

MENDOCINO-LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A study session of the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees was convened on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 using ZOOM remote meeting technology.

GENERAL MATTERS

Call to Order Trustee Pinoli, Board President, called the study session to order at 1:00 PM.

<i>Board Members</i>	President	Robert Jason Pinoli	present
	Vice President	Marie L. Myers	present
	Clerk	Ed Nickerman	present
	Trustee	Xochilt Martinez	present
	Trustee	John Tomkins	present
	Trustee	TeMashio Anderson	Arrived at 1:04 PM
	Trustee	Noel O’Neill	absent
	Student Trustee	vacant	

Secretary Timothy Karas, Superintendent/President

Support Staff Mary Lamb, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/President

Staff Representatives Eileen Cichocki, Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Administrative Services (present)
Debra Polak, Vice President of Academic Affairs (present)
Ulises Velasco, Vice President of Student Services (absent)
Nicole Marin, Director of Human Resources (present)

<i>Constituent Representatives</i>	Academic Senate	Catherine Indermill, President (present)
	Classified Senate	Mayra Sanchez, President (present)
	Management Team	Lauren Simmonds (present)
		Janelle Bird, President (present)
		MacAdam Lojowsky (present)

Agenda Approval M/S (Tomkins/Myers) to approve the agenda as presented. The matter was approved via the following vote:

Ayes	Myers, Nickerman, Martinez, Tomkins and Pinoli
Noes	None
Abstentions	None
Absent	Anderson and O’Neill

Public Comments • There were no comments from the public.

Study Session **Participatory Governance and Leadership**
Board President Pinoli introduced the discussion topic for today’s study session. Superintendent/President Karas reminded the Trustees the fourth

pillar of the college governance is student representation which is not present at today's session.

Superintendent/President Karas made a brief presentation on Participatory Governance and Leadership which was created by the Community College League of California and the Statewide Academic Senate.

The four pillars of participatory governance are represented by the following groups at Mendocino College: the Academic Senate, the Classified Senate, the Management Team and the Associated Students of Mendocino College.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1725 came into effect in 1988 which established the right for faculty, staff and students to participate in district and college governance. It also established the right of Academic Senates to make primary recommendations in the area of curriculum and academic standards. There are 11 specific areas for this primary oversight (also referred to as 10+1).

Staff and student participation is reflected in their representation and participation on the various campus committees.

Management is not mentioned in AB 1725 as reflected on the one-page chart at the end of Superintendent/President Karas' presented.

Academic Senate President Indermill addressed the board and thanked them for the opportunity to address the board in this environment. She stated by including the Academic Senate on committees, it brings the voice of instructors and students to the table. Currently, all committees have faculty representatives on them. This is unprecedented in the history of the college as we have never had all of the committee positions filled. The Academic Senate takes this work very seriously by trying to actively participate in all areas of the college where their guidance and recommendations are sought.

The Academic Senate is comprised of 10 members which include 2 part-time faculty representatives which are full participating and voting members. This is not always the case at other institutions. Faculty representation comes from various disciplines across the institution and not just from one area of study.

There are campuses in the state where the bargaining units do not work well with the Academic Senate which is not the case at Mendocino College. The two entities have very different roles and try very hard to stay within their specific areas of collaboration. While this is the case, both entities do collaborate with each other as necessary.

Questions from the Trustees were then addressed by Academic Senate President Indermill.

Classified Senate President Mayra Sanchez introduced Vice President Lauren Simmonds to the board who was also in attendance. Currently the slate of officers also includes a Secretary and Treasurer as well as three senators. The

group meets monthly to address any concerns or issues. The group also conduct fund raisers to raise money for student scholarships.

The Classified Senate has been participating in the Caring Campus Initiative which is something new to our campus this year. As a group, it was decided we will work on three traditional commitments which we are hoping to have up and running during the spring semester.

Many of the Classified Senate members are on the “front lines” and in many cases are the first contact for students so their welcoming and positive attitude goes a long way in establishing a good relationship with them. An additional piece of the Caring Campus Initiative is making sure all employees are wearing their name tag in order to be easily identified as someone who can help when needed. The group feels this is great way to make a positive impression on new or existing students. She added the Classified staff also works very well together to “make it happen”.

In closing, Classified Senate President Sanchez added the Classified Senate are looking into holding a virtual open house to learn more about each of the various departments on campus and their individual duties.

Questions from the Trustees were then addressed by Classified Senate President Sanchez.

Management Team President Janelle Bird addressed the board and introduced Vice President Mac Lojowsky who was present as well. The Management Team meets monthly where they receive updates on campus wide and/or department or other initiatives. The group recently implemented a big picture item into their meetings where one of the managers will present pertinent information from their particular area.

The Management Team also award scholarships to students using monies raised through payroll deductions to the Management Team Scholarship Fund. The Management Team scholarships focus primarily on qualified students who have not received a scholarship from other college entities.

The Management Team President is a member of the President’s Policy Advisory Committee (PPAC) and also is a member of the Planning and Budgeting Committee (PBC) as well. The President also solicits team members to participate as the Management Team representative on the various campus hiring committees.

President Bird addressed the questions and statements from the board members.

Superintendent/President Karas informed the board members that he meets monthly with the Academic Senate and the Classified Senate Presidents and Vice Presidents once a month where open dialogue and communication take place. This type of communication takes place in many areas on our campus which does not happen at all institutions in the system.

Adjournment

With agenda business concluded, Board President Pinoli declared the meeting adjourned at 2:07 PM.

Submitted by:

Timothy Karas, Superintendent/President
Secretary, Board of Trustees