Joint Tacoma Public Schools and Tacoma Community College Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Tacoma Community College
6501 S. 19th Street, Tacoma, WA
Building #9 – Room 101
10/26/2016 12:00 AM

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bob Ryan, Tacoma Community College (TCC) Board chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. He introduced Dr. Sheila Ruhland, President of TCC who introduced the TCC Board members in attendance: Liz Dunbar, James Curtis, Don Dennis and Chair Bob Ryan.

Bob Ryan introduced Dr. Carla Santorno, Superintendent of Tacoma Public Schools (TPS) who introduced the TPS Board members in attendance: Karen Vialle, President of the Board, Debbie Winskill, Andrea Cobb and Scott Heinze.

TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS:
Board of Directors: Karen Vialle, President, Debbie Winskill, Board Member, Andrea Cobb, Board Member, Scott Heinze, Board Member.

Administrators: Carla Santorno, Superintendent, Dr. Joshua Garcia, Deputy Superintendent, Doug Hostetter, Executive Director of Secondary Education, John Page, Director of Career & Technical Education/Guidance.

Panel Participants: Sara Ketelsen, Lincoln High School Math Department Chair, Sue McCrummen, Secondary Mathematics Instructional Facilitator, Kristen Orlando, English teacher from Wilson and SAMI.

TACOMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE:
Board of Trustees: Bob Ryan, Chair, James Curtis, Trustee Don Dennis, Trustee, Liz Dunbar, Trustee

Administrators: Dr. Sheila Ruhland, President, Dr. Tod Treat, Executive Vice President for Academics & Student Affairs, Tim Gould, Vice President for Administrative Services, Mary Chikwinya, Vice President for Student Services, Bill Ryberg, Vice President for College Advancement, Beth Brooks, Vice President for Human Resources & Legal Affairs, Judy Colarusso, Chief of Staff

Panel Participants: Trung Tran, Mathematics Professor, Sellie Clark, Mathematics Professor, Mary Fox, English Composition Professor, Tia Pliskow, Core to College Coordinator, Hayat Saleh, former Wilson High School and current TCC student.

Audience Attendees: Mike Goncharuk, Joe Shannon, Dolores Haugen, Tammya Howser, Mike Flodin, Shawn McGavin, Rachel Payne, Mecca Salahuddin, Kathryn Held, Kim Ward, Rick Brady, Sam Morgan

2. CORE TO COLLEGE

Facilitator, Dr. Tod Treat, Executive Vice President Academic & Student Affairs led a discussion regarding core to college. Dr. Treat led the discussion by stating that when the two boards met in 2013 they charged TCC and TPS with identifying gaps between the schools in curriculum and then to develop strategies to better prepare students for college. The college obtained a grant for this work to reduce gaps between high school and college, better prepare students for college entry and increase the retention rate of students in their college programs. This is the third year of the 3-year grant.

The panel members discussed the work that has been done in the writing and math programs, the goals, focus and what has been achieved. Discussion on the challenges that have been identified and next steps for both the writing and math programs were outlined.

3. ROUND TABLE - HIGHLIGHTS
TCC Trustee Liz Dunbar discussed the importance of community partnerships in working together to improve educational opportunities for students. She shared information about a student program hosted by the Tacoma Community House earlier in the month in partnership with TCC, TPS and UWT. She is encouraged by the importance our community has placed on education and the willingness to work together.

TCC Trustee James Curtis expressed his support of the work that the panel discussed. As a former TPS and TCC student he knows from experience the challenges and barriers many students face. He encouraged TPS and TCC to continue to work for the underachieving and at-risk students.

TCC Trustee Don Dennis shared his support of the partnership between TPS and TCC which has developed over the years that he has served on the TCC Board.

Chair Ryan also expressed support for the Core to College Program that TPS and TCC have collaborated on and discussed the alternative testing options that have been developed to help the underserved and underachieving students of our community.

TPS Board President Karen Vialle thanked TCC for hosting the joint board meeting and expressed her appreciation for the work that has been done the past three years to align curriculum and alternative testing. She also commented on the importance of the state legislature to fund higher education. In her opinion, it is imperative that the legislature fund both high school and higher education.

4. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Minutes approved by the Board on: ___________________________

Signed by: ___________________________
Superintendent Carla Santorno

By: ___________________________
Board President, Karen Vialle