

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MARCH 12, 2024**

The Board of Trustees of Community College District 509, Counties of Kane, Cook, DuPage, McHenry and DeKalb, State of Illinois, convened a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, in Building E, Room E100.01.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Redmer called the regular meeting to order at 5:42 p.m., indicated that a quorum was present, and asked the recorder to call roll.

Trustees present: Dr. Redmer, Ms. Rakow, Mr. Nowak, Dr. Ollayos, Mr. Rodriguez, Ms. Arroyo, Mr. Parks and Student Trustee Mr. Kolbusz.

Trustees absent: None

ECC staff: Dr. Sam, President; Dr. Heinrich, VP, Teaching, Learning and Student Development; Dr. Wagner, VP, Business & Finance; Mr. Vazquez, General Counsel; and Ms. Kerruish, Recorder; ECC staff and visitors.

2. Recess to Closed Session

The Chair asked for a motion to recess immediately to closed session under the following exceptions to the *Illinois Open Meetings Act*:

- A. To discuss minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act
- B. To consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the college. . . .
- C. To discuss litigation, when an action...has been filed...or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent. . . .
- D. To consider collective negotiation matters...for one or more classes of employees... all pursuant to Chapter 5 of the *Illinois Compiled Statutes* Sections 120/2 (c) (21, 1, 11 and 2 respectively).

Motion: Student Trustee Kolbusz moved to recess to closed session.

Second: Trustee Nowak seconded the motion.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 6: Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Parks, Arroyo and Rodriguez; nay, 0; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried at 5:44 p.m.

3. Reconvene Open Session

The closed-session concluded at 6:18 p.m. The board reconvened in open session at 6:30 p.m. in E125, Seigle Auditorium.

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4. Preliminary Matters

A. Roll Call

Trustees present: Dr. Redmer, Ms. Rakow, Mr. Nowak, Dr. Ollayos, Mr. Rodriguez, Ms. Arroyo, Mr. Parks and Student Trustee Mr. Kolbusz.

Trustees absent: None

ECC staff: Dr. Sam, President; Dr. Heinrich, VP, Teaching, Learning and Student Development; Dr. Wagner, VP, Business & Finance; Mr. Vazquez, General Counsel; and Ms. Kerruish, Recorder; ECC staff and visitors.

B. Consideration of and Possible Actions on Any Requests for a Board Member's Electronic Participation in Meeting.

No considerations necessary at this meeting.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chair Rakow.

A moment of silence was observed for ECC retiree and military veteran, Roger Ramey.

D. Shared Values

The Trustees recited the Shared Values.

5. President's Report

- Dr. Sam acknowledged Lori Clark, ECCFA president and Anitra King, SSECCA president in the audience. Dr. Sam thanked Ms. King for her work regarding the Military Friendly School designation for 2024-2025.
- Dr. Sam thanked all of those involved with the Variety Show, it was a huge success.
- Dr. Sam thanked Dr. Toya Webb for her years of service as she is leaving the College to pursue another opportunity.

6. Audience Wishing to Address the Board

The following audience members addressed the Board:

- Lori Clark, ECCFA president, announced that she will not be seeking another term as president of the faculty union and spoke on equity for all faculty moving forward.
- Anitra King, SSECCA president, offered comments on bargaining process and thanked everyone for their support.

7. Board Reports

A. Finance Committee

Trustee Rodriguez provided an overview of the Finance Committee meeting held Monday, March 11, 2024. The following items were on the agenda: Internal Audit Update; Auxiliary Business Plans; Insurance Discussion; Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Update; Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Discussion; Capital Projects Priority and Funding List; and Fiscal Year 2024 Audit Fees.

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B. Committee of the Whole

Trustee Arroyo provided an overview of the Committee of the Whole meeting held Monday, March 12, 2024. The following presentations were provided: DLA Architects and Health Professions, Math, Science and Engineering by Dr. Miller and Ms. Skrabacz. Dr. Wagner provided a construction update. Board Actions and items on the March 12, 2024 agenda were discussed. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting will be available on the website once they are approved.

C. Illinois Community College Trustee Association (ICCTA)

Trustees Ollayos shared that the most recent ICCTA meeting was on March 8-9, 2024 in Kankakee, IL and Trustees Rakow and Rodriguez reported the following: the awards committee has started judging the applications; they are currently looking for additional officers; the education seminar focused on AI and pointed out that the laws have not caught up with the technology.

D. Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)

Trustee Ollayos reminded Trustees to sign up for ACCT Connect in order to get the most up to date news and to communicate with other trustees.

E. Legislative

Trustee Rakow reported the following: January 30, ECC hosted Senator Holmes for a meet and greet at the College. February 5-7, a delegation from Elgin Community College participated in seven meetings with members of Congress during the 2024 National Legislative Summit in Washington DC. Trustees Rakow, Ollayos and Parks, Student Trustee Kolbusz, and Dr. Sam attended. Each meeting provided an opportunity for Trustees to share a brief state of the College update with District 509 legislators. This included an update on the 7.9 % increase in enrollment for the Fall 2023 semester and the 11.0% increase the following Spring, which has resulted in ECC's largest enrollment since 2017. Additionally, trustees reiterated ECC's commitment to providing an affordable education through mandatory loan counseling, access to the on-campus credit union, and maintaining the second-lowest tuition rate for community colleges in the state of Illinois. Elected officials were pleased to hear about how ECC continues to close equity gaps as an Achieving the Dream Leader College of Distinction and an Aspen Top 150 College. Student Trustee Ryan Kolbusz shared his personal story, his passion for education and the concerns of students regarding the need to ensure that college remains affordable for everyone. Trustee Parks provided an update on the new manufacturing and technology center and invited our elected officials to the groundbreaking this fall. He also expressed ECC's support for Workforce Pell, which would increase access and cover tuition for students in short-term programs. Trustee Ollayos emphasized how ECC continues to be a post-pandemic economic recovery engine in its region and provided an update on the three programs—Ophthalmic Technology, Medical Assisting, and Recovery Support Specialist—that started in the Fall 2023 semester. She also restated the need for funding to support the college's new Respiratory Care program. Dr. Sam shared that the College has awarded **71,313** degrees and certificates (**56.8%** of the total number) since he began his tenure in 2007. ECC advocated for \$250,000 to purchase equipment, such as mannequins and newer technology, for the new Respiratory Care Program. Senators Richard Durbin and Tammy Duckworth met with Illinois community college representatives to share updates in a joint meeting. They discussed their advocacy efforts

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to double the maximum Pell Grant and support for other federal student aid programs to help improve the accessibility of higher education. They reinforced the need for job training programs at Illinois colleges and universities and how they can serve as a pipeline to fill the gaps in the workforce shortage, including the healthcare industry. It was a productive visit with engaging discussions. The college received advice on where to look for additional funding opportunities outside of federal appropriations requests; this includes exploring grants through the Department of Commerce, NASA, and the Chips and Science Act.

F. ECC Foundation

Trustee Parks reported the following: The *Bright Futures* campaign has reached the \$2.3M giving level and the Foundation is excited to complete the \$3M goal in 2024. Awarding for the 2023-2024 school year is currently underway with 91% of scholarships awarded. A new scholarship for the 2024-2025 school year has been posted online for students. Foundation staff have distributed new promotional materials, and have done presentations in classrooms to promote opportunities. The Retiree Advisory Network Committee's event for the year is the April 13 presentation of Hollywood Revisited at the ECC Arts Center. The Sensational Seventy-Five Alumni have been finalized. Announcements are in the planning stages and celebrations will include ECC website Alumni Spotlights and an Alumni Brunch celebration on Saturday, May 4. The Purses with Purpose Executive Committee is already planning for the new cohort for the Fall semester. Work is underway with the financial aid office to ensure all prospective scholars are identified. Interview Day will occur in June. The Donor Appreciation Breakfast occurred March 9. Monday, June 17 is the ECC Annual Golf Outing. ECC received notice of successful awards from the Illinois Community College Board FY24 Digital Instruction for Adult Education Grant proposal for Increasing Technology Access for ABEC Students (\$67,300) and a Career Training & Technology Virtual Reality Exploration grant (\$94,000). An Illinois Community College Board FY24 ESL Expansion Grant (\$75,000) was submitted. The Foundation welcomed Bonita Boist, Manager of Alumni and Affinity Relations.

G. Student Report

Student Trustee Kolbusz highlighted several student events including the following: Welcome Week and Black History Month events, the PTK Fundraiser, the Valentine's Day event, and the United Students of All Cultures & Asian Filipino Club Lunar NY Trip. Mr. Kolbusz thanked the Board for their support and for the life-changing experience of being on the Board of Trustees at ECC.

8. College Reports

Board Action No. 130-A-24, Acceptance of Written College Reports

- A. Personnel (January, February)
- B. Treasurer (December, January)
- C. Student (January 11-March 1)

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College Reports Under Separate Cover

- D. Institutional Advancement and ECC Foundation (January, February)
- E. Community Engagement and Legislative Affairs (January)
- F. Marketing & Communications (quarterly)
- G. Grant Monitoring Report (for period ending December 31, 2023)
- H. Supporting Justice-Impacted Students

Chair Redmer confirmed receipt, either attached or under separate cover, of the aforementioned written reports.

Motion: Trustee Parks moved to accept the college reports.

Second: Trustee Nowak seconded the motion.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 7; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Arroyo, Rodriguez, Parks; nay, 0; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried

9. Ratification of the Agreement Between the Board of Trustees of Community College District 509 and the Support Staff of Elgin Community College Association

Motion: Trustee Ollayos moved to ratify the agreement.

Second: Trustee Rodriguez seconded the motion.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 7; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Arroyo, Rodriguez, Parks; nay, 0; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried

10. Consent Agenda

Trustee Arroyo requested the following items be removed from the consent agenda:

- A. Board Action No. 132-A-24, Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, January 23, 2024**
- B. Board Action No. 133-A-24, Closed Session Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, January 23, 2024**

Chair Redmer read the following consent agenda items:

- C. Board Action No. 134-A-24, Destruction of Audiotapes of Closed Session Board Meeting, June 14, 2022**
- D. Board Action No. 135-F-24, Ratification of Report of Expenses**
- E. Board Action No. 136-A-24, Implementation of Korn Ferry Salary Scales and Recommendations**
- F. Board Action No. 137-F-24, Modified Instructional Fee Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2025**
- G. Board Action No. 138-A-24, Ratification of Transitional English Language Arts Course Memorandum of Understanding Between Community Unit School District No. 300, School District U-46, and Community College District No. 509**
- H. Board Action No. 139-A-24, Resolution Adopting a Neurodiversity Statement**

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I. Purchases

- 1. Board Action No. 140-T-24, Computer Equipment and License Purchase,** authorizes the administration to purchase laptops, monitors, printers and licenses for instructional and office departments from the lowest responsible bidder, CDW Government LLC (Vernon Hills, IL), in the amount of \$39,553.53.
- 2. Board Action No. 141-T-24, Digital Accessibility Software Renewal,** authorizes the administration to renew its contract with Siteimprove (Bloomington, MN) for web-based accessibility and quality assurance tools in an amount not to exceed \$32,000 (\$10,666.66 per year) for a period of three (3) years.
- 3. Board Action No. 142-A-24, General Architectural and Engineering Services,** authorizes the administration to contract for general architectural and engineering services for interior and exterior building space-related projects from the following firms: Bailey Edwards (Chicago, IL), FGM Architects (Chicago, IL), and Legat Architects (Chicago, IL). The contract will be for three (3) years.
- 4. Board Action No. 143-A-24, Interpreter Services,** authorizes the administration to contract for the period of one (1) year for interpreter services from 5 Star Interpreting Chicago, (Chicago, IL), in an amount not to exceed \$42,000 annually.
- 5. Board Action No. 144-F-24, Ratification of Additional Funding for Mail House Services,** authorizes the administration to increase the amount of funds for mail house services from Carol Ann Marketing (West Chicago, IL), to a total amount of \$300,000, increasing the original \$151,843.38 by \$148,156.62 over the five (5) year term.
- 6. Board Action No. 145-A-24, Ratification of Mobile Safety Renewal Services,** authorizes the administration to contract for three (3) years for Mobile Safety Services with Rave Mobile Safety (Framingham, MA) in an amount not to exceed \$26,874.19.
- 7. Board Action No. 146-S-24, Ratification of Spring Baseball Bus Transportation,** authorizes the administration to contract for bus transportation services for the spring baseball season from Chicago Classic Coach (Chicago, IL), in an amount not to exceed, \$40,000, which will allow for post-season trips.

J. Personnel

- 1. Board Action No. 147-A-24, Granting of Tenure, Instructor of HVAC, Mr. Reyes Estrada,** effective August, 2024.
- 2. Board Action No. 148-A-24, Granting of Tenure, Professor II of History, Dr. Vincent Gaddis,** effective August, 2024.
- 3. Board Action No. 149-A-24, Granting of Tenure, Assistant Professor I of Sociology, Ms. Emily Healy,** effective August, 2024.
- 4. Board Action No. 150-A-24, Granting of Tenure, Instructor of Nursing, Ms. Lisa Stoltenberg,** effective August, 2024.
- 5. Board Action No. 151-A-24, Granting of Tenure, Instructor of Culinary Arts & Hospitality, Mr. Lucas Wagner,** effective August, 2024.
- 6. Board Action No. 152-P-24, New Hire, Dean of College Transitions and Secondary Partnerships, Ms. Sandra Gonzalez,** approves the appointment of Ms. Sandra Gonzalez as the new Dean of College Transitions and Secondary Partnerships at an annual salary of \$120,000, effective March 18, 2024.

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Motion: Trustee Rakow moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.
Second: Trustee Parks seconded the motion.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 7; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Arroyo, Parks, Rodriguez; nay, 0; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried.

Other

10.A. Board Action No. 132-A-24, Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, January 23, 2024

Motion: Trustee Ollayos moved to approve the agenda item as presented.
Second: Trustee Rodriguez seconded the motion.
Trustee Arroyo was absent from the January 23, 2024 meeting.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 6; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Parks, Rodriguez; nay, 0; Abstain, 1; Arroyo; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried.

10.B. Board Action No. 133-A-24, Closed Session Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, January 23, 2024

Motion: Trustee Ollayos moved to approve the agenda item as presented.
Second: Trustee Nowak seconded the motion.
Trustee Arroyo was absent from the closed session of January 23, 2024.

Roll-Call Vote: Aye, 6; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Parks, Rodriguez; nay, 0; Abstain, 1; Arroyo; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; motion carried.

11. Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

12. New Business

Vice Chair Rakow reminded the Board that this Friday at 3 PM is the Performing Arts Center's Grand Re-opening.

13. Adjournment

Motion: Trustee Rodriguez moved to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Trustee Ollayos seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: Aye, 7; Redmer, Rakow, Nowak, Ollayos, Arroyo, Parks, Rodriguez; nay, 0; Student Trustee Kolbusz, aye; meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.