

COMMUNITY COLLEGE COUNCIL (CCC) MEETING NOTES

February 8, 2023 – 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Iowa Department of Education – Zoom

Those in attendance included:

- ❑ Cassandra Halls, CCC and State Board of Education Member (via conf. call)
- ❑ Cindy Dietz, CCC and State Board of Education Member (via conf. call)
- ❑ Rod Bradley, CCC Member and State Board of Education Member (via conf. call)
- ❑ Marge McGuire-Welch, CCC Member and Community College President, Southwestern Community College (via conf. call)
- ❑ Moudy Nabulsi, CCC Member and Trustee, Southeastern Community College (via conf. call)
- ❑ Laurie Wolf, Legislative Liaison, Community Colleges for Iowa (via conf. call)
- ❑ Katrina Callahan, Intern, Community Colleges for Iowa (via conf. call)
- ❑ Heather Meissen, Education Program Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges (via conf. call)
- ❑ Amy Gieseke, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Community Colleges (via conf. call)
- ❑ Dennis Harden, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Career and Technical Education (via conf. call)
- ❑ Lora Vargason, Administrative Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges (via conf. call)
- ❑ Jeremy Varner, Division Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation (via conf. call)
- ❑ Kelly Friesleben, Education Program Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges (via conf. call)
- ❑ Erica Woods-Schmitz, Education Program Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges (via conf. call)
- ❑ Sheryl Bass, College-Career Transition Counselor, Kirkwood CC/Linn-Mar HS (via conf. call)

I. Call to Order – Cassandra Halls

- The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. Attendees provided introductions.

II. Approval of January 11, 2023 Meeting Notes

Motion: Rod Bradley moved to approve; seconded by Moudy Nabulsi.

Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

III. Updates – Community Colleges for Iowa

- Community Colleges for Iowa – Laurie Wolf
 - Laurie Wolf provided updates for Community Colleges for Iowa.
 - 3 property tax bills are currently proposed, with one being a companion bill.
 - Updates the assessment values and will impact CCs by approx. 4 mil
 - HF 1 would cap prop assess 3%
 - Looking at ways CC can make up funding in other areas
 - Emily is in DC attending ACCT legislative summit
 - Last week hosted the ICCLI legislative advisory summit.
 - Last presidents meeting – discussed redistricting based on the updated legislative redistricting borders. Presidents reviewed and approved the list of approved programs for Kibbe Grant.
 - Dates:
 - February 27th – legislative student session with panel

- February 27th PTK all – Iowa banquet
 - February 28th CC on the Hill – in rotunda; 7:30am – 12pm
- Watching realignment bills.
- Watching a number of policy bills – not sure how impactful they will be.
 - Working on treatment of pregnant students bill along with legislator that proposed the bill.
 - Looking at curriculum issues and the books that are being discussed at K12 levels in case there may be any spillover to CC
 - Several cybersecurity bills that have been proposed. Watching to make sure colleges are compliant with issues, and what they see in the bills is similar to practices already in place.
 - **Questions:** None.
- Iowa Department of Education – Jeremy Varner
 - Jeremy Varner provided updates for the Iowa Department of Education.
 - State government realignment bill has a lot of change with the goal of bringing greater alignment in state agencies. The bill proposes a new higher education division that would replace the community college and workforce prep division. This proposed new higher education division would include the CTE Bureau, Community College Bureau (which includes Educational Preparation), Iowa College Student Aid Commission, and the Board of Educational Examiners. It also moves adult education from the department to Iowa Workforce Development. Still determining what this will mean for the boards.
 - Department of Ed has made a lot of difference with CCTCs, and this newer board hasn't had an opportunity to hear about this initiative. Jeremy talked about how this program started with little funding and is making a large impact.
 - **Questions:** Moudy asked about the property tax bill, and Laurie Wolf responded. Moudy reiterated the importance of property taxes to community college budgets.

IV. **Rules Updates** – Lora Vargason

- Lora introduced and provided a brief overview of the Chapter 24 rules to be approved.
 - **Questions/Comments:** None

Motion: Marge McGuire-Welch moved to send this to the State Board of Education; seconded by Cindy Dietz.

Vote: Motion carries unanimously.

V. **Iowa Western Community College Accreditation Follow Up** – Amy Gieseke

- Amy provided a recap of the findings from the IWCC visit, the recommendations given, and the remedies IWCC put in place to satisfy the findings.
- Amy shared a presentation that included documentation submitted and reviewed by the accreditation team regarding the findings on their report.

- **Questions/Comments:** Cindy asked what the time line was for follow up and Moudy asked what additional follow up will be. Amy responded that a review would again be completed at their next accreditation visit.

VI. College and Career Transition Counselors – Erica Woods-Schmitz

- Erica Woods – Schmitz and Sheryl Bass provided an overview of the career and transition counselor program
- First cycle of grants in 20-21 school year, and just finished 3rd cycle of grants
- CCTCs are tied to both CCs and high schools in a bridge position, and will serve a maximum of 300 students
- The one-page document and toolkit shared has information on the roles and responsibilities of these positions.
- The school district determines which students are served by the CCTC.
- Sheryl – CCTC at Kirkwood and housed at Linn-Marr high school.
 - Role is to support individual and small groups of students for their life after high school – whatever their educational and career goals are. Additionally, they will help support families with information about next steps for their students' goals.
 - Have a set schedule with the majority of the time in the school district during the academic year.
 - Sheryl shared examples of CCTC work that includes: teaching a course, helping with FAFSA completion, taking student on college visits, assist with work based-learning connections, and assist with dual-enrollment.
 - Kirkwood CCTC work with local intermediary network to help students get connected with career opportunities in the area. Data shared showed increases
 - Erica shared that there are many positions that have been added by school districts.
 - Incorporating the school counselor is an important lesson learned for success. Iowa school counselors are qualified and doing good work, and CCTCs are able to enhance their work and additionally serve the students in the school districts.
- **Questions/Comments:** Marge thanked Sheryl – and mentioned she heard from other presidents what a game changer this role is. SWCC is getting their first in the fall, and she is looking forward to partnering with districts with this role.
- **Cassandra** – Did you say that 90% of FAFSA completers enroll at Kirkwood the fall after graduation? Sheryl clarified that 90% of FAFSA completers enroll in some college the fall after graduation – and that this is federal data along with their local data.

VII. For the Good of the Order – Cassandra Halls

- **Motion:** President Marge Welch moved to adjourn; seconded by Cindy Dietz.
- **Vote:** Motion carries unanimously.
 - Done and adjourned 4:23 p.m.

- Next meeting: March 22, 2023, 3:30-5 p.m. – Grimes Building, 400 E. 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319