

San Jacinto College District Board Workshop August 2, 2021

The Board of Trustees of the San Jacinto Community College District met at 4:45 p.m., Monday, August 2, 2021, in Room 201 of the Thomas S. Sewell District Administration Building, 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Texas.

MINUTES

	Board Workshop Attendees:	Board Members: Erica Davis Rouse, Marie Flickinger, Dan Mims, John Moon, Jr., Keith Sinor, Dr. Ruede Wheeler, Larry Wilson Chancellor: Brenda Hellyer Other: Paul Lamp (attorney), Micki Morris via conference call (attorney), Sandra Ramirez, Mandi Reiland, and Teri Zamora
	Agenda Item:	Discussion/Information
I.	Call the Meeting to Order	Board Chair, Marie Flickinger, called the workshop to order at 4:48 p.m.
II.	Roll Call of Board Members	Marie Flickinger, Erica Davis Rouse, Dan Mims, John Moon, Jr., Keith Sinor, Dr. Ruede Wheeler, Larry Wilson
III.	Adjournment to closed or executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 and 551.074 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes: Legal Matters and Personnel Matters	Chair Flickinger adjourned to closed session at 4:49 p.m. Board members, Chancellor Hellyer, Paul Lamp (attorney), Micki Morris via conference call (attorney), Sandra Ramirez, Mandi Reiland, and Teri Zamora were present for portions of the closed session. a. Legal Matters - For the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law. b. Personnel Matters - For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints or charges against a public officer or employee. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Validation of evaluation ratings for members of the Strategic Leadership Team (only Board members and Chancellor Hellyer were present for this portion of the closed session)

IV.	Reconvene in Open Meeting	Chair Flickinger reconvened to open meeting at 6:34 p.m.
V.	Discuss Modifications to College Strategic Plan	<p>Dr. Brenda Hellyer stated the strategic goals, assumptions, and strategies were reviewed to determine what changes were needed in order to better align with the annual priorities. She provided an overview of the changes that were made. On the Strategic Goals, under “Our People” the word acquiring was changed to attracting and the words excellence and inclusion were added to the last sentence. The word agile was added to “Operational Excellence.” For strategies, we added several revisions for the “Student Success” goal to align with the work we are doing around classroom curriculum development that reflect more clearly with our equity focus. In addition, we want to continue to align our student support services with career and personal academic planning. Under the Workforce and Economic Development” goal, we added a strategy to focus more on our advisory committees and our CEO level industry sector councils. A strategy was revised regarding attracting and retaining employees under “Our People” goal. Under the “Outreach and Partnerships” goal, Strategy 6 was revised to “offer students activities, events, and opportunities that further their education and personal development through new experiences and expand their understanding of equity, diversity, and inclusivity.” Finally, with the underlying assumptions, the sentence stating the College will focus on eliminating competitiveness has been removed from the “Continuing One College Alignment” and was replaced with wording to focus on our collaborative manner.</p> <p>Brenda explained the Board will have these changes as an action item to vote on. They have already approved the annual priorities, and these changes align with those. Additionally, these changes guided how the budget was developed.</p>
VI.	Discuss Assignments for Board Committees and San Jacinto College Foundation Board	<p>Brenda explained there is an information item in the Board book around this topic.</p> <p>Marie Flickinger stated that the Board will keep the committee members the same. Also, Keith Sinor, Dan Mims, and John Moon, Jr. will serve on the Foundation Board.</p>
VII.	Review Fiscal Year 2022 Budget	Brenda proposed moving the Budget presentation to the Board meeting to be able to address the other items on the agenda due to limited time. All were comfortable with this.

<p>VIII.</p>	<p>Update on COVID and Fall Enrollment</p>	<p>Brenda asked the Board of Trustees to review page 5 of the update on COVID presentation and provided an update on the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding (HEERF) slide. She explained the only number that has changed since the last update is the addition of \$2,238,723 funds. We were notified last week that this is new funding due to being a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). She explained that we have rolled out the application for students to apply for emergency funding and are trying to expend a significant portion of these funds during the fall semester. The remainder will be allocated for spring with additional strategies developed to ensure all emergency funding will be expended by May 2022. A handout of the application form for emergency funding was distributed. If students have a need for additional funds, they can say they incurred additional expenses related to COVID. The student can also indicate if the funds should be applied to their tuition. If they opt to use the funds for tuition, they will receive the remaining dollars personally. The funds will start being disbursed on August 21. Students will receive \$1,500 if Pell eligible and \$1,000 if they are not. This is in addition to any Pell funding or scholarship program funding already received.</p> <p>Erica Davis Rouse asked about the method being used to disburse the funds to the students. Brenda responded that the students will receive the funds on their Higher Ed card.</p> <p>Brenda directed the Board of Trustees to page 6 which highlights fall enrollment. As of today, fall headcount is down approximately 4.8% compared to fall 2020 and down 8% compared to fall 2019. We have made tremendous progress over the last weeks. Our dual credit and first time in college (FTIC) enrollments are up from last year, but we are still down in our continuing students. San Jac Cares callers are reaching out to these students to encourage enrollment.</p> <p>Brenda asked the Board of Trustees to turn to page 7 and explained initiatives that are being implemented to increase enrollment. The College is providing retake courses, which allow students who failed or withdrew in Fall 2020 or Spring 2021 to retake their course for free. The course retake is funded through HEERF dollars. This fall, we currently have 1,860 who have enrolled in this program. This number is close to what we saw in the summer. The College, funded by the MacKenzie Scott donation, is offering a 21Forward</p>
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<p>IX.</p>	<p>Review TNT Calculation of Rates for Tax Year 2021 (Fiscal Year 2022)</p>	<p>Teri Zamora explained that the voter-approval tax rate (formerly rollback rate) is a calculated maximum rate allowed by law without voter approval and is defined as the rate necessary to raise precisely eight (8) percent more Maintenance and Operations tax revenue as the previous year. In addition, this rate adds the tax rate needed to cover General Obligation debt payments. The item the Board will be voting on tonight is to state that the College will not be recommending the voter-approved tax rate.</p>

X.	Review of JCAR Submission to Texas School Safety Center	This item was tabled and will be revisited during the September Board workshop.
XI.	Review Management Agreement Between San Jacinto College Foundation and San Jacinto College to Govern Student Success Fund	<p>Brenda explained there is a Board action item to approve an agreement to formalize the parameters and operating rules that will govern the relationship between the College and the Foundation on how to manage the Student Success Fund in the Foundation which was created by the \$30 million MacKenzie Scott donation. A Vice President of Student Success will be appointed to work with the Foundation leadership and will bring forward an annual budget to be approved by the Foundation Board along with an annual reporting process back to the College. The action item explained that the Foundation has set aside \$5.5 million for the 21Forward program and Brenda would also like to propose funding another Promise Cohort. Teri Zamora, Teri Crawford, and Dr. Allatia Harris are pulling together numbers for this cohort.</p> <p>Dr. Ruede Wheeler asked how much money was spent on the 21Forward Program this year. Brenda responded that we do not know yet but have around 2,000 students in the pipeline. Of the 1,000 that have totally completed, about 600 are getting some form of financial aid. She will have an update by the next Board meeting.</p> <p>Dan Mims asked at what time frame will we have enough data on persistence and completion out of this cohort and how it compares to previous years. Brenda responded that she was hoping to have those numbers this year but COVID has distorted. It may need to be the next cohort which could take up to three years.</p>
XII.	Update on State and Federal Legislative Sessions	Brenda explained that Teri Crawford put together a handout. On the Federal side, Troy Nehls' office is still moving forward with an earmark related to the aerospace training equipment for the College. Regarding the Maritime Center of Excellence, Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia had a line item for \$30 million that was put into the appropriations budget for the Centers of Excellence. This would be a grant program through the United States Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration (MARAD). There is still a lot of work around this, and we will provide updates. On the state side, we have been monitoring items that might impact the College but do

		not have much involvement in this special session. We are hearing that there will be a couple of additional special sessions, and one will be to manage what will happen with redistricting and how the state will appropriate additional federal funds they have received. We are monitoring whether community colleges will have a role in this. The Texas Reskilling and UpSkilling in Education (TRUE) bill was signed by the governor, but no funds were put into it, so Commissioner Harrison Keller allocated \$25 million out of federal funding the THECB received.
XIII.	Review of Calendar	Brenda asked the Board to review the Board calendar and let the Chancellor’s Office know of any events they would like to attend. She highlighted the grand openings, CATT/BOTI Annual Conference, and ACCT Leadership Congress.
XIV.	General Discussion of Meeting Items	There were no additional items discussed.
XV.	Adjournment	Chair Marie Flickinger adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.