 Mandating Face Coverings and Requiring Vaccinations or Testing for All Students, Employees, and Volunteers.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the use of multiple strategies of protection, including vaccination and face masks. The COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective, even against emerging variants. Vaccinations (with face masks) remain the only way to return to campus safely.

This resolution is a tremendous action towards returning to campus safely. But it is just a first step. We desperately need a comprehensive plan to transition back to campus while ensuring the health and safety of our students, employees, and visitors. Our neighboring districts have posted plans clearly articulating their strategies for a safe return to their campuses. Where is our plan?

A recent survey indicated that many faculty members are comfortable returning to campus *if* SCC has a vaccine requirement. On-campus offerings are essential for student success, particularly in courses with hands-on activities. Yet faculty are being directed to limit on-campus offerings, not because of health and safety concerns but rather due to the workload of contact tracing. Why not hire contact tracers?

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted life as we know it. But it will pass. And we need to work together to implement creative solutions to overcome these unprecedented problems. Principally, the pandemic is a public health issue. But ultimately, it is an equity issue. If we want to truly support our students by providing high quality educational opportunities, then we need a comprehensive plan for our students, faculty, and staff to safely return to campus.

James Long: My name is Dr. Jim Long, and I teach human anatomy and human physiology at Solano Community College. I believe the college should implement a vaccine mandate requiring students, faculty, and staff to be fully vaccinated before they are allowed to return to campus.

According to the CDC,

- COVID-19 vaccination helps protect people from getting sick or becoming severely ill.
- COVID-19 vaccination provides protection against asymptomatic infections and reduces the spread of disease overall.
- People who have already had COVID-19 and recovered should still receive the vaccination.
- COVID-19 vaccinations are safe: More than 380 million doses of the vaccine have been given in the United States, and the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine has received full FDA approval for people 16 years old and older.

I believe the college should allocate funds to hire support staff to enforce a vaccine mandate and to perform testing and contact tracing for students, faculty, and staff who return to campus.

I believe that the college can best serve its students when the students are allowed to return to campus. But that can only occur safely when vaccination rates among students, faculty, and staff are high.

A high vaccination rate gives us our best chance of returning to normal.

Johnicon George, President Tri-City NAACP emailed in the following comment: The Solano County Sheriff need not be on the SCC Campus. I was registered for fall classes. However, I dropped them as I'm personally boycotting the College until they are removed.

10. REPORTS (NO ACTION REQUIRED)

(a) Associated Students of Solano College (ASSC)

Krechona Westbrook, ASSC Student Services Senator presented the following report:

1. After having a robust Senate this last academic year, we are working to increase our membership, as many of the student officers have graduated and transferred.
2. Flex-Cal participation next month,
3. Club/Department Funding Requests. Presentations on 9/21, Decisions made on 9/28
4. Attending the SSSCC Leadership conference in October 1st – 3rd
Pres Olvera, VP Chan, Academic Curriculum Senator Seaman, Math & Science Senator Moe, Student Services Senator Westbrook
5. In the process of planning activities and events for next semester
6. In the process of updating and revising our Bylaws

(b) Academic Senate

Dr. LaNae Jaimez presented the following report:

- As Superintendent/President Esposito-Noy mentioned at the last Board meeting, the AS has worked closely with the VP Williams to create an accelerated timeline for the process that will determine the 7 faculty positions that will be hired. In addition, we are working to finish updates to our hiring manual, and under the leadership of our professional development coordinator, Michelle Smith, we will be providing training to faculty to equitize our job descriptions and screening/interview questions. We will have trainers from the State Academic Senate as well as our own faculty leaders guide this work on our October Flex day. We look forward to working collaboratively to diversify our faculty.
- The Senate has created a draft of a JD to be shared the Senate, Faculty Union and College Governance Council for approval. It will be important to have some form a mentor program in place as we welcome 7 new faculty members next fall. The program will also include the mentoring of part time faculty.
- Senate voted to support/approve the Midterm Accreditation Report that is before you this evening.
- Faculty have questions and concerns about the rate of return to in-person classes in the spring. In addition, concerns about in-person support for students currently attending f2f and online classes have been expressed. Superintendent/President Esposito-Noy has reached out to Senate/Union leadership to discuss these matters. Faculty have been encouraged to and are joining the COVID workgroup and we have requested that VP Williams reconvene the Faculty Advisory group to address the matters mentioned above.
- Academic integrity, more specifically, the impact of organized academic dishonesty (cheating) on students who are not involved and faculty has become a topic of discussion. I will be meeting with VP Cooper to review our policy/procedure regarding this matter and to discuss ways that we can support faculty and students. I have also requested to discuss this with ASSC. Our goal is to work together in a thoughtful compassionate way to address this matter.

Senate subcommittees are hard at work.

- Curriculum committee is training faculty, working on equity matters including getting some SCC courses that meet the new ethnic studies requirement.
- SESC has implemented equity shout-outs recognizing Alex Castaneda, Outreach Coordinator, Jenny Gonzales, Student Services Generalist at Travis and Maeghan Aten, Student Services Interim Supervisor for their commitment to equity and the efforts to serve the students of our college. I have attend the council meetings and it is delightful to meet and listen to the work that is being done and recognized. Cheers to them!

(c) College Governance Council

Superintendent-President Esposito-Noy presented the following report:

- At the last CGC meeting we had a discussion regarding student housing facilitated by The Scion Group
- Rob Diamond provided a Fiscal update sharing that we are receiving funds for one-time only projects that will increase services for students including mental health resources, basic needs and emergency aid, and services for LGBTQ+ students.
We don't yet have specifics on the condition for the additional funding nor the amount.
- VP Williams presented a calendar for the College to regularly review Policies and Procedures ensuring a 5-year cycle of review for all of the series, 1000-6000. Policies and procedures may be reviewed and revised as necessary throughout the year.
- Instant Urgent Care is our new vendor for health care services for students. They have a clinic on Travis Blvd across from the Mall and will be housed in our Student Health Center beginning in Spring 2022.

(d) Superintendent-President

Dr. Esposito-Noy presented the following report:

We received the final numbers for the Solano Community College District 2021 General Obligation Bond and as a result of today's successful bond sale, the District was able to secure a total borrowing rate of 2.57 percent (%) for Measure Q and lock in a total taxpayer savings of \$13.96 million, well above the projected \$13.8 million.

Our next S-P Advisory Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is scheduled for Oct. 8th where we will have a focused discussion on creating safe spaces for LGBTQ+ students, faculty, and staff.

11. CONSENT AGENDA – ACTION ITEMS

Superintendent-President

- (a) Draft Minutes for the Board Meeting Held on September 1, 2021 (Pending Board Approval)

Human Resources

- (b) Employment 2021-2022, Page 6

Finance and Administration

(c) Warrants, Page 8

(d) Donations, Page 10

It was moved by Trustee Thurston and seconded by Trustee Voyce to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

12. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda.

13. NON-CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS – ACTION ITEMS

Superintendent-President

(a) Public Hearing and Adoption of the 2021-2022 District Budgets, Page 11

Vice President Chapman opened the public hearing for public comments. With there being no comments from members of the public, Vice President Chapman closed the public hearing.

It was moved by Trustee Young and seconded by Trustee Honeychurch to approve the Public Hearing and Adoption of the 2021-2022 District Budgets as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

(b) Resolution No. 21/22-03 Mandating Face Coverings and Requiring Vaccinations or Testing for All Students, Employees, and Volunteers, Page 12

It was moved by Trustee Honeychurch and seconded by Trustee Martin to approve Resolution No. 21/22-03 Mandating Face Coverings and Requiring Vaccinations or Testing for All Students, Employees, and Volunteers as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

STUDENT TRUSTEE ADVISORY VOTE: Yes

AYES: Board President Honeychurch Vice President Chapman, Trustee Karah,
Trustee Martin, Trustee Thurston, Trustee Voyce, and Trustee Young

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Human Resources

- (c) New Classified CSEA Job Description: Multi-Media Lab Technician, Page 16

It was moved by Trustee Voyce and seconded by Trustee Thurston to approve the New Classified CSEA Job Description: Multi-Media Lab Technician as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

Bond

- (d) Computer Hardware and Equipment Order to Sterling for the Library/Learning Resource Center Project, Page 23

It was moved by Trustee Honeychurch and seconded by Trustee Young to approve the Computer Hardware and Equipment Order to Sterling for the Library/Learning Resource Center Project as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

Academic Affairs

- (e) Contract Renewal with James Thomas Media LLC for Outreach and Marketing, Page 24

It was moved by Trustee Karah and seconded by Trustee Martin to approve the Contract Renewal with James Thomas Media LLC for Outreach and Marketing as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

- (f) Midterm Accreditation Report, Page 28

It was moved by Trustee Thurston and seconded by Trustee Voyce to approve the Midterm Accreditation Report as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

14. INFORMATION ITEMS – NO ACTION REQUIRED

- (a) Re-Imaging Campus Safety Study Brief, Page 29

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Voyce announce that it's the start of Hispanic Month.

16. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

- 17. CLOSED SESSION (CONTINUED IF NECESSARY)**
- 18. RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING (IF NECESSARY)**
- 19. REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY)**
- 20. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Young and seconded by Trustee Honeychurch to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.