

STATE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Chelsea Mason-Placek, chair // Martin Valadez, vice chair // Ben Bagherpour // Crystal Donner // Phyllis Gutiérrez Kenney // Mack Hogans // Jay Reich // Kady Titus // Fred Whang

Paul Francis, executive director // Julie Walter, executive assistant

Statutory Authority: Laws of 1991, Chapter 28B.50 Revised Code of Washington

Regular Meeting: Thursday, December 7, 2023 // 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Zoom

Welcome

Chair Mason-Placek called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and welcomed those present.

Establish a Quorum and Adoption of Agenda

Chair Mason-Placek noted that a quorum was present and requested a motion to adopt the agenda.

Motion: Moved by Vice Chair Valadez, seconded by Board Member Bagherpour and unanimously approved by the board, the adoption of December 7, 2023 regular meeting agenda.

Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Recognition of Chris Bailey, President, Lower Columbia College
Resolution 23-12-4
- b. State Board Meeting Dates
Resolution 23-12-45

Motion: Moved by Board Member Reich, seconded by Board Member Whang and unanimously approved by the board, the adoption of the December 7, 2023 consent agenda.

Public Comments

- Sallie Davis, Bellingham Technical College

Board Retreat – Revisiting Priority Issues

Board members reviewed outcomes from the annual retreat held on November 8-9 in Union, Washington, and discussed the State Board’s role in moving the system’s strategic plan forward.

Emergency Funding for Bellingham Technical College (Resolution 23-12-46)

Bellingham Technical College is requesting \$21,068,000 in new state funding and the authority to spend up to \$1,200,000 in local funds for emergency repairs to the Campus Center Building. The college would be reimbursed for up to \$1,200,000 of its local fund expenditures from the state funding if the Legislature provides the state funding as requested.

In accordance with State Board Policy 6.60.10, State Board staff have already allocated \$500,000 from the system's emergency repair pool funding and the college has contributed a match of \$113,560. Per the State Board management procedure for emergency capital reserves, if the cost of an emergency repair exceeds \$500,000, the State Board may elect to provide the allocation and seek additional funding from the legislature.

The State Board adopted its 2023-25 capital request in resolution 22-05-24. As it has for many years, this request prioritized emergency funding above all other capital needs. The State Board adopted its 2024 supplemental request in resolutions 23-08-35. The supplemental request was for projects to help colleges meet the intent of the new Clean Buildings Performance Standard and the next two major projects from the pipeline.

Consistent with past practices and the emergency funding State Board policy, the request for \$21,068,000 would, upon State Board approval, be prioritized at the top of the system's 2024 supplemental request.

Additionally, Bellingham Technical College needs \$1,200,000 in local spending authority to fund the preconstruction work in advance of the construction appropriation by the Legislature to expedite the work as quickly as possible. If funded as requested, the college would be reimbursed for the \$1,200,000 in local expenditures.

Bellingham Technical College's Board of Trustees has supported this project throughout and will be taking formal action on this request at its regularly scheduled December 14, 2023 meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Board Member Reich, seconded by Vice Chair Valadez, and unanimously approved by the board, the adoption of Resolution 23-12-46 supporting the Emergency Funding for Bellingham Technical College

Tribal Partnership Update

Irene Shaver, climate solutions program administration, provided an update on the following:

Achievements 2022-2023

- Launched two pilot programs at Spokane Community College (SCC) and Grays Harbor College (GHC) and awarded funding from Perkins Special Projects to hire a Tribal navigator at each college.
- Led a retreat for Tribal scholars and college faculty and staff to co-design this program.
- Created a 25-episode video-based Tribal curriculum showcasing Tribal stewardship and climate solutions in action through interviews with Tribal scholars from the Makah, Quinault, Colville, and Spokane Tribes.
- SBCTC's Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion graciously funded the curation of a faculty learning community curriculum by Maya Esquivido, *Nor Rel Muck Wintu - Hupa* (MSW), SBCTC Tribal Government Affairs.
- Recruited eight faculty from Grays Harbor College and Spokane Community College to participate in the Tribal Stewards Faculty Learning Community.

Next Steps

New Tribal navigators at Grays Harbor College and Spokane Community College started their positions December 1, 2023. Upcoming goals include:

- Identify pilot colleges to annually host the faculty learning community for the next five years.
- Seek to secure additional funding for continued Tribal curriculum development that showcases Tribal climate solutions and natural resource stewardship across the state.
- Seek funding and develop strategies to engage Tribal leaders and state Tribal liaisons and to hire new Tribal navigators to serve multiple colleges in a region.

Executive Session

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110, the Board convened in executive session at 12:15 p.m. to discuss potential litigation. The session concluded at 12:45 p.m. No action was taken during the executive session.

Bachelor of Applied Science Programs

Valerie Sundby , director, transfer education, and Joyce Hammer, deputy executive director of education, provide an update on current and emerging work related to community and technical college bachelor's degrees, including:

- An update on national and Washington statistics.
- Strategies for assuring program quality.
- Statewide, regional, and consortium work.
- Upcoming research and emerging topics.

Preview of 2024 Legislative Session

Arlen Harris, legislative director, reported on the following:

2024 Budget Priorities

- 2024 Operating Budget Request
- 2024 Supplemental Capital Request

2024 Legislative Issues

- Mental health support for students
- Support for student basic needs: addressing food and housing insecurity
- Financial aid: Washington College Grant expansion
- Dual credit: Running Start and College in the High School

Open Education Update

Boyoung Chae, open education policy associate, reported that the State Board's Open ProfTech project has been awarded grant funding under the fiscal year 2023 Open Textbook Pilot Program by the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), U.S. Department of Education. The project has received an additional grant of \$2.1 million. Combined with the \$1.8 million received in 2021, this results in a total grant amount of \$3.9 million.

Guided Pathways Update

Monica Wilson, director of Student Success Center, provided an update on our college system's progress in implementing Guided Pathways.

Washington's community and technical colleges have been implementing practices across the Guided Pathways framework since 2015 with funding and technical assistance from the American Association of Community Colleges. In 2016, College Spark Washington provided additional implementation funding for two cohorts of five colleges, resulting in over a third of the community and technical college system becoming early adopters of the framework. The state Legislature provided additional funds for planning grants and full implementation of the framework beginning in 2019. In 2023, the system was awarded \$40.4 million to continue implementation efforts.

Colleges across the state have engaged in a wide variety of Guided Pathways activities, including:

- Hiring advisors, counselors, coaches, educational planners, and retention/completion managers.
- Creating "welcome centers" that feature newly designed intake processes and orientations for new students.
- Providing professional development for student support services staff to ensure they have the knowledge and resources needed to implement high-impact practices.
- Investing in faculty engagement, with colleges providing release time for faculty to collaborate on the development of alternative placement practices, co-requisite courses, and exploratory experiences for students. Faculty have also revised and aligned college, pathway, and course outcomes.
- Developing courses and opportunities that allow students to explore programs and careers within and across pathways.
- Using technology and data analytics to monitor student progress, refine pathways, evaluate the use of resources, and enhance the overall data literacy of the colleges.

SBCTC has been working closely with the Washington State Institute for Public Policy to produce an initial evaluation of early momentum metrics due to the Legislature in March 2024.

FAFSA Aid Simplification

Yokiko Hayashi-Saguil, student services policy associate, presented on changes to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which will take effect by December 31, 2023. The changes were designed to make it easier for students to apply for financial aid by significantly reducing the number of questions on the FAFSA. The law also includes important changes in the formula that determines the amount of financial aid for which students may be eligible.

ctcLink Improvement Plan

Grant Rodeheaver, deputy executive director of information technology, and Choi Halladay, deputy executive director of business operations, presented on the following:

- Current challenges of ctcLink
- Current college environment challenges
- Goals and elements of the improvement plan

ACT Update

Pat Shuman, ACT President, provided an update on the Fall Conference and New Trustee Orientation held on November 16-17, 2023. Upcoming ACT events include a reception for the WA state delegation on February 8, 2024, and the Spring Conference on May 2-3, 2024.

WACTC Report

Tim Stokes, WACTC president, reported on the November WACTC meeting.

Labor Report

- Sue Nightingale, Washington Education Association (WEA), and Becky Stephens, Washington Federation, stated that employees support the Bellingham Technical College improvement plan.

Executive Director Report

Paul Francis, executive director, reported on the following:

- Aspen Prize
- Senate Human Services Committee
- Legislative Reports
- Nursing Bill 5572

Chair's Report

- Chair Mason-Placek thanked the Board members for their time and State Board staff for their presentations.

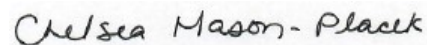
Adjournment/next meeting

There being no further business, the State Board adjourned its December 7, 2023, meeting at 4:20 p.m. The next meeting will be January 31-February 1, 2024, at the State Board Office.

Attest



Paul Francis, secretary



Chelsea Mason-Placek, chair