

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2026
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting

Board Members Present: Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk, Mitra Vazeen

Others Present: Jennifer Carlson, Kevin Leahy, Tina Kotson, Julie Kovatch, Beth Van Elswyk, Steve Stambough, Tom Ank, Ken Ross, President Jarrod Hogue and Recording Secretary Felicity Green

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bill Montero called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Roll was called. Ashley Flukinger was not present (prearranged absence.)

Ed Johnson asked to add an item discussing the written reports to the agenda. He said he felt the Board needed to clarify their requests and comments regarding the reports at the August meeting.

Ed Johnson **moved to approve the agenda as amended.** Mitra Vazeen seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. The motion carried.**

President Hogue explained that the originally scheduled presentation by Ian Wilson will be turned into an agenda item at the October meeting. It is part of the accreditation calendar.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ed Johnson **moved to approve the July 23, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented.** Sheila Roley seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. Ashley Flukinger was absent. The motion carried.**

Ed Johnson **moved to approve the August 11, 2026 Special Board Meeting minutes as presented.** Mitra Vazeen seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. Ashley Flukinger was absent. The motion carried.**

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Hogue spoke about the NWCCU accreditation visit from October 14 through 16. 6 peer evaluators will be coming to the College for a packed agenda of meetings with staff, faculty, students, employee groups, employee committees and the whole staff and faculty as a group. They will probably also visit MERTS and the South County campus. They asked to meet with Board representatives including the Chair and other officers, on Wednesday, October 14 from 11:15 to noon. Bill Montero said he would attend with previous chair Ed Johnson and vice chair Lloyd Mueller. There was a

question about any unresolved issues from the last accreditation visit. The President explained that while the longstanding recommendations about using data to make decisions and general institutional planning have been removed from warning status, the accreditors are still interested in seeing what progress the College has made in these areas.

The campus store is now closed and the physical space has been reworked into the First Stop, a central location for students. Going forward, the original First Stop space will be a more visible ASG office.

The Saltchuk Resources visit to MERTS on August 27 went very well. Saltchuk is a family of maritime and logistics transportation companies. The meeting, which was planned as an invitation to partner with the College on the maritime simulation center, included several county commissioners and David Reed from the Astoria Chamber of Commerce, as well as College leadership. President Hogue and Beth Van Elswyk said they felt indications are good that Saltchuk will come in as a partner in the MERTS project.

The President went on to address an important issue facing CCC. All the colleges in Oregon, including CCC, are being sued by the Department of Justice because Oregon college tuition is based on residency without regard to citizenship status. In response to the lawsuit, the community colleges have banded together and submitted a claim with PACE. The state attorney general is looking at this as well as the HECC and many people across the state. Right now, President Hogue hopes to follow their lead but at some point he will ask for guidance from the Board. This is a very complicated situation and there will be many more conversations. He promised to keep the Board updated on this matter. There was a brief discussion of in state, border state and out of state tuition rates. Current tuition is \$132 per credit hour for in state tuition; \$135 for border states, and \$264 for out of state residents. Schools and colleges in Oregon do not keep lists or records of which students may or may not be legal residents or hold a green card.

There was a brief discussion of the Inservice week schedule; several Board members will be helping the Foundation Board serve food at the New Student Orientation on Tuesday. President Hogue said he was buying lunch on Monday for the faculty and the Board were welcome to join them if they wished.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jennifer Carlson gave the financial report, explaining that the financials in the packet are looking at the year end of the 25/26 fiscal year. She cautioned that while she does not expect them to change, they are unaudited numbers. Revenues were \$201,000 more than last year but still below the College's budgeted expectations. Expenditures also rose more than anticipated, primarily in salaries and benefits. Overall, the operating fund reserve went up \$59,000 with the ending fund balance being 13.5% of the operating budget. This exceeds the 12% goal set in the strategic plan making it another year in the black for the College.

There was a question about the current fiscal year and anticipated state cuts. President Hogue said that as of August, it looks as if the community college support fund is once again coming in under what the College budgeted. The fund is based on a three-year rolling average of enrollment. Enrollment has gone down since 2023-24 and the result will be a \$545,000 shortfall. He said that Jennifer Carlson is

going through the entire budget looking for savings and that yearly cuts continue to be a challenge. However, the Budget Committee will not have to meet again; they are only legally required to meet if there is a 10% or more change in the adopted budget. He commented that CCC is far from alone and Portland Community College is facing a \$26 million deficit.

REPORT OF THE BOARD CHAIR

Board Chair Bill Montero reported that over the last few weeks he has met with President Hogue, Communications and Marketing Director Julie Kovatch, and Chief Financial Officer Jennifer Carlson as well as some other staff. He spoke about the work the Communications and Marketing Department is doing to promote the College. He said that he had asked that the Board be copied on communications emails to students and the community, but noted that everyone must keep in mind that student activities are for students. He met with Jennifer Carlson about the budget. He also said goodbye to Bill Meck, who is returning to an old job as a consultant but will still be available as a volunteer advisor should he be needed. He said he would like to see a Board subcommittee on a possible bond issue.

WRITTEN REPORTS

Jody Stahancyk **moved to accept the written reports.** Sheila Roley seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. Ashley Flukinger was absent. The motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS

APPROVE BOARD GOALS FOR 2026 – 27

Chair Bill Montero read out the proposed Board goals. There was some discussion of what a communications goal should include. There was no consensus on wording and Bill Montero said that as communications are opening up he felt a special goal was not needed. He suggested increasing the Board's communications footprint as a possibility but there was no motion or vote.

There was some discussion of moving the President's evaluation from July to March, with the Board agreeing that having it done by the March Board meeting would be a good idea and more in line with the K-12 schedule.

Jody Stahancyk **moved that the Board make that change in the Board goals and move the date to the March Board meeting.** Mitra Vazeen seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. Ashley Flukinger was absent. The motion carried.**

Jody Stahancyk **moved that the Board accept the amended Board goals.** Mitra Vazeen seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. Ashley Flukinger was absent. The motion carried.**

APPROVE PRESIDENTIAL GOALS FOR 2026 – 27

President Hogue spoke about his proposed goals. He stressed that the first goal, responding quickly and appropriately to any recommendations that come from the October NWCCU visit, is extremely

important. He explained that the timing is linked to the usual NWCCU practice of sending their reports on fall visits in February. The second goal, financial sustainability, will continue the progress the College has made. He added that while the budget will be balanced, this continues to be very difficult. He admitted that his third goal, raising FTE, is a stretch goal but pointed out that he thinks it can be done and 3% is about 30 people. In regard to his fourth goal, he agreed that he will improve his communications to the board and said he is hoping that his next evaluation will indicate that has been addressed. His fifth goal, providing more frequent strategic plan updates, is also an accreditation item. There was a comment that these are stretch goals and that is great.

Sheila Roley **moved to adopt the Presidential Goals for 2026-27.** Lloyd Mueller seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. Ashley Flukinger was absent. The motion carried.**

DISCUSSION OF BOARD COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Board discussed the decision at the July meeting to create a communications committee. There were questions about the role of the committee. Several Board members expressed concerns that the committee would be encroaching on the work of the communications department and thus outside the Board's scope of business. Concerns were also raised that the Board should not create and vote on motions that are not on the meeting agenda.

Jody Stahancyk **moved to rescind the communications committee.** Ed Johnson seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. Ashley Flukinger was absent. Jody Stahancyk voted Nay. The motion carried.**

PRESENTATION OF FORMAL EVALUATION TO PRESIDENT.

Chair Bill Montero expressed his appreciation for President Hogue, saying that he had done a great job over the last two years. Other Board members agreed, saying that there had been significant positive changes over the last two years.

Ed Johnson **moved that the Board approve the President's evaluation.** Sheila Roley seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. Ashley Flukinger was absent. The motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

BPS FOR FIRST & SECOND READING AND EMERGENCY ADOPTION

President Hogue explained that these policies are related to new Oregon legislation, HB 4138 and adoption of the policies is necessary for the College to be in compliance with the law.

BP 3522 Immigration Enforcement Notification requires notification of the campus community in the event of immigration enforcement activity on campus.

Ed Johnson **moved to adopt BP 3522 Immigration Enforcement Notification.** Sheila Roley seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. Ashley Flukinger was absent. The motion carried.**

BP 7610 Federal / Out of State Law Enforcement Operations prohibits the College from intentionally cooperating with immigration enforcement officers on campus. There was a brief discussion about these policies in relation to federal funding. The President said that the College is in an unfortunate situation between the state and federal governments which they are doing their best to navigate.

Jody Stahancyk **moved to adopt BP 7610 Federal / Out of State Law Enforcement Operations.** Ed Johnson seconded the motion. **Ed Johnson, Bill Montero, Lloyd Mueller, Sheila Roley, Jody Stahancyk and Mitra Vazeen voted Aye. Ashley Flukinger was absent. The motion carried.**

PURCHASING POLICY AND LOCAL VENDORS

There was some discussion of a recent change in insurance vendors. The original local vendor, unhappy with the change, approached a Board member to complain. Jody Stahancyk proposed a motion favoring local vendors over out of town vendors. The College follows public procurement laws and is limited in the changes they can make to the bidding process. Copies of the College policy on purchasing and purchasing procedural documents were included in the Board packet. Chair Bill Montero said that he is on another board which is also looking into the issue of favoring local vendors and he will report back. President Hogue said that he will investigate the matter and report back next month. Jody Stahancyk withdrew the proposed motion.

LENGTH OF AREA REPORTS

This item was added to the agenda by Ed Johnson at the beginning of the meeting. There was some discussion of the length of the written reports. There was general consensus that the reports are good but some could be more concise. Several Board members asked for summaries at the beginning of each report. The President asked the Board to remember that the team is proud of their accomplishments and pleased to share them. Tina Kotson said that she uses hers as a working document all month and sees it as a privilege to share.

BOARD FORUM

Sheila Roley said that everything was going along nicely and she had no complaints.

Ed Johnson said he was looking forward to passing out hotdogs at New Student Orientation.

Jody Stahancyk thanked everyone for the lovely card and nice telephone calls. She said she was looking forward to getting back to Clatsop county.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm.