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**Klamath Community College Board of Education**  
7390 South Sixth Street \* Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, March 16, 2021 6:00 PM

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**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Kenneth DeCrans called the regular meeting of the Klamath Community College Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Kenneth DeCrans; Jason Flowers; Kate Marquez; Dave Jensen, Michael Fitzgerald; Helen Petersen; and Crystal Rice, Non-voting Board Member, ASKCC President. A quorum was confirmed.

**Members Absent:** none.

**Staff Present:** Dr. Roberto Gutierrez, President; Tricia Fiscus, Vice President; Jamie Jennings, Vice President; Bill Jennings, Vice President; Charles Massie, Executive Director; Michael Swanzy, Executive Director; Lacey Jarrell, staff; Kathleen Walker-Henderson, staff; Dale Severns, staff; Jeanne LaHaie, Dean; Mary Lou Wogan, faculty; George Harpham, faculty; and Shannon Childs, Secretary to the Board.

**Guests:** None.

**II. SHOWCASE**

Dr. Gutierrez shared research information on encouraging math students to progress in math at a faster rate to prevent them from staying in lower classes and using up financial aid. In response to a student who addressed math at the previous Board meeting, Dr. Gutierrez introduced VP Jamie Jennings.

VP Jamie Jennings introduced Dr. Jeanne LaHaie, Dean of Instruction; Mary Lou Wogan, mathematics faculty and George Harpham, mathematics faculty. VP Jamie Jennings shared that the presentation would offer information on developmental education math. Mrs. Wogan presented and reviewed a PowerPoint presentation addressing mathematics pathways, Math 60/65, enrollment trends, pros and cons to offering 60/65, offerings to help math students find success, goals of developmental education, what KCC has done to get students to complete “gateway” course in mathematics, and what is currently being worked on.

Trustee Fitzgerald inquired on the assurance Ms. Justice may have been given. Mrs. Wogan shared that she will reach out to Ms. Justice and share the supports that will be available. There has been contact with Ms. Justice encouraging her to take in person classes versus online. Chair DeCrans shared that Mrs. Justice would receive the same information that the Board receives at the meeting. VP Jamie Jennings added that as they look to the future, with student concerns of not continuing to offer Math 60/65, and learning gaps from COVID, stopping Math 60/65 is being put on hold for at least a year. Long term, the best practices are fewer steps in mathematics, particularly developmental education. Writing has two steps, with a corequisite process for struggling students. They are looking at a similar process in mathematics. There is also a need to offer advanced mathematics classes, the College cannot offer every math class every term. This is not a sustainable model. Trustee Petersen asked if the presentation could be shared with all students. Having this as a resource would be beneficial. Trustee Marquez shared that students should have knowledge of the support that is, and will be available to them. Mrs. Wogan shared that this may be able to be put on the website, and it is possible to go to orientations in the future.

ASKCC President shared that she could not imagine doing a slower course and then going onto the next math. Chair DeCrans complimented Mary Lou Wogan and George Harpham on their teaching.

Dr. Gutierrez shared that there is a process at the College when students have concerns. Dr. Gutierrez does not recommend that the students skip the process and go directly to the Board. The process is in the Student Handbook.

Dr. Jeanne LaHaie, Mary Lou Wogan and George Harpham were thanked and exited the meeting.

### **III. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Board Minutes (Regular Meeting February 23, 2021)
- B. Personnel Action
- C. Administrative Reports
- D. Appropriated Objects (Financials)
- E. Enrollment Dashboard

Trustee Petersen addressed typos at the beginning of the meeting with Mrs. Childs.

#### **Motion: To accept the consent agenda as presented.**

Motion by: Kate Marquez

Second by: Michael Fitzgerald

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

**Action: Motion passed. Unanimous approval.**

### **IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

#### **Motion: To adopt the agenda as presented.**

Motion by: Helen Petersen

Second by: Michael Fitzgerald

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

**Action: Motion passed. Unanimous approval.**

### **V. PRESIDENT REPORT**

- a. Dr. Gutierrez shared that the owner of the 5.5 acres accepted the institutions offer. Dr. Gutierrez shared that Oregon Child Development Coalition (OCDC) is looking into what fall may look like. The plan is to have a professional organization like OCDC run the Childcare Center. Trustee Marquez inquired if Headstart may be part of this. Dr. Gutierrez shared that since Headstart has had a new CEO, they were not interested in heading in this direction at this time.
- b. Dr. Gutierrez reflected on the work it has taken to get developmental education down. The College is watching this and implications from COVID and K12. VP Bill Jennings reviewed the handout on Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Submissions by High School. There has been a recent low turnout in FAFSA applications. The document shared a school by school comparison of applications completed. KCC has scheduled a FAFSA night on April 28<sup>th</sup>. There is also continued support for a student who has need.
- c. Dr. Gutierrez gave an update on the Cares act. There was a first and second round. There is another round headed in our direction. VP Bill Jennings shared that in the first round, \$295,000 of the \$350,000 was distributed to 734 students with an average of \$402  
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per student in spring of last year. There was 50,000 left that went into a summer award of \$245 per student for 220 students. The second round of Cares act (Higher Education Relief Fund) was \$632 per student for 557 students. The checks were mailed yesterday. In the event of a next round, it is likely it would be distributed with the currently used formula. Trustee Marquez inquired on the use of the funds. VP Bill Jennings described the letter that goes out with the checks with stipulations on how the money may be spent. KCC is not allowed to hold any money back if the student owes the College money.

#### **VI. ASKCC STUDENT REPORT**

- a. ASKCC President Rice shared updates. There is now an email for the Food Pantry. Communication is easier and goes right to the pantry. There is a blood drive April 27<sup>th</sup>. The Vice President position has been filled.

#### **VII. STATE REPORT**

- a. Trustee Marquez shared those that are running for the Klamath Community College Board of Education. Zone 1, Kate Marquez and Reta Vining. Zone 3, Rhoda Keown; Zone 5, Cameron DeSpain, Linda Dill, and Valerie Lenardson; Zone 7, Kaitlyn Hakanson, Richard Harrington, Steven Morton and Jason Flowers. It was noted that Zone 3 is currently Michael Fitzgerald who is not running.
- b. Trustee Marquez previewed a headline from the Washington Post “Community Colleges at Crossroads, Enrollment is Plummeting, Political Clout is Growing”. A line from the article read, “The first lady also disclosed plans for a White House summit on community college, they are our most powerful engine of prosperity”.

#### **VIII. FOUNDATION REPORT**

- a. Chair DeCrans shared that the Foundation meeting was cancelled due to weather.

#### **IX. INFORMATIONAL AND ACTION ITEMS**

##### **A. COVID Updates – Information Item**

Executive Director Swanzy gave an update to the Board. The College has and will remain diligent.

##### **B. Appoint Budget Committee Member – Action Item**

VP Fiscus shared that this was posted and there are two candidates, Laura Limb and Ian Robinson. These are three-year positions.

**Motion: To accept Ian Robinson and Laura Limb to serve on the KCC Budget Committee for three-year terms.**

Motion by: Dave Jensen

Second by: Michael Fitzgerald

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

**Action: Motion passed. Unanimous approval**

C. Resolution Adopting Interfund Transfers for the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 –  
**Action Item**

VP Fiscus shared that this does not require a full supplemental as it is within the same funds. VP Fiscus reviewed the transfers as written in the packet.

VP Fiscus clarified that all money for work study goes through the Financial Aid fund.

**Motion: To adopt the preceding resolution number 189-20-21 as presented, transferring appropriations according to the following resolution.**

Motion by: Dave Jensen

Second by: Michael Fitzgerald

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

**Action: Motion passed. Unanimous approval**

D. AAT – English Literature Degree – **Action Item**

Dr. Gutierrez shared that this is the outcome of House Bill 2998, which is a good outcome of the work that is and continues to be done. VP Jamie Jennings shared that this should be the first of many degrees to come to the Board, they are new degree types.

VP Jamie Jennings shared that this is from a compilation of all the Universities in Oregon getting together in work groups and agreeing on a core of 30 credits that all colleges will accept, then a list of nuances that are different and unique between universities. They are listed to add up to 90 credits to transfer. The transfer compass maps are embedded in these degrees. VP Jamie Jennings shared that a student has to declare what university they are transferring to, to be able to transfer as a junior. The goal is seamless transfer to other institutions in Oregon. This will also be shared with high schools for work in dual credit.

Trustee Fitzgerald shared that he assumed that House Bill 2998 would make a smooth transition, however this is complicated with a lot of caveats. Dr. Gutierrez shared that this started 7 seven years ago, where Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) met at KCC to introduce the bill. Dr. Gutierrez then further pushed for updates from the Universities. Since then, a lot of progress has been made. House Bill 2998 birthed Senate Bill 3, in reference to Bachelors degrees. Dr. Gutierrez shared it is better than it was, even if not yet perfect.

VP Jamie Jennings expressed that she is grateful for the effort. There is a lot of work in reaching out to universities. Next steps will be common course numbering.

Trustee Petersen clarified that with mapping this is guaranteed, versus the normal AAOT degree. VP Jamie Jennings shared that using the AAOT has not been updated, and there is concern with credit transferability. If this plan is followed it has good transferability.

Trustee Petersen shared that she did not hear worthwhile reviews of the English Associates degree and shared quotes from individuals. She inquired on how the degree could be useful in the community. VP Jamie Jennings shared it was a decision of the Board if this had utility at the College and community. There was a workforce local study, with a lens if we had the capacity for the programming to offer the degree without additional cost to the institution. There will be degrees that would be an additional cost to the College and those will have a study attached before recommended. Chair DeCrans clarified that this is just rebranding to a better road map and that this is the first of many. VP Jamie Jennings shared that

there are many current faculty with this degree. If the degree path is followed, students will start as a junior.

Trustee Marquez expressed that she has read that studying and reading great literature and discussing it, develops critical thinking and empathy.

VP Jamie Jennings shared that they advise students out of the AAOT and direct them to the Career Center to pick a career path. Other degrees are articulated.

**Motion: To approve the AAT – English Literature Degree.**

Motion by: Michael Fitzgerald

Second by: Kate Marquez

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

**Action: Motion passed. 5 yay; 1 nay.**

E. AST – Biology Degree – **Action Item**

VP Jamie Jennings shared that this is also articulated across the state. Many students are in the Associates of Science and may switch to this degree to have an emphasis in biology. There is excitement to be able to transfer with an emphasis in biology. This is nice that it has 7 different options for students.

Trustee Petersen inquired how many students are expected to enroll in this program versus the Associates of Science. VP Jamie Jennings shared that at this time students are not aware of this, it will be good to look at it in the future.

Trustee Petersen asked how many jobs in the community this degree would support, keeping in mind the certificate for laboratory. VP Jamie Jennings shared that it is more likely to be transfers to bachelors, masters or PhD. VP Jamie Jennings shared there was no additional programming needed for this. There may be increased enrollment. Trustee Petersen future clarified that this would be for 4-year transfer, not for specific jobs in the community.

**Motion: To approve the AST – Biology Degree.**

Motion by: Jason Flowers

Second by: Helen Petersen

Discussion: Trustee Jensen shared that he was part of HB 2998, and it took a lot of work and the whole state is benefiting from it. Trustee Marquez shared it was nice that Dave Jensen was the President of Oregon Community College Association and Dr. Gutierrez was President of Oregon President’s Council at the time.

Public Comment: None.

**Action: Motion passed. Unanimous approval**

**X. BOARD DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A. Board Discussion

i. Board Comment

- Trustee Petersen brought to Chair DeCrans a discussion on updates to the census. Chair DeCrans stated it is out of the Colleges hands.
- Trustee Petersen brought up Senate Bill 1538. Chair DeCrans shared there may be more to discuss if the bill passes.

- Trustee Petersen shared that she looks forward to hearing more about the Title IX changes.
- Trustee Petersen shared that there is a House Bill 2358. Agriculture workers would be allowed overtime pay; however, this could have huge affect on community.
- Trustee Fitzgerald commented on K-CET retention rate being up. Executive Director Massie shared that there were big concerns with this being remote when COVID hit. There was a lot of pulling together to get the technology up and the entire department put in a huge effort to keep students connected and going. There was a retention effort. KCC is definitely one of the outliers in the state. On behalf of the Board, Chair DeCrans shared sincere appreciation to the team. He asked that Executive Director Massie take the thank you from the Board back to the department.
- Trustee Petersen gave thanks to Academic Affairs for reaching out to schools outside the community for the placement testing.
- Trustee Petersen gave thanks for energy trust programs.
- Chair DeCrans asked Trustee Fitzgerald if he would consider re-running. Trustee Fitzgerald shared that he would not.

#### B. Public Participation

- Kathleen Walker-Henderson thanked the Board for the purchase of the land and believes that OCDC is a wonderful direction to go in a partnership. They are a licensed federal Headstart with emphasis in migrant. They are also the Oregon pre-k program. They have an early Headstart program for babies and toddlers. Klamath Headstart went the direction of leasing storefront at Town & Country and service some KCC students that qualify. The City of Klamath Falls School District has decided to use Altamont school, with Triad exiting, as a one stop early childhood facility. They will house their early intervention and preschool promise there. They contacted Kathleen wanting to know if KCC was interested in leasing a classroom or two. Kathleen wanted to let the College know and has contact information. The Oregon Early Childhood hub contacted ASKCC with brochures for students who have children that are 3 or 4.

### XI. FUTURE ISSUES

- Dr. Gutierrez shared that the Budget Committee Meeting is being scheduled for Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. The Budget Meeting is in May to have extra time to be able to adopt at the June meeting.

### XII. NEXT MEETING

- A. Scheduled Board of Education Meeting: April 27, 2021, Founders Hall Boardroom
- B. Budget Meeting: Thursday, May 6, 2021.

### XIII. ADJOURN

#### **Motion: To adjourn.**

Motion by: Helen Petersen

Second by: Kenneth DeCrans

#### **Chair DeCrans adjourned the meeting at 7:28 pm.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Shannon Childs

Klamath Community College

Board of Education Secretary

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