

COMMUNITY COLLEGE COUNCIL (CCC) MEETING NOTES

May 3, 2023 – 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Iowa Department of Education – Zoom

Those in attendance included:

- ❑ Cassandra Halls, CCC and State Board of Education Member (In Person)
- ❑ Cindy Dietz, CCC and State Board of Education Member (In Person)
- ❑ John Robbins, CCC and State Board of Education Member (via conf. call)
- ❑ Dr. Sonya Williams, CCC Member and Community College President, Eastern Iowa Community College (via conf. call)
- ❑ Moudy Nabulsi, CCC Member and Trustee, Southeastern Community College (via conf. call)
- ❑ Emily Shields, Executive Director, Community Colleges for Iowa (via conf. call)
- ❑ Kat Callahan, Policy and Government Relations Specialist, Community Colleges for Iowa (via conf. call)
- ❑ Jeremy Varner, Division Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation (In Person)
- ❑ Amy Gieseke, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Community Colleges (In Person)
- ❑ Heather Meissen, Education Program Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges (In Person)
- ❑ Dennis Harden, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Career and Technical Education (In Person)
- ❑ Lora Vargason, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges (In Person)
- ❑ Kelly Friesleben, Education Program Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges (In Person)

I. Call to Order – Cassandra Halls

- The meeting was called to order at 3:29 p.m. Attendees provided introductions.
- Cassandra facilitated a round of introductions to welcome Dr. Sonya Williams to the Council.

II. Approval of March 22, 2023 Meeting Notes (Action Required – Attachment 1)

Motion: moved to approve Moudy Nabulsi; seconded by John Robbins.

Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

III. Updates – Community Colleges for Iowa

- Community Colleges for Iowa – Emily Shields
 - Emily Shields provides updates for Community Colleges for Iowa.
 - The senate is currently debating the education appropriations bill.
 - There will be an increase in state general aid.
 - GAP expansion – making some of the changes permanent in code.
 - Got colleges more flexibility for equipment funding by removing the word instruction.
 - Board of Regents need to complete a study on all of the resources for DEI to be completed by December 2023, and there is a freeze on DEI hiring during this time.

- Last Dollar Scholarship will not have enough funds next year so support all eligible students. The appropriations bill will have the status quo funding of \$23 million.
 - Deadline will be moved up to July 1
 - Good compromise for this year
 - Session is likely to close some time tomorrow.
 - Will have a legislative session reflection webinar
 - Upcoming events:
 - Annual Trustee Event
 - July 19-20
 - Kirkwood Community College
 - CC Convention and Trade Show
 - Nov 28-30
 - Downtown Des Moines Hilton
 - **Questions/Comments:**
 - Cassandra – led discussion on annual trustee conference and about potentially hosting a luncheon with the IACCP, IACCT, and CCC.
- Iowa Department of Education – Jeremy Varner
 - Jeremy Varner provided updates for the Iowa Department of Education.
 - Regional Centers
 - Partnered with UNI on a study
 - Want to provide information so colleges can be strategic in planning where additional centers should be placed to provide access across the state.
 - Spring grant cycle open for Career Academies
 - Visited the ribbon cutting for the centers in:
 - NIACC
 - ILCC – Storm Lake
 - May 18 – ILCC in Spirit Lake
 - Executive Order 10
 - Review of all administrative rules
 - Look for obsolete or duplicative language to try to make the rules more lean
 - Don't panic when you see strikethroughs – this is most likely language that is already in statute (code)
 - Looking for opportunities to streamline and update rules.
 - Gap/Tuition Assistance Expansion
 - Close to winding down the federal funds for this expansion.
 - The changes removed some barriers to access and widened the availability. The response and impact to these additional funds has been wide spread and positive.
 - Went through 84% of funds through first half of the program.

- Served students in short-term credit programs that aren't eligible for financial aid.
- Working to publish outcomes reports on this initiative.
- **Questions/comments:**
 - Moudy – what is the communication process once the review is done? Jeremy stated how the rules will come to the council for review and have a period of time for public comment and changes to rules will also be communicated to the Governor's office.
 - John – mentioned the Board added a meeting in December to address additional rules changes, and the council may want to consider the same.
 - Cassandra – Open to suggestions on how best to review the various changes that will be coming through to spread out the work. Will the Presidents get a chance to provide input and feedback to this process? Jeremy answered yes, and any issues that are raised will be brought to the council.
 - Cindy commented that at this point we are not expecting any major rewrites or substantial changes to the chapters? Jeremy replied that yes, the first group will be primarily cleaning up language.

IV. Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report – FY2024 (Action Required – Attachment 2)

- Lora Vargason presented the Iowa Community Colleges Certified Budget Report FY 2024. There was discussion on the report and the relevance of the data as the numbers provided are considered an estimate.
 - **Questions/Comments:**
 - John Robbins raised the question regarding Kirkwood Community College's beginning fund balance and ending fund balance for FY 2024. Lora Vargason presented additional information provided by Casey Drew, CFO for Kirkwood Community College. Additional discussion was held regarding the reported numbers being an estimate and timing differences that occur with the reporting. Additional information from Kirkwood Community College will be provided to the State Board of Education when the report is presented.

Motion: moved to send this to the State Board of Education by Moudy Nabulsi; seconded by Cindy Dietz.

Vote: Motion carries with Moudy Nabulsi, Cassandra Halls and Cindy Dietz voting affirmatively. John Robbins and Sonya Williams abstained.

V. Indian Hills CC Interim Accreditation Report (Action Required – Attachment 3)

- Amy Gieseke presented an overview of the IHCC accreditation visit and report.

- **Questions/Comments:**

- Moudy asked for clarification of the IHCC scholarship for concurrent students and Amy clarified.
- John commented that this was a good, thorough report.
- Cassandra would love to see the college have more time to talk at the state board meeting like SWCC did at the previous meeting. This idea was supported by Cindy Dietz and John Robbins.

Motion: Sonya Williams moved to send this to the State Board of Education; seconded by John Robbins.

Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

II. For the Good of the Order – Cassandra Halls

- Done and adjourned 4:43 p.m.
- Next meeting: June 7, 2023, 3:30-5 p.m. – Grimes Building, 400 E. 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319