

**Victor Valley Community College District
Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Thursday, June 9, 2022
APPROVED MINUTES**

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Call to Order

The Governing Board of the Victor Valley Community College District met in Administration Building 55 Conference Room 55.01B on June 9, 2022, for the Special Board Meeting Retreat. Board President Tarpley called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

Members present

Trustees: Jennifer Tarpley, Dennis Henderson, Sharon Pinkerton, Brandon A Wood, *Joseph W Brady (arrived at 6:15pm)*
Superintendent/President: Dr. Daniel Walden

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the USA

1.4 PUBLIC COMMENT ANNOUNCEMENT: The complete written request to address the Board shall be submitted at the beginning of the open session portion of the meeting. Individuals may comment after being recognized by the Board President and before Board discussion of the particular item. (Board Policy 2350).
No public comments

2. ANNUAL EVALUATION OF THE VVCCD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2.1 Evaluation of the Board of Trustees

Dr. Walden introduced Pam Walker and Guy Lease from PPL, Inc. He also introduced Dr. Todd Scott, the Accreditation Liaison, and explained that the college is currently involved in putting its next accreditation report together. The Trustees will vote on the report in December 2023. Tonight the Trustees will be provided a workshop regarding their role in the Accreditation Process.

Guy Lease thanked the Trustees for inviting them back to facilitate this work and gave a brief introduction of Ms. Walker. Ms. Walker gave her background. Mr. Lease gave an overview of the agenda for the evening and then began asking the Trustees how they felt they have done on each of their 5 goals. Some of the feedback and comments from the Trustees are listed below:

- Regarding Goal 1 - Nurturing a Culture of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion: There were 26 board actions all aimed at seeking to encourage recognizing the accomplishments of a diverse American population.
- Trustee Wood expressed his feelings that there are many things the board did that supported this goal and had a positive impact. Dr. Walden concurred stating with the support of the board the college created a Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) committee which ended up not being a small task.
- Trustee Tarpley expressed her feelings that the goals they have are mainly done by other individuals and she would like goals that are tangible for the board. Mr. Lease reminded the board that they set the tone and that it is not their job to do all these things, but it is their job to set up the means for others to fulfill these goals and also their job to give the Superintendent/President the authority to get these things done. Their job is to support the efforts. Trustee Wood expressed that this is the hardest part about the trustee role, because you want to be involved, but also must keep your fingers out of the details. Dr. Walden said the symbolic things matter, and reminded them that during his interview he said he would always listen to anything a trustee member would say, but he would not empower a single board member putting them above the other four. He continued by saying if it was good for the students than okay, but he would never let a single board member tell him how to run the college. He would need a vote of at least 3 trustees for this.
- Regarding Goal 2 - Increase student access, success & completion: The trustees felt that they had been successful with their goal of increasing access, success and completion for VVC students. There were nearly 50 items on the agenda and they received multiple reports throughout the year pertaining to the implementation of the Educational Master Plan and supported many efforts towards this goal.

Trustee Brady arrived at 6:15pm

- Regarding Goal 3 - Create stronger community relations: Trustee Wood feels like he needs to do more in this area, but does feel that he watches and reads the emails and the rest of the trustees feel that Trustee Brady is doing a great job in supporting this goal. Trustee Brady went on to explain the purpose of the industry sector meetings - which is to find out what the various industries need from our college to train our students to be competitive in their industry.
- Dr. Walden expressed that he knows that all the trustees share information about the college out in the community.
- The trustees go to many community and VVC events.
- Regarding Goal 4 - Lead the college in a safe and successful reopening: The trustees unanimously expressed that they felt this goal has been accomplished.
- Trustee Tarpley said there is a great team making this goal come to fruition. Trustee Wood feels they are crushing this goal, and expressed that Dr. Walden and the taskforce came up with many unique ways to make accomplishing this goal possible.
- The trustees agreed to check this goal off as completed successfully.
- Regarding Goal 5 - Supporting the Caring Campus initiative: The trustees unanimously expressed they felt they have been really good about supporting this goal all along.
- The trustees feel they need to continue this goal despite having made a lot of progress.
- Trustee Wood expressed that this needs to be the culture and everyone needs to live it.
- Dr. Walden explained that they are in the process of hiring many new people, and onboarding them in a way that sets the tone for a caring campus.

- Trustee Brady likes the idea of signage around campus (bathrooms etc.) to remind people that we care about them.

Technology Break: 6:57pm

Reconvene: 7:02pm

3. BOARD GOALS 2022-2023

3.1 Draft Development of Board Goals for 2022-2023

The trustees reviewed the draft board goal worksheet and their comments were as follows:

- Goal 1 - The trustees were okay with the way this first goal is written.
- Goal 2 - In an effort to stay updated with current language used in the community college system, the trustees suggested changing DEI to DEIAA (add A for Access and A for Anti-Racism)
- Goal 3 - The trustees suggested removing bullet 3 in the Objectives column pertaining to the facilities master plan, and changing the wording to "monitor facilities in consideration of student success." Dr. Walden suggested "solicit and review feedback on campus improvements and conditions of facilities." Trustee Wood expressed his feelings that facilities have a huge impact on student success. Trustee Brady feels they all agree that there are facilities that need upgraded and suggested a survey out to students on what they feel. Dr. Walden stated the students have received so many surveys that they may not give meaningful feedback. Trustee Brady requested to see the results of the most recent survey sent to students. Mr. Lease suggested adding wording pertaining to the board regularly reviewing the key indicators for student outcomes. This could include a study session around the Aspen Metrics, data on equity gaps, etc. Dr. Walden suggested a couple study sessions through the year, which can be done in a special call meeting, or in place of the President's Report section at the regular board meetings. Trustee Brady asked that we avoid any study sessions in September.
- Goal 4 - Chancellor's office made this a requirement, the trustees are okay with this goal.
- Goal 5 - The trustees were happy with the continuation of this goal.

Dr. Walden suggested it may be more beneficial if the trustees reported every other month. Trustee Tarpley agreed with this, feeling it would make the report more than just checking a box. Trustee Wood disagreed stating he felt it was important to regularly highlight what the board is doing to follow their goals, but it needs to be meaningful. It is important to show they are making progress on their goals and not forgetting about them.

4. WORKSHOP - GOVERNING BOARD'S ROLE IN ACCREDITATION PROCESS - STANDARD IV.C

4.1 Board Workshop - Governing Board's role in the accreditation process - Standard IV.C

Accreditation 101 - Roles and Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees:

Pamela Walker of PPL, Inc. provided a workshop presentation, briefly reviewing Standards 1, 2, & 3 before more thoroughly covering Standard IV. Ms. Walker informed the trustees that as a board member they could serve on an accreditation team should they wish, and this would be beneficial for them if they could do this. Ms. Walker explained that the role of the board is to know "what" is going on in the District, but not to get involved in the how it is being done. They have giving Dr. Walden the authority and he is responsible for the "how" and it is also his responsibility to ensure they receive regular reports. The trustees are responsible through their policies and delegation of authority. Ms. Walker reviewed each standard of IV.C (Best practices - act as a collective (IV.C.2); represent the common good (IV.C.4); set policy direction (IV.C.5, 12); employ evaluate and support the CEO (IV.C.3, 12); set policies for institutional board operations (IV.C.7, 10-11); use resources to achieve mission (IV.C.1,8); have responsibility for financial integrity (IV.C.5); monitor performance (IV.C.8); create a positive climate (IV.C.9,11,13), etc.). Ms. Walker reinforced the importance that the trustee's focus should be on the WHAT (mission, quality, outcomes and improvement) and not the HOW (operations and the means to achieve the outcomes, which is the responsibility of the CEO. She stated it is very important to empower the CEO and try to avoid getting in the way of that. Also, that ethics, prudence, and standards of practice are critical of the board as representatives of the institution. This board brings people to campus, and represents the campus.

Following the thorough review of Standard IV.C, Ms. Walker shared various scenarios and asked what could be wrong with the situations presented. The board discussed the scenarios in detail.

When do you know when the board is working well?

When they are all doing what is best for the college.

When in the end they come to a decision you can all live with.

Ms. Walker reiterated the information of a trustee being on a visiting team, and reviewed the commitment this would require.

5. ADJOURNMENT

5.1 Adjourn June 9, 2022 Board of Trustees Special Meeting

There being no further action brought before the Governing Board, on a motion by Trustee Brady and a second by Trustee Pinkerton the meeting was adjourned at: 9:05pm

Motion by Joseph W Brady, second by Sharon Pinkerton.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Brandon A Wood, Jennifer Tarpley, Dennis Henderson, Joseph W Brady, Sharon Pinkerton