



# SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CITY COLLEGE • MESA COLLEGE • MIRAMAR COLLEGE • COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

## DISTRICT GOVERNANCE COUNCIL MINUTES

August 18, 2021

**Present:** Beresford, Bocaya, Boger, Borek, Bromma, Crocitti, Dowd, Kovrig, Lundburg, Luster, Manis, Murphy, Parrill, Ryan, Shabazz, Short, Smith, Spearman, Topham, Trinh, Young, and Chairperson Cortez

**Absent:** Mahler

**Guests:** Ficken, Lamb, Lerma

### 1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of July 14, 2021, were approved.

### 2. **REVIEW OF BOARD AGENDA**

The agenda for the August 26, 2021, Board Meeting was opened for review by Chancellor Cortez. Each item was discussed and satisfied.

### 3. **BUDGET & FINANCE**

Chancellor Cortez reported that since much of the financial support from the federal and state government is one-time funding, the District will be as conservative as possible moving into the Fall semester. The focus will be on maximizing classroom size, which is a big opportunity to help close the deficit.

Executive Vice Chancellor Dowd reported that the Fiscal year 2020-21 books will be closed next week, and the adopted budget for FY 2021-22 is still being finalized. It is projected that the District will have a surplus, which is attributed to the hiring freeze, utility savings costs, and reduced travel costs. The District is now in "hold harmless" status, meaning that it is getting more revenue than it is actually earning. On a better note, as of April, some positions that have been frozen are now being opened and there is funding in the state budget for hiring full time faculty. The District will use a majority of these funds at Miramar College. The Board will consider the fiscal year 2021-22 budget for adoption at its meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September.

Classified Senate President Kovrig asked if there was any discussion on hiring classified staff. Executive Vice Chancellor Dowd explained that positions were approved when each Chancellor's cabinet member was asked to choose the top positions that need to be filled. More information on the prioritization process will be given in the next few weeks. There will be a more formal analysis of staffing needs to determine positions that will be opened in the future.

Academic Senate President Crocitti discussed the need for equipment for faculty at Mesa. Specifically, there have been shortages in supplies such as Webcams and microphones that can't currently be provided by District vendors which has created a lot of exasperation. Executive Vice Chancellor Dowd will work with Crocitti to see what the specific concerns are and possible remedies.

**4. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Chancellor Cortez reported that several videos and messages have been sent out outlining the reopening process for students, employees, and members of the public. Safety remains a priority, and students will be dropped from classes this coming Monday if they have not submitted their vaccination paperwork. The District is at 70% of the target enrollment goal and it has been a challenge to increase student enrollment. The District's leadership is watching the pandemic carefully and will be ready for any mandates that may arise due to the increase in cases in San Diego County.

**5. MEETING MODALITY**

Chancellor Cortez discussed the meeting modality for the DGC. In light of the Delta variant and the rise in positive COVID-19 cases, it is recommended to meet remotely for the next two months with possible in person meetings in November. Stakeholders have also requested more open and robust conversations during the DGC meetings, which inevitably extends the meeting time. Several council members preferred that the meetings stay virtual and continued to be reassessed as circumstances change with the pandemic.

Adjourned 4:12 p.m.