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

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, January 23, 2024 6:00 PM

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**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**Members Present:** Misty Buckley; Raymond Holliday; Dave Jensen; Linda Dill; and Richard Harrington. A quorum was confirmed.

**Members Absent:** Kate Marquez (excused); Linda Weatherford (excused); and Emilie Ramos, non-voting Board Member (excused).

**Staff Present:** Dr. Roberto Gutierrez, President; Jamie Jennings, Vice President; Gail Schull, Vice President; Denise Reid, Interim Vice President; Charles Massie, Vice President; Joshua Guest, Executive Director; Bill Jennings, staff; and Shannon Childs, Secretary to the Board.

**Guests:** Kathleen Walker-Henderson, Jolene Baker, Jocelynn Davis, John & Darlene Faulkner, Suzy Field, Kay Doolittle, Carol & David Warren, Bill & Dawnn Brown, Bill & Debi Clark, and Rejeana Jackson.

**II. SHOWCASE**

None.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Board Minutes (Regular Meeting December 5, 2023)
- B. Personnel Action
- C. Administrative Reports
- D. Appropriated Objects (Financials)
- E. Enrollment Dashboard

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

Motion by: Richard Harrington

Second by: Raymond Holliday

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

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

**IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion: To adopt the agenda, with the inclusion, if the Board is not to the public participation at 1.5 hours into the meeting, to step ahead to that portion of the meeting and hold public participation.**

Motion by: Richard Harrington

Second by: Linda Dill

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

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

**V. PRESIDENT REPORT**

- a. Dr. Gutierrez shared that the College is moving ahead with the Child Care Center. The request for quote (RFQ) has been published and has 6 responses from architectural engineering firms. These have been reviewed, and 5 of the 6 candidates are moving forward for interview. Dr. Gutierrez shared he is happy to hear about the project possibly staying local to have local support. The college did receive a \$.5M grant towards the capital construction of the Child Care Center. KCC is getting closer to the Child Care Center capital campaign goals.
- b. The Surgical Tech program degree should be coming forward to the Board at the next meeting. There is a partnership with Sky Lakes Medical Center on this program and Dr. Gutierrez expressed his appreciation.
- c. KCC RN made the top 10 programs in the state. KCC is number 7, Dr. Gutierrez shared that he is very pleased with this.

**VI. ASKCC STUDENT REPORT**

- a. None.

**VII. STATE REPORT**

- a. The handout from Trustee Marquez was distributed.

**VIII. FOUNDATION REPORT**

- a. VP Massie shared that there was a \$418K contribution from an individual who is over 101 years old. It was very important to Mr. Fernland to support students. Leroy Fernland started by donating tools from his collection. He then donated \$418K in contributions to an endowed fund for CTE students. There will be a trust scholarship fund.
- b. The Hay Klamath Gala is set for April 20<sup>th</sup> with a Spruce up Your Life raffle. All are invited to attend.
- c. The Foundation will hold a State of the Foundation event on June 4<sup>th</sup>. More information will be shared closer to the date.
- d. The Foundation feels it will meet its goal to raise \$100K towards scholarships.

**IX. INFORMATIONAL AND ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Board Policy 3715, 7342, 7345, 7346, 7347, 7350, and 7381 – Action Item – Second Reading**

Bill Jennings, Institutional Researcher presented edits to those policies from the last Board of Education meeting.

BP 7381 Health and Welfare Benefits was reviewed, specifically the yellow highlights reflecting differences from the last meeting. Trustee Harrington inquired if there was a timeline for the President to approve the first paragraph of the policy. He expressed concern about deleting the policy and not yet having another policy in place to cover the areas of the policy that are deleted. Mr. Jennings shared that the procedure is developed following the policy. Dr. Gutierrez added that the Board has to give authority by approving the policy before the President can take care of the procedure. It was noted the Board is not involved in the procedures; the Board approves policies. Trustee Holliday shared that the state law is the safety net to the policy. Executive Director Guest shared that the procedures are in place and that employees who qualify are already receiving benefits. Even without policy, the College would continue to give benefits. Executive Director Guest shared examples of documents that reflect the President's interest in giving employees benefits.

Dr. Gutierrez shared that procedures cannot be further developed until the Board passes a policy to give authority. It was further noted that most procedures are following state and federal law.

Trustee Buckley expressed that she felt the information was addressed in other contracts or documents at the College.

BP 3715 Intellectual Property, BP 7342 Holidays, BP 7345 Catastrophic Leave Program, BP 7346 Employees Called to Military Duty, BP 7347 Paid Family Leave, and BP 7350 Resignations were not changed from the first reading.

**Motion: To approve Board Policy 3715, 7342, 7345, 7346, 7347, 7350, and 7381.**

Motion by: Raymond Holliday

Second by: Misty Buckley

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

**Action: Motion passed. Unanimous approval**

**B. Board Policy– Action Item – First Reading**

Bill Jennings, Institutional Researcher presented a PowerPoint “Board Policy Comparing to Administrative Procedure”.

Mr. Jennings reviewed Board Policies as handed out for the first reading.

BP 7230 Employees, along with BP 7210, and BP 7212, were reviewed together. Mr. Jennings presented them as one policy for all employees, not individual groups. The recommended updates to the policy were reviewed. Trustee Harrington recommended using the word “resign” instead of “quit” in the policy.

Trustee Buckley inquired about part-time employees and if they needed proof of employment, would KCC be able to accommodate them. Executive Director Guest expressed the College would provide the evidence of employment.

BP 7210 Academic Employees was recommended to be deleted as it is part of BP 7230.

BP 7212 Temporary Faculty was recommended to be deleted as it is part of BP 7230.

BP 5052 Open Enrollment and Registration was reviewed. Trustee Harrington expressed that there may be conflict in the first paragraph. He felt the sentence should add “subject to the following restrictions”. Dr. Gutierrez shared that he is cautious as KCC is open enrollment. The Board discussed the inclusion of the sentence, or keeping it as is. Mr. Jennings recommended “subject as other limitations as outlined in this policy”. The Board agreed for Mr. Jennings to make the noted change.

BP 5075 Course Adds and Drops was reviewed.

BP 5350 Student Life was reviewed.

BP 5520 Student Discipline was reviewed. Trustee Harrington inquired if there were existing procedures. Mr. Jennings shared there were.

BP 5530 Student Rights and Grievances was reviewed. It was noted that the administrative procedure exists. Trustee Harrington asked to change the word “will” to “are” in light of that.

BP 4023 Program Review was reviewed. It will read the President “shall” direct.

## **X. BOARD DISCUSSION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **A. Board Discussion**

#### **i. Board Comment**

- Trustee Harrington shared that everyone has read the correspondence to the President from Trustee Weatherford. He shared that he was surprised and disappointed at the language. He shared he had seen this stuff before in past years at Santa Cruz County, and he did not like to see it then, nor does he like to see it now. He shared he considers Linda Weatherford to be a very intelligent person and was surprised at the rederict. Trustee Harrington added that he looked at who Werner Reschke is as a representative in the legislature for our county, he is not the only one, but covers this area. Trustee Harrington shared that he could not think of a more qualified person for the College to select to teach a class on how Oregon government works as a member of the Oregon legislature with a clean record. Trustee Harrington expressed that he has had conversations with him on more than one occasion and he was always come across as a reasonable person, and he believes he will teach the syllabus faithfully.

### **B. Public Participation**

- Chair Jensen reviewed guidelines for Public Participation. Each person speaking has 3 minutes maximum time, taken by Ms. Childs, with a 15-second warning. Everyone needs to be respectful, no name-calling. When approaching the podium, the speaker needs to state their name and if there is someone or something they are representing.
- Suzy Field, in Representative Reschke’s district, shared she was kind of horrified to read the letter written to the President because she represents canceling people, and we have spent the last four years canceling people right and left. She shared she felt it was important for people to be able to be who they are. She did read the class was canceled. She expressed that she hopes the opinions of some people do not outweigh and do not cancel someone because of some opinions of people. She added that she has heard Rep Reschke speak numerous times and that he is always kind, polite and respectful and does not feel that he has said anything that has been offensive to her and is confused by the letter. She shared that she just wanted to state her opinion.
- Rejeana Jackson, a 20-year member of the Klamath Falls Community spoke. She shared she grew up here, is raising her 3 children here, and represents tens of thousands of supporters of Representative Reschke. She expressed that she stood against this attempt to cancel him from teaching at Klamath Community College. She shared that the reason for being here was a scathing letter written about Rep. Reschke with zero research, zero vetting, and zero fact-checking, that it would not go unanswered. Ms. Jackson further shared that for far too long conservatives in this community have stood stoically while our rights and representation have been whittled away by Marxist, leftist bullies, which is what this is, a Marxist bullying tactic perpetrated by a KCC Board Member. Ms. Jackson shared she was here to go over facts and figures, and would dissect the letter referred to, with some that was missing from the original, truth.  
First, as a point of clarification regarding “documented discrimination about LGBT youth and protest against an anti-suicide event”. The accusation comes directly from Rep. Reschke’s opposition to the promoted teaching of children how to become drag queens and to a public event allowing children that also featured a drag queen. Ms. Jackson shared

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they viewed this to be inappropriate for the children and have said so repeatedly. The two pieces of evidence included in the poorly prepared letter were not in fact made by Rep. Reschke, they were made by Ms. Jackson. The prayer in the park poster and related handout alerting the community were made by Ms. Jackson and she stands by them. This told Ms. Jackson two things, first that the author of the letter was either lying, or at a minimum did zero vetting of so-called evidence, and secondly that the agenda to have Rep. Reschke removed as an adjunct professor was far greater than her commitment to this school board.

Second, as a point of clarification regarding the “disturbing and threatening bible quote”. The quote was not from Rep. Reschke, it was from Ms. Jackson's Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. She elaborated that the quote is addressed to those who would “cause one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble”, the condemnation from Jesus is to those who deceive and cause children to stumble, not to the children themselves. Ms. Jason expressed that the only way someone could be offended by such a verse is if they knowingly are deceiving children.

Third, as a point of clarification regarding “Reschke’s opposition to Roe vs. Wade”. As evidenced from her letter, Ms. Weatherford is pro Roe Vs. Wade; a 15 caution was given interrupting this sentence.

Ms. Jackson moved forward in her notes and shared that what Ms. Weatherford is doing is a classic Marxist technique, throw as many accusations against an opponent and hope that one of them sticks. One quote that Ms. Jackson shared that she would stand by is Rep. Reschke’s quote “spoke against vaccine mandates, celebrated the overturn of Roe vs. Wade, and made very clear his mission is to get back to traditional Christian values.” Ms. Jackson expressed this was exactly right and that is why Rep. Reschke is so popular in Klamath County. He is respectful yet bold, a seeker of real truth. He is a dedicated public servant and keeps his constituents informed. Everyone deserves a seat in this community, not just those who agree with you.

- Dawn Brown shared that she was upset with the letter and was not sure how it became public. She shared things that concerned her in the letter and agreed with Ms. Jackson. It seems like only Christian values are being threatened. Everyone else's values are fine and can be promoted. It is the Christian values that don't matter and she feels that those are the only values that matter. The last sentence of the letter was referred to, regarding “still gathering all the concerns”. She (the writer of the letter) is out ruffling everyone’s feathers. Ms. Brown shared that this is a class about the Oregon political procedures, such as a bill coming through and going through committees, it is not about Republican or Democrat. Ms. Brown expressed that she was getting tired of our values being ripped apart. She shared that she believed each person is in their position because God put them there, all leadership position is from God. Ms. Brown referred to her time at the Fair Board. God has made the group as a Board to be a protector and guidance for the community. Ms. Brown stated that if they wanted their values picked on all the time they would live in Salem or Portland. Ms. Brown elaborated that we are a farming community that believes in the values of Christianity. She shared she applied for the Board and it breaks her heart that this is the type of thing that makes the community think twice about the board. Her husband was one of the Founders. Ms. Brown shared that leaders in the community need to be guardians of what goes in the area here.
- Bill Brown shared he was disappointed in the letter. He shared a story of when he got out of the service, he took a political science class at OIT. Mr. Brown knew who the instructor was and knew how liberal he was. He took the class anyway and it was one of the best classes he took at OIT. There were not any politics in the class, he taught the curriculum. That is where the President, VP and academic deans come in, that is their job to make sure all the syllabus and make sure what is being taught are in it. If we start hiring based on

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what we believe in outside the classroom, there will be a pretty limited batch of teachers, especially on the conservative side around the letter. Mr. Brown shared it may not be politically correct, but when you put gender identity in there, he hopes that someday when our daughters are in the bathroom and some male goes in there, he hopes there is a legality that says that is not correct and should not happen.

**XI. FUTURE ISSUES**

- None.

**XII. NEXT MEETING**

- A. Scheduled Board of Education Meeting: February 27, 2024, Founders Hall Boardroom
- B. There will be a Budget Committee Meeting upcoming. Dr. Gutierrez shared the budget process starts in February and there will be a Budget Committee Meeting scheduled. The Board will be informed when it is scheduled.

Trustee Buckley inquired if it was known how the letter from Trustee Weatherford was disseminated. Chair Jensen stated that he did not know.

**XIII. ADJOURN**

**Chair Jensen adjourned the meeting at 7:24 pm.**

Respectfully submitted by:  
Shannon Childs  
Klamath Community College  
Board of Education Secretary