

1 FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3 Regular Board Meeting
4 Monday, May 22, 2023, 3:45 p.m.
5 Blake Hall 140
6

7 A regular meeting of the Flathead Valley Community College Board of Trustees
8 convened at 3:45 p.m., Monday, May 22, 2023.
9

10 **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

11 Chairperson Pete Akey called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. The following Board
12 members were in attendance:

13 Patrick Gulick Callie Langohr Lyle Mitchell
14 Mary Ruby Travis Steindorf Kelly Stimpson

15 Also present were President Jane Karas and Suzanne DeCamp, Clerk of the District.

16 President Karas introduced Dr. Bryan Brophy-Baermann, Vice President, Academic and
17 Student Affairs. Bryan started on May 1st and replaced Dr. Chris Clouse who retired.

18 **A. Oath of Office**

19 The Clerk of the District administered the “Oath of Office” to Pete Akey, Patrick
20 Gulick and Kelly Stimpson and requested their signatures on the “Certificate of Election” form.
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22 **II. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**
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24 **III. CONSENT ITEMS – ACTION**

25 **A. Approval of the minutes of the Board of Trustees Retreat on April 22, 2023.**

26 **B. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on April
27 24, 2023.**

28 **C. Approval of the Board meeting schedule for FY24.**

29 **D. Approval of the Classified Bargaining Agreement.**

30 President Karas noted that Board meeting dates that don’t fall on the 4th Monday
31 are noted in red on the schedule. Trustee Callie Langohr moved that the Board of Trustees approve
32 ITEMS A, B, C and D under Section III, Consent Agenda. Trustee Travis Steindorf seconded the
33 motion. The motion carried unanimously with seven (7) "yes" votes.
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35 **IV. MONTHLY REPORTS**

36 **A. Student Activities Report**

37 The Student Activities Report was submitted to the Board for review (see
38 Attachment I).

39 **B. Faculty Activities Report**

40 There was no Faculty Activities Report.

41 **C. Executive Staff Activities Report**

42 The Board acknowledged the Executive Staff for their informative reports.

1 **V. COLLEGE ISSUES**

2 **A. Student Success: Running Start Report**

3 Beth Romain, Program Director, Running Start provided an overview and update
4 on the Running Start Program. Beth recognized the Running Start students who walked across
5 our graduation stage on May 12th. Two students earned their Associates of Arts degree before
6 graduating high school in June. Many high school students finish a semester or even a full year
7 of their degree before graduating high school, this advances students so that they may only need
8 to attend FVCC for a year to finish their associates degree before transferring to their university
9 of choice. Six Columbia Falls High School students walked the graduation stage with a welding
10 technology CTS degree. This year was first year that FVCC started a certificate of applied
11 science, 13 Columbia Falls High School students walked the stage who had earned a one-year
12 certificate of applied science in welding technology. We also had one HVAC apprentice CTS
13 degree that was earned from a Bigfork High School student.

14 In the fall of 2022, there were 829 running start students, 636 of those students
15 were taking our FVCC classes in their high schools. Those 829 students earned 3,600 college
16 credits. We offered 62 concurrent enrollment sessions in 19 different high schools across the
17 state.

18 This spring we had 784 running start students, 551 of those students were taking
19 concurrent enrollment classes in the high school, 202 were early college students (either taking
20 our online classes or coming onto campus for classes), and 31 students taking a variation of both.
21 3,728 credits were earned this spring, 68 concurrent enrollment sessions were offered in 20
22 different high schools.

23 **B. Board of Trustees' Event Calendar**

24 President Karas reviewed the Trustees' event calendar. The next Board meeting
25 is scheduled for June 26th. The Foundation's Summer Soiree will take place at The Nest in
26 Bigfork on June 26th, there are still tickets available. The FVCC adult education graduation is
27 June 28th at 6:00 p.m.

28 **C. President's Report**

29 President Karas updated the Board on several items:

- 30 • Legislative Update – The Community College Funding Formula was finalized in
31 HB2. Our base budget decreased by \$600,000. The changes in the funding
32 formula may add some funds into our budget, if we meet the FTE projections.
- 33 • Commencement – The nurse pinning ceremony took place on the afternoon of
34 May 12th and nine nurses were pinned. Commencement was held for the first
35 time in the Wachholz College Center. Everyone seemed to appreciate holding the
36 event in the new building.
- 37 • Board of Regents –The meeting was held last week in Great Falls. The Board of
38 Regents approved our tuition and fee increases. They are also discussing a
39 change in how some of the two-year degrees are designated.
- 40 • Achieving the Dream (ATD) – The ATD coaches were here on campus last
41 Monday. Discussion addressed our work plan, identified areas where more work
42 is needed and areas where progress has been made to provide expanded support
43 for student success across the campus.
- 44 • Behavioral Intervention Conference – Kelly Murphy, Dean of Students, is helping
45 to host a Behavioral Intervention Conference on campus this Tuesday and
46 Wednesday. People from the different universities and community colleges will

1 be attending.

- 2 • Superintendent Meetings – Continue to meet with the superintendents from the
- 3 four area high school districts to talk about continued collaboration and
- 4 partnerships to better meet the needs of high school students and to provide
- 5 opportunities for them on the college campus, especially in workforce training
- 6 and career exploration and discovery.
- 7 • Donation – Paul Wachholz met with President Karas and Tagen Vine last week
- 8 and he announced that he is going to give the college a \$4M gift for an
- 9 entrepreneurship/business center. The gift will allow us to provide extra space to
- 10 expand those opportunities for students and the community.
- 11 • Fitness Center – A naming ceremony was held last week for the Furlong Smith
- 12 Fitness Center at the Wachholz College Center. Lucy Smith, a generous
- 13 Wachholz College Center donor, named the fitness center after her family.

14 VI. REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

15 A. Appoint Board Members to Positions of Board Chair, Board Vice-Chair, and

16 Secretary to the Board

17 Chairperson Pete Akey expressed his appreciation serving as Board Chair for the

18 past two years. Chairperson Akey called for the reorganization of the Board of Trustees and

19 opened the meeting to nominations. Pete Akey offered a slate of Kelly Stimpson for Board

20 Chair, Callie Langohr for Board Vice-Chair and Patrick Gulick as Secretary to the Board.

21 Trustee Mary Ruby moved that the Board of Trustees appoint the Board Chair, Board Vice-Chair

22 and Secretary to the Board as nominated. Trustee Travis Steindorf seconded the motion. With

23 no other nominations, the motion to appoint carried with seven (7) “yes” votes. Trustee Callie

24 Langohr thanked Pete Akey for his leadership of the Board during his term as Board Chair.

25 B. Appoint a Clerk of the District

26 Trustee Mary Ruby moved that the Board of Trustees reelect Suzanne DeCamp as

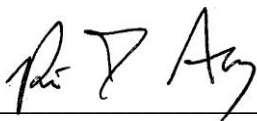
27 Clerk of the District. Trustee Callie Langohr seconded the motion. With no other appointees,

28 the motion carried with seven (7) “yes” votes.

29 VII. ADJOURNMENT

30 With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

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39 Peter J. Akey, Chairperson of the Board

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44 Patrick Gulick, Secretary to the Board

Student Activity Report**May 2023**

Chess N' Games- A chess tournament was held on April 7th. The semester wrapped up with the last game night on May 2nd in the student lounge.

Firearms Enthusiast Club – Club members volunteered to help cleanup two local gun ranges. At the bi-weekly meetings, members have been discussing activities for the fall semester including Week of Welcome.

Intersarsity Christian Fellowship – Bible study groups are wrapping up for the year. Members hosted two prayer walks across the campus.

Mask and Hammer – The theatre play, Anything Goes, was a big success. Every show had a good turnout. The club is focusing on activities for the fall.

Music Club – Club members were busy planning for the last few recitals and semester music finals. An end-of-the-year party took place on Friday, May 5th at 11am.

Student Wellness Team– April and May were busy for the wellness team. An informative Walk the Walk event was held for Sexual Assault Awareness month. In addition to the walk, peer educators hosted two trainings for 11 Interclub Council members. The trainings focused on healthy relationships, affirmative consent, and bystander intervention. Denim Day was recognized on April 27th with a display of jeans and t-shirts that included messages from local survivors.

For Mental Health Awareness Month, the wellness team partnered with the Nate Chute Foundation and the Western Montana Mental Health Clinic to bring Scott Erickson, a touring painter and performance speaker, to FVCC. Scott is the author of Say Yes: Discover the Surprising Life beyond the Death of a Dream. Through storytelling, live painting, and video curation, his message focused on the importance of not giving up on yourself.

Stress Less Day took place on May 5th and included several informative stations on the importance of self-care, mindfulness, sleep, and play. Students enjoyed Zen tangling, Orbeez stress balls, planting succulents, therapy dogs, and more.

Student Government- This month members focused on wrapping up projects including installing and stocking a new vending machine in the student lounge. Revisions to the FVCC Student Government Constitution and Bylaws were finalized. The documents are being prepared for administrative review. The student body was invited to attend a free showing of Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 at Signature Stadium 14 Theatre – 39 students attended. Student Government's spring election took place on April 27th. Two new officers were sworn in on May 8th.

Intramurals – Weekly basketball and volleyball nights wrapped up on May 4th. The program received 72 unique participants during the semester.