



SAN JOAQUIN DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING Tuesday, March 4, 2008

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the San Joaquin Delta Community College District was held on Tuesday, March 4, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. Closed Session and 5:45 p.m. Public Meeting, in the Board Room, Administration 103, 5151 Pacific Ave., Stockton, California.

Members Present: Leo Burke, Board President; Greg McCreary, Vice-President; Dan S. Parises, Clerk; Anthony Bugarin; Janet Rivera; Maria Elena Serna; Ted Simas; Valerie Novak, Student Representative

I. Called to Order The Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Board President Burke.	Call to Order
II. Communications No comments.	Public Comments
III. Recess to Closed Session Board President Burke convened to Closed Session to discuss matters pursuant to Government Code Section 54957; 54956.8. Motion: Burke; Seconded: Bugarin. Vote: 7/0; motion carried.	Recess to Closed Session
IV. Reconvene Public Session Board President Burke reconvened to Public Session at 7:35 p.m. with nothing to report.	Reconvene Public Session
V. Pledge of Allegiance Trustee Dan S. Parises led the Pledge of Allegiance.	Pledge of Allegiance
VI. Communications English Faculty member Sam Hatch residing at 1633 Camphor Way, Lodi, CA. addressed the Board of Trustees regarding the lack of progress in contract negotiations and unrewarded achievements of the Delta faculty.	Public Comments
VII. Reports/Informational Items. A. Outreach and Community Report. Director of Outreach and Community, Julie Whiting gave a report to the Board of Trustees on the college's outreach activities and outlined the organizational structure of the outreach department. A copy of the Power Point is available from the office of Outreach and Community. Board President Burke thanked Ms. Whiting for her report.	Reports/Informational Items.

B. ARCC Report.

Dr. Matt Wetstein, Interim Dean of Planning, Research & Regional Planning presented to the Board of Trustees data from the Chancellor's Office Accountability Report for Community Colleges (ARCC Report) pertaining to Delta College. Dr. Wetstein also introduced Alyssa Nguyen, new Research Analyst who comes to the college from Humboldt State. Ms. Nguyen is finishing her Master's Degree in Psychology.

Dr. Wetstein explained that the ARCC Report is a product of the AB 1417 law passed in 2004 requiring colleges to show accountability through performance measures to the public and the Legislature. The Report has 7 different measures of performance that are tracked across time for each college, and also looks at comparisons between colleges.

Dr. Wetstein gave a Power Point presentation on the ARCC Report for Delta College. The presentation focused on student persistency rates, transfers, and students attaining degrees or vocational education certificates. Dr. Wetstein pointed out that Delta College is doing well in most areas. Dr. Wetstein also pointed out that the College needs to work on raising ESL and basic skills rates. Dr. Wetstein explained the reports use of peer clustering which uses variables that are independent of individual students. The variables take into consideration environmental issues that may affect student success. Dr. Wetstein stated that the peer groups that colleges are compared to change because the measures the Chancellor's office uses to compare colleges will change.

Dr. Wetstein noted that on the measure of persistence, the College has a very good track record of persistency rates. Dr. Wetstein speculated that this could be attributed to positive experiences that students have while at Delta. Trustee Bugarin asked if student experiences with counselors or teachers had anything to do with these persistency rates. Dr. Wetstein responded that he did not know of any measures to rate these types of experiences, however, in 2006 there was a survey given to graduating students where they were able to indicate any memorable experiences they had with faculty. Some of this data is reflected in the College's accreditation report.

Dr. Wetstein informed the Board that one important aspect of the report is the accuracy of the data that is given to the Chancellor's office by the College. Dr. Wetstein pointed out the ESL rates for the College, which are lower than other comparative colleges and explained certain variables such as unemployment rates and a differing ESL population than other ESL populations in comparative colleges as the reason.

Dr. Wetstein stated that having seen the data from the ARCC

Report the College is required by AB 1417 to submit a narrative response on the data to the Chancellor's office. This response has been submitted to date. Additionally, Trustees are required to discuss the data, as is being done tonight, as well as constituency groups.

Dr. Wetstein stated that the kinds of discussions that must take place should assist the College in developing a plan to raise the College's rates overall, i.e. – how are we going to improve our ESL rates and assessment rates. Dr. Wetstein then opened up the discussion to the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Bugarin thanked Dr. Wetstein for the report and asked if Dr. Wetstein or other faculty had concerns with the way students are being assessed and placed in classes. Dr. Wetstein responded by explaining the current system the College uses for assessing students. Dr. Wetstein stated that he felt the system for assessing students needs to use better measures in order to place students in the correct courses.

Trustee Serna inquired if it is possible that some students are getting misplaced by assessments. Dr. Wetstein responded that he did not believe that they are being misplaced and that they end up getting placed appropriately in lower level courses - the question is how many lower level courses should the College have. Trustee Serna stated that the problem is that there are levels within levels of placement. Dr. Wetstein concurred with Trustee Serna.

Trustee Serna compared how students are assessed at the K-12 level versus higher education. Trustee Serna further stated that at the college level there are students who are coming in that are younger than other students and are being placed in the same course, essentially creating levels upon levels of placements in one course. Trustee Serna then asked Dr. Wetstein what he thought might solve this dilemma. Dr. Wetstein responded that part of it is improving assessment. Dr. Wetstein further stated that the problem of levels within levels results in frustration for students and faculty - faculty are in classrooms where they have to teach students that are at varying levels. Better assessment will lead to better success because if you are better in tune with and better discriminating about course placement at the beginning, success rates will be better. Dr. Wetstein went on to state that the other component of the problem is professional development on learning styles and what is effective in the classroom. Dr. Wetstein further alluded to the fact that professional development funds have been cut in the budget and the expectation to have faculty be better with teaching and learning without backing them with professional development funding is a real problem.

Academic Senate President Janice Takahashi added that faculty are doing many things to address these issues and that

a report would be coming to the Board regarding what they are doing. Ms. Takahashi stated that the problem is not just about the levels of assessment but also adding a new view point of assessment. What she has learned is that the predictors of success for students have nothing to do with reading, writing and computation scores but other skills that are common to all students that are not being assessed or addressed. Ms. Takahashi stated that what faculty is looking at is adding a whole different dimension of assessment to include those other skills that better predict student success.

Trustee Bugarin agreed that if we could evaluate persistency quality that students have regarding teaching and learning styles that contribute to low rates, teachers could be more effective.

Dr. Wetstein added that social readiness assessments must be done more accurately. Trustee Serna inquired if testing students in their home languages would be best when first assessing students. Dr. Wetstein replied that ESL Students are very fluent in their native languages but may not be ready to study in English. Trustee Serna added that cultural differences are a very real consideration.

Board President Burke thanked Dr. Wetstein for the report.

- C. Estimated Annual Cost of California Public Employees' Retirement System Coverage for Safety Employees.
Vince Brown, Director of Employee Relations gave the Board of Trustees a report on the estimated value of benefits and the accrued liability of retirement coverage for safety employees at the College.

XI. Communications

Superintendent/President:

No comments

Board President Burke thanked Dr. Rodriguez for the great job that he is doing as President of the College.

Board of Trustees:

Trustee Bugarin congratulated the men's basketball team and coach Brian Katz for an outstanding basketball year. Trustee Bugarin also thanked Gina Johnson for her work on the women's basketball team.

Trustee Simas shared that he went to Weston Ranch August Knott School and read with third graders. Trustee Simas stated that when reading to the student's he asked the students if they knew what fiction was and got a response from one young girl that fiction is not real. Trustee Simas stated that he thought about the Accreditation Report and hoped that what is in the report is real and not sugar-coated because what he

Communications

Superintendent/President
Dr. Rodriguez

Board of Trustees

read is very good and according to the report, we are in good shape.

Constituent Groups:
No comments

No comments.

Management Senate President Greg Greenwood informed the Board that this Friday the College would have a team at the County Trivia Bee the primary fundraiser for the Library and Literacy program.

The ASBG will be attending the 12th Annual Student Leadership Conference and that she would be meeting with Congressman McNearney.

No comments.

No comments.

No comments.

No comments

Board President Burke adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,


Dr. Raúl Rodríguez
Superintendent/President and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Constituent Groups
Academic Senate
Janice Takahashi

Classified Senate
Joyce Giovanetti

Management Senate
Greg Greenwood

ASBG
Valerie Novak for Daniel
Luna

CTA
Joe Gonzales for Matt
Weistein

CSEA President
Dana Baker

POA
Mario Vasquez

Adjournment