



MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

December 10, 2025 | 1:00 p.m.

District Board Room
Student and Administrative Services Building

The Board of Trustees of the Butte-Glenn Community College District met on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., in the District Board Room at Butte College in Oroville, California.

Board Members Present Mr. William McGinnis, President
Mr. John Blacklock, Vice President
Mr. John Nock, Clerk
Mr. Mike Boeger
Mr. John Dahlmeier
Mr. Rick Krepelka
Mr. Eugene Massa
Mr. Jared Smith, Student Trustee

Board Members Absent None

Staff Members Present Ms. Virginia L. Guleff, Superintendent/President
Mr. Erik Shearer, Assistant Superintendent/Vice President
Ms. Imelda Simos-Valdez, Vice President
Ms. Jessica Snelling, Vice President
Ms. Denise Adams, Interim Vice President
Ms. Irma Gonzalez Cuadros, Academic Senate President
Mr. Alan Burwell, Classified Senate President
Ms. Melissa Cafferata-Ainsworth, Executive Assistant to the President & Board of Trustees

Guests None

Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Boeger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Agenda Approval

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

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Trustees Smith (advisory vote), McGinnis, Blacklock, Nock, Boeger, Dahlmeier, Krepelka, and Massa

Nos: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

2. Sabbatical Leave Report to the Board of Trustees

Dr. Katherine MacKinnon, Item 2.1.

Dr. MacKinnon thanked the board for the invitation to present her work and also thanked them, Superintendent/President Guleff, and Assistant Superintendent/Vice President Shearer for the opportunity to do a sabbatical project. Dr. MacKinnon's project, "Don't Be Afraid to Open Up About Your Struggles: Butte College Students with Disabilities Speak Out" consisted of interviews with students registered with Butte College Disabled Students Programs and Services to understand their experiences at the college. Dr. MacKinnon found that faculty play a critical role in the student's successes and challenges. She also reported learning that DSPS students seek from more contact and communication from the college.

Vahan Hovsepian, Item 2.2

Mr. Hovsepian thanked the board for the opportunity to present his sabbatical leave project, which consisted of developing a new course called Positive Psychology. He also thanked the Curriculum Committee and Articulation Officer Jessica Jackson for their support. Mr. Hovsepian reported that he started by researching which colleges offer a course or program in positive psychology, which is an emerging field. He suggested that positive psychology, which is based on the belief that mental health is more than the absence of mental illness and examines behaviors and activities that support wellbeing, complements Butte College's student support work. The project also included student focus groups, information from which informed the development of the new course.

3. Annual Reorganization of Governing Board

Election of President, Item 3.1

It was moved by Trustee Boeger, seconded by Board Clerk Nock, to nominate Board Vice President Blacklock to serve as Board President.

The nomination was approved by acclamation.

Election of Vice President, Item 3.2

It was moved by Trustee Krepelka, seconded by Trustee McGinnis, to nominate Board Clerk Nock to serve as Board Vice President.

The nomination was approved by acclamation.

Election of Clerk, Item 3.3

It was moved by Trustee McGinnis, seconded by Trustee Boeger, to nominate Trustee Dahlmeier to serve as Board Clerk.

The nomination was approved by acclamation.

Appointment of Trustee to Foundation Board, Item 3.4

Board President Blacklock appointed Board Clerk Nock and Trustee Krepelka to serve on the Foundation Board.

4. Board Committee Appointments

Board Self-Evaluation Committee, Item 4.1

Board President Blacklock appointed Trustee Krepelka chair of the Board Self-Evaluation Committee, and Board Clerk Dahlmeier and Trustee Massa to the committee.

Evaluation of the Superintendent/President Committee, Item 4.2

Board President Blacklock appointed himself chair of the Evaluation of the Superintendent/President Committee, and Board Vice President Nock and Trustee McGinnis to the committee per BP 2435.

Board Policy Review Committee, Item 4.3

Board President Blacklock appointed Board Clerk Dahlmeier chair of the Board Policy Review Committee, and Trustees McGinnis and Krepelka to the committee.

Finance Committee, Item 4.4

Board President Blacklock appointed Board Vice President Nock chair of the Finance Committee, and Trustees Boeger and Massa to the committee.

5. Communications from the Public – Consent Agenda

There were no public comments.

6. Approval of Consent Agenda, Items 6.1-6.6

It was moved by Board Clerk Dahlmeier, seconded by Board Vice President Nock, to approve the consent agenda.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Trustees Smith (advisory vote), Blacklock, Nock, Dahlmeier, Boeger, Krepelka, Massa and McGinnis

Nos: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

7. Reports

Academic Senate President's Report – Irma Gonzalez Cuadros

Academic Senate President Gonzalez Cuadros reported on the Academic Senate's committee appointments and noted that the Senate considered the formation of a workgroup focused on artificial intelligence and student success before deciding that the Academic Technology Committee will address those issues. She reported on the realignment of Academic standing subcommittees to ensure Brown Act compliance. Academic Senate President Gonzalez Cuadros also reported that the Senate approved the accreditation midterm draft report as well as syllabus guidelines for distance education proposed by the Distance Education Committee. She concluded by congratulating Trustee Boeger on his 40 years of board service.

Classified Senate President's Report – Alan Burwell

Classified Senate President Burwell reported that the Senate's ad hoc committee developed an action plan for policy and procedure recommendations. He thanked Superintendent/President Guleff and Interim Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness Jess Vickery for their engagement in that work, noting that most of the items in the plan are already in progress, which demonstrates the shared commitment to strengthening Butte College. Classified Senate President Burwell also reported on other actions of the Senate, including committee appointments, the cookie exchange potluck, and approving the draft accreditation midterm report. He concluded by noting that the Senate is preparing for their finals week coffee and Scantrons events.

Student Senate President's Report – Guadalupe Ocampo

Student Senate President Ocampo reported that she attended the Student Senate for California Community Colleges' Advocacy Academy with four other students and an advisor where they engaged in training related to advocacy, storytelling, and student rights. She reported that the

Student Senate sponsored a wellbeing event where students had the opportunity to pet baby goats. Finally, she reported that Student Senate plans to tour campus locker rooms to explore the opportunity to develop gender neutral locker rooms.

Student Trustee Comments – Jared Smith

Student Trustee Smith reported that he also attended the Advocacy Academy where he attended sessions focused on storytelling and on Native and Latinx students. He reported that he met with student leaders from the Butte College Native American Student Center about their concerns about to the denial of funding for culturally-affirming events, particularly the Sacramento Kings' Native American Heritage Night. He noted that the denial was very disappointing to students and several groups have expressed concerns about ambiguity around and barriers to using grant funding. Student Trustee Smith asked the board to take appropriate action, including the development of relevant policies and procedures.

Superintendent/President's Report – Virginia Guleff

Superintendent/President Guleff started her comments by thanking Student Senate President Ocampo and Student Trustee Smith for bringing student concerns to the Board of Trustees and for their work at the statewide level. She also recognized Past Board President McGinnis for his leadership throughout the year and presented him with a gift in appreciation for his work.

Superintendent/President Guleff reported on events she attended recently, including the Community College League of California's (CCLC) Annual Convention with Trustees McGinnis and Boeger. At the convention, she and Trustee McGinnis attended the Advisory Committee on Legislation meeting. She left the convention with a renewed appreciation for the work done at Butte College. She also reported on college events she attended, such as the Law Enforcement Academy Graduation and the Planning & Budget Forum, which provided a good chance to discuss federal issues the college is tracking, particularly student access to funds.

Superintendent/President Guleff also reported on community events such as filming a book in common promotional video with Chico State President Steve Perez. She also attended the Paradise Ridge Chamber of Commerce Dinner with Board President Blacklock, as well as meeting with City of Chico Assistant City Manager Erik Gustafson. Superintendent/President Guleff also participated on the Boys & Girls Clubs Youth of the Year selection panel, which was inspiring.

Superintendent/President Guleff concluded her report by announcing a reception celebrating Trustee Boeger's 40 years of service to the Butte College Board of Trustees.

Board Comments

Trustee McGinnis provided the Board with a report [attached to the minutes] on his takeaways from the CCLC convention, including legislative changes, micro-internship programs, and information about the state budget. He reported he recently became aware of the Center for Strategic and Inclusive Governance, which gives recommendations to governing boards for educational institutions; he provided the Board with handouts about the center [also attached to the minutes]. Trustee Boeger indicated that after being involved with Butte College for 40 years, he feels positive about the college's progress, noting that it has been a pleasure to work with the various trustees and employees over the years. Trustee Krepelka recognized Erin Johnson of the Glenn County Office of Education, for regularly attending th Butte College Board of Trustees meetings, which shows concern for the students in Glenn County. Board President Blacklock reported that he appreciated hearing about a 5th generation fruit business and a candy business at the Paradise Ridge Chamber of Commerce Dinner.

8. Communications from the Public

Student Celestina Galicia-Davis spoke about the detrimental effects on Butte College students and relationships with local Native American tribes caused by the denial of the Native American Students Center's request to take students to the Sacramento Kings' Native American Heritage Night.

9. **Contracts**

Approval of Contracts, Item 9.1

It was moved by Board Clerk Dahlmeier, seconded by Trustee McGinnis, to approve the contracts listed on the Contracts Approval Report and authorize the Superintendent/President or designee to enter into the contracts in accordance with Board Policy 6340 prior to ratification by the Board at a subsequent meeting contingent upon available funding and successful completion of negotiation of terms with the contractors.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Trustees Smith (advisory vote), Blacklock, Nock, Dahlmeier, Boeger, Krepelka, Massa and McGinnis

Nos: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

Approval of Contract to Purchase Professional Services from Robert Ferrilli, LLC dba Ferrilli utilizing Foundation for California Community Colleges Agreement Number 00006199, Item 9.2

It was moved by Trustee Krepelka, seconded by Board Vice President Nock, to the contract to purchase professional services from Robert Ferrilli, LLC, dba Ferrilli, utilizing Foundation for California Community Colleges Agreement number 00006199, in accordance with Board Policy 6340.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Trustees Smith (advisory vote), Blacklock, Nock, Dahlmeier, Boeger, Krepelka, Massa and McGinnis

Nos: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

Adoption of Resolution No. 834: Approval of Contract with California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Academy, Item 9.3

It was moved by Trustee Boeger, seconded by Board Clerk Dahlmeier, to adopt resolution no. 834 to approve the contract with California Department of Fish and Wildlife for California Department of Fish and Wildlife Academy, in accordance with Board Policy 6340.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Trustees Smith (advisory vote), Blacklock, Nock, Dahlmeier, Boeger, Krepelka, Massa and McGinnis

Nos: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

Adoption of Resolution No. 835: Approval of Contract with the California Department of Social Services for California General Child Care Development (CTTR) Program Fiscal Year 2026-27, Item 9.4

It was moved by Trustee McGinnis, seconded by Trustee Boeger, to adopt resolution no. 835 to approve the contract with the California Department of Social Services for California General Child Care Development (CCTR) program, in accordance with Board Policy 6340.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Trustees Smith (advisory vote), Blacklock, Nock, Dahlmeier, Boeger, Krepelka, Massa and McGinnis

Nos: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

10. Administration

Adoption of Board Policies, Item 10.1

Board President Blacklock reported that the Board Policy Committee discussed the proposed reduction in public speaker time at their meeting on December 9. Research showed that the majority of California community colleges have a three-minute time limit, so the committee continues to recommend that revision. He noted that the applicable board policy allows the board to increase the time limit during a meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Massa, seconded by Trustee McGinnis, to adopt the board policies as presented.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Trustees Smith (advisory vote), Blacklock, Dahlmeier, Boeger, Krepelka, Massa and McGinnis

Nos: Nock

Abstentions: None

Absent: None

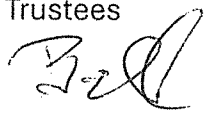
11. Closed Session

The Board of Trustees of the Butte-Glenn Community College District met in closed session under authority of Government Code Section 54954.5.

Board President Blacklock reported that by a unanimous vote, the board determined not to renew the appointment of a Dean of Instruction effective June 30, 2026.

12. Adjournment

Board President McGinnis adjourned the meeting at 3:26 p.m.

TO: Butte College Trustees
FROM: Bill McGinnis 
SUBJECT: Notes from CCLC Conference

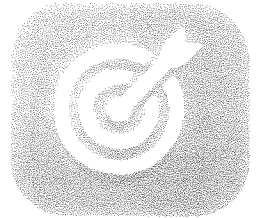
1. Legislation. California recently approved AB 713 which prohibits a college from confirming a student employee's immigration status before employment. This may be in conflict with Federal rules and regulations.
2. Micro Internships. These micro-internships are imbedded within college courses and provide mentoring from Google and other technology companies. Students that excel in these programs may be offered internships with the private companies. One student was offered full-time employment with a signing bonus of \$10K and a salary of \$300/hour. The students are from a variety of majors and are placed on teams to assure a variety of backgrounds and educational tracks. One such college participating in this program is Irvine Valley College.
3. ACCJC Report. The ACCJC will begin requesting earnings data on our graduates as one of the measures of student success. New regulations on this program may have just been published or will be soon. The ACCJC will also implement for public viewing a dashboard describing each college's performance as reported by the colleges each year in April. In the 2026 ACCJC standards, (Standard 4.4) the Board of Trustees is responsible for the Educational Quality of their college. In April the ACCJC will be hosting a workshop on the Programmatic Return on Investment project and each college is encouraged to send a team to the training. The college is encouraged to include the Board President as a member of the team.
4. Arizona State University Partnerships. A number of colleges in Southern California have developed partnerships with ASU in order to provide an opportunity for their students to have a pathway to a Bachelor's degree at almost the same credit unit cost of the UC system tuition. These courses are entirely on-line. The justification for this program is that students do not want to leave their home area to attend a 4 year institution and the nearby CSU's and UC's are impacted and do not offer the on-line degree options. In our community Chico State is not impacted and is looking for students to transfer to their university. If this changes in the future, we may want to look at the ASU option for our students.
5. State Budget. The potential loss of financial support for health care premiums by the Federal government may cause the State to provide such assistance to our residents. If so, there will be pressure on the Prop. 98 allocation for community colleges and K-12 potentially reducing our funding from the state.

A GUIDE TO

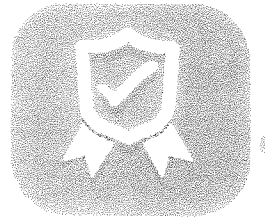


Safeguarding institutional autonomy is a core responsibility of higher education boards. This autonomy ensures institutions can operate free from excessive external influence—whether governmental, religious, or otherwise. Boards must protect this independence, allowing campus leaders to assert their values and uphold the institution's mission, integrity, and resistance to political, financial, or ideological pressures.

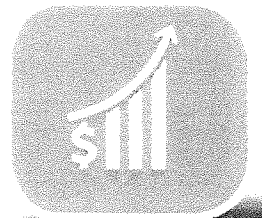
Align decisions with the institution's mission and values to justify actions protecting autonomy.



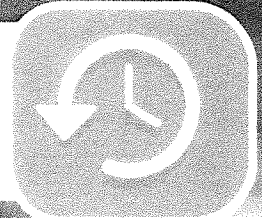
Utilize accreditation to reinforce institutional independence and governance integrity.



Reduce dependency on politically influenced funding to safeguard institutional autonomy.



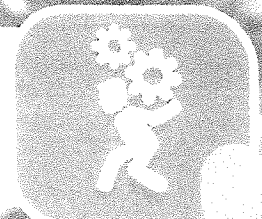
Justify governance and spending decisions by referencing historical consistency and peer institution experiences.



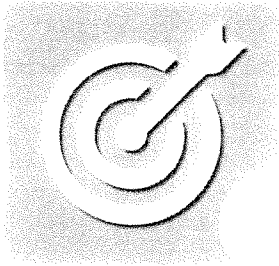
Advocate for institutional autonomy while maintaining boundaries to avoid political influence.



Build crisis resilience and proactively defend against political interference.



2



• **Review and Reaffirm Mission Statements**

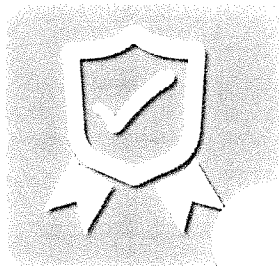
- Schedule annual reviews of the mission statement to ensure it reflects evolving educational needs while maintaining core principles
- Annually, preferably at the start of the academic year
- Updated mission statement that reinforces commitments to academic freedom, shared governance, and student success

• **Align Strategic Decisions with Mission**

- Implement a review process requiring all new policies and strategic decisions to include a justification of how they align with the mission
- Ongoing, with each policy proposal
- Consistent alignment of decisions with institutional values, supporting autonomy against external pressures

• **Communicate Commitment to Core Values**

- Support the issuance of public statements and reports by the president/ chancellor that reaffirm the institution's commitment to academic freedom and student success.
- Semi-annually or as needed during high-stakes political debates
- Increased public trust and stakeholder buy-in, justifying actions taken to defend institutional independence



• **Stay Informed on Accreditation Requirements**

- Assign a liaison to regularly engage with accrediting bodies, attend accreditation workshops, and report back to the Board
- Quarterly updates, annual workshops
- Up-to-date knowledge of accreditation standards to support autonomous governance

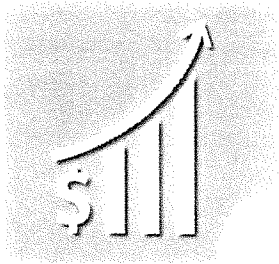
• **Align Policies with Accreditation Standards**

- Conduct policy audits to ensure alignment with standards related to governance, academic integrity, and financial management
- Annually, ahead of accreditation reviews
- Strengthened governance policies that are defensible under accreditation guidelines

• **Leverage Accreditation for Autonomy Defense**

- Cite compliance with accreditation standards when justifying governance decisions to policymakers or critics
- As needed, during public debates or legislative challenges
- Enhanced credibility and justification for autonomous decision-making

2



• **Diversify Revenue Streams**

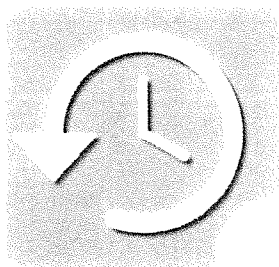
- Develop strategic plans for fundraising, endowment growth, and pursuing grants
- Ongoing, with annual goals and reviews
- Increased financial independence, reducing vulnerability to political pressures

• **Implement Financial Policies for Sustainability**

- Establish financial policies prioritizing long-term sustainability over short-term gains
- Annual budget planning and policy review cycles
- Financial stability supporting autonomous governance

• **Enhance Transparency and Accountability**

- Publish detailed financial reports and hold open forums to explain budget decisions
- Quarterly reporting, annual public forum
- Enhanced stakeholder trust and reduced political scrutiny



• **Document Decision-Making Processes**

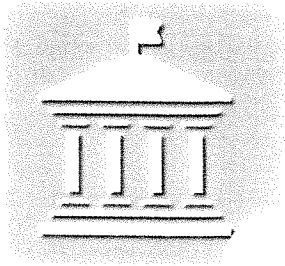
- Maintain comprehensive records of board decisions and rationales to demonstrate consistency
- Ongoing, with quarterly archiving
- Clear precedents to defend against claims of political bias or inconsistency

• **Learn from Peer Institutions**

- Establish networks with boards at peer institutions to share challenges and strategies
- Bi-annual meetings and conferences
- Informed decision-making processes reflecting sector-wide best practices

• **Reflect on Institutional History**

- Reference historical decisions and policies when facing contemporary political pressures
- As needed during political challenges
- Reinforced governance consistency and credibility



- **Communicate the Value of Autonomy**

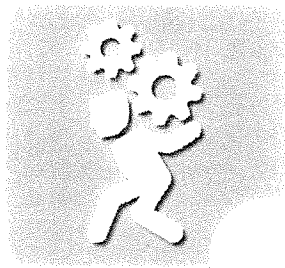
- Develop communication campaigns to highlight the public benefits of institutional autonomy
- As needed, aligned with legislative cycles
- Increased public and policymaker support for governance independence

- **Engage Strategically with Legislators**

- Schedule regular meetings with key legislators to discuss the importance of higher education autonomy
- Quarterly or as needed for policy advocacy
- Stronger legislative alliances without compromising governance integrity

- **Promote Policy Initiatives Supporting Autonomy**

- Collaborate with state and national higher education associations to advocate for autonomy-supportive policies
- Ongoing, coordinated with policy windows
- Policy environments more favorable to institutional independence



- **Develop Crisis Management Plans**

- Create detailed contingency plans to address political or funding challenges
- Annually, with updates after significant events
- Proactive risk mitigation to safeguard institutional autonomy

- **Train Boards on Controversial Issue Navigation**

- Include modules on political sensitivity and crisis response in board orientation and training
- Annually, during board retreats or onboarding
- Improved preparedness and strategic response to political pressures

- **Monitor Legal and Policy Developments**

- Designate a team to track relevant legal and political changes affecting institutional autonomy
- Ongoing monitoring with quarterly reports
- Timely responses to external challenges, protecting governance integrity