



Butte-Glenn Community College District
3536 Butte Campus Drive
Oroville, CA 95965

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF BOARD RETREAT SPECIAL MEETING

October 26, 2023, 9:00 a.m. | October 27, 2023, 8:00 a.m.

District Board Room
Student and Administrative Services Building

The Board of Trustees of the Butte-Glenn Community College District met on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. and Friday, October 27, 2023, at 8:00 a.m., in the District Board Room at Butte College in Oroville, California.

Board Members Present Mr. Rick Krepelka, President
Mr. Eugene Massa, Vice President
Mr. Mike Boeger, Clerk
Mr. John Blacklock
Mr. John Dahlmeier
Mr. William McGinnis
Mr. John Nock
Ms. Liz Heaton, Student Trustee (Attended 9:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on 10/26)

Board Member Absent None

Staff Members Present Ms. Virginia L. Guleff, Superintendent/President
Mr. Andy Suleski, Asst Superintendent/Vice President
Mr. Brad Zuniga, Interim Vice President
Ms. Melissa Cafferata-Ainsworth, Interim Executive Assistant to the President & Board of Trustees

Guests Jason Trento, Faculty Member
Dr. Robert White, Dean of Instruction
Daniel Donnelly, Faculty Member
Kim Jones, Director Facilities Planning & Management
Tray Robinson, IDEA Officer

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Clerk Boeger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Agenda Approval

It was moved by Board Clerk Boeger, seconded by Trustee Blacklock, to approve the agenda as presented.

Trustee Massa commented that he'd hoped the retreat agenda would include discussion of expansion of the nursing program. President Guleff responded that it could be included on the agenda for the December special meeting about the life cycle of academic programs.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Communications from the Public**

There were no public comments.

3. **Board Retreat**

Vision 2030

President Guleff introduced Chancellor Christian's Vision 2030, which combines elements of the Governor's Roadmap for Success and the Vision for Success. Its three central concepts are equity in success, equity in access, and equity in support. President Guleff reviewed the goals associated with each concept; the defined outcomes will become data points that colleges report. The goals align with the student-centered funding formula. President Guleff pointed out that the Vision 2030 includes generative artificial intelligence (AI), which wasn't included in previous guiding documents, and an emphasis on data.

The Trustees discussed the Vision 2030 and how it might impact Butte College's efforts. Trustee McGinnis suggested that the college work on relationships with local schools with a high percentage of low income, first gen, and other underserved populations to expand access. Trustee Boeger suggested that the move for community colleges to offer baccalaureate degrees seems like a diversion from our core activity.

President Guleff encouraged the Trustees think innovatively about what Butte College can do locally to support Vision 2030 goals. Butte College's strategic plan will ensure compliance and partnership with the Chancellor's Office's vision, but the plan is also separate, so the college can set its own strategy and plan. President Guleff explained that College Council has been shepherding the strategic plan through the development process. Its foundations of Guided Pathways, DEIA², and sustainability align nicely with the Vision 2030. To those, AI and technology will be added. The Board discussed the prospect of including AI in Butte College's strategic plan, both in terms of how it might change college processes as well as uses in instruction. The consensus was that the college should embrace innovation.

Butte College Strategic Plan

President Guleff presented the draft strategic plan to the Trustees, noting that thus far, the college has been focused on planning rather than strategy. The Board discussed the difference between a plan and a strategy and the importance of both. The Trustees and staff members broke into small groups and did a series of brainstorming activities aimed at identifying a potential strategic theory for Butte College. The Trustees developed the following strategic theory: First Contact. First Choice. Best Choice. This strategic theory will be included in the front matter of the strategic plan.

Artificial Intelligence Exploration

President Guleff introduced Dr. Robert White, Dean of Instruction, and Jason Trento, Faculty Member and Faculty Professional Development Coordinator, to discuss how Butte College uses AI and the issues that it raises. Dr. White explained what generative AI is and how the institution can use it to create a student-ready college. Trustees were then provided with laptops and given example prompts to do a trial of ChatGPT. Trustee McGinnis asked if the college would establish policies around the use of AI and academic honesty. Mr. Trento responded that Academic Senate is considering those issues. He noted that ChatGPT can be used to detect cheating, but it's not always reliable. Board Vice President Massa asked if there are security risks associated with ChatGPT. Dr. White explained that sensitive information shouldn't be put into it; any potential effect on district network security would have investigated. He added that it's a helpful tool for creating first drafts of structured documents and protocol-based procedures. It also does a good job summarizing large documents. However, it cannot take responsibility for decisions, nor can it do participatory governance. Board Clerk Boeger asked how likely it is that people on campus will be using this technology in the next few years. Mr. Trento responded that his goal would be for everyone to use it in some form. Dr. White added that the college could leverage this technology to remove non-curriculum barriers to student success. It can help improve teaching and grading, as well as provide tutoring and personalized learning paths for students.

The Trustees discussed faculty perspectives of AI. Mr. Trento indicated that he's working on training and development opportunities to help faculty understand these tools and how to use them. He noted that some faculty members are already using it in their classes, and many students already use it. Dr. White added that there are frequently equity issues with access to technological advances and suggested the college work to reduce inequities.

Faculty member Daniel Donnelly gave the Board and staff a demonstration of augmented and virtual reality devices and programs at Butte College. He discussed a variety of devices, explaining their use in instruction and potential career applications for our students. Trustees had the opportunity to wear a virtual reality headset and engage with several applications. The Trustees discussed potential local uses for augmented and virtual reality in agriculture and industry.

Board President Krepelka recessed the meeting at 4:15 p.m. on Thursday, October 26.

Board President Krepelka called the meeting back in session at 8:15 a.m. on Friday, October 27.

Transportation

President Guleff indicated that at the January retreat the Board of Trustees directed staff to establish a transportation taskforce to identify options for student transportation. Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Suleski explained that in the past, auxiliary programs like transportation have been self-supporting by the fees and/or sales revenues they generate. Unlike the revenue protection provided for apportionment revenue, the Chancellor's Office does not provide emergency financial protection for auxiliary programs due to the Camp Fire. Several of Butte College's auxiliary programs face financial issues due to enrollment declines. HEERF funds helped support them the last few years, but with those funds no longer available, funds from the District's reserves will be required to maintain their operations. The transportation fund is one of those auxiliary programs that will have a significant impact on the District's reserves if no action is taken to change its current operations.

Kim Jones, Director of Facilities Planning & Management, provided an overview of the student transportation program, including its mission, staff, outside resources used to support the program, and ridership history. Student use of bus transportation has been in decline since its peak in 2018/2019. Currently, approximately 400 students ride the bus every day. Since the January board retreat, Butte College staff has attended several public engagement sessions with Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG), which manages the local bus service (B-Line). BCAG claims the main campus is not within their service area and they do not want to establish a bus stop at Butte College. As directed by the Board, staff established a transportation taskforce, which generated several ideas or alternatives to provide student transportation or maintain the current bus system.

Ms. Jones indicated that the transportation program faces several challenges. A capital budget will eventually be needed to replace the existing buses, however, regulations requiring electric buses have been deferred and staff do not see a need for immediate replacement. Depending on when they need to be replaced, the college may have to purchase electric or alternative fuel buses in the future, which are more expensive than diesel buses. Moreover, the college's electric substation would have to be upgraded to support an electric bus fleet. Staffing is also an issue. Finding qualified bus operators has been challenging. If student transportation were discontinued, the college would still need to maintain some mechanics and drivers to support Athletics' and Instruction's use of buses, as well as the district's other fleet vehicles.

Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Suleski presented three options for addressing the student transportation operational shortfall. Option 1 is to contract out bus service. This would require the college to find both (1) a contractor willing to service the main campus and (2) other positions for impacted employees. Option 2 is to eliminate the student transportation system. Doing so would create a barrier

for students, and employees would be laid off. Option 3 is to maintain the student transportation system. This would require the college to move some costs to the ongoing general fund budget, reduce costs and service, and increase revenue. Increasing the transportation fee, eliminating the fee waiver for online students, and increasing enrollment would be necessary to increase revenue and would have the biggest financial impact. After a lengthy discussion, the Board concluded that they do not want to eliminate the student transportation system. They recommended further work with BCAG, as well as further consideration of the other elements in Option 3. This would include charging all students the transportation fee, including those fees currently waived for online students. A proposal to increase the transportation fee will come to the Board of Trustees for action at the February meeting.

DEIA²

President Guleff introduced IDEA Officer Tray Robinson to speak to the Board about diversity, equity, inclusion, anti-racism, and accessibility issues, as well as the term "intersectionality" which is included in the college's new mission statement. Mr. Robinson indicated that he was excited about this opportunity to engage with the Board and noted that as with AI, the college has a great opportunity to be at the forefront of DEIA² issues and be a model for other campuses.

Mr. Robinson presented information about perceptions and unconscious bias. He led an activity about perceptions; the Board then discussed how unconscious bias might affect their work as Trustees. Mr. Robinson provided data about Butte College's demographic breakdown, particularly with respect to traditionally underserved populations. He noted that students come to Butte College with different experiences and have different experiences on campus; they also need different things from the college. He encouraged Trustees to consider that when making decisions about and for "the Butte College student." Mr. Robinson explained the many dimensions of diversity, which supports the importance of the concept of intersectionality. He led the Trustees through an activity that asked them to explore their intersecting identities. Mr. Robinson concluded by asking the Board to consider what they can do as Trustees to support inclusivity at Butte College and make DEIA² more of a focus in their role. The Board discussed how they might implement those concepts in board policies and in awareness of how their statements and decisions might be perceived. Trustees expressed appreciation for the presentation and a desire to have more discussions on these issues.

4. **Adjournment**

Board President Krepelka adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p. m.