

**COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD**

WORK SESSION

MARCH 19, 2025



**MINUTES OF A WORK SESSION
OF THE
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
MARCH 19, 2025**

A Work Session of the Coconino Community College District Governing Board was held in person in the Board Room at Coconino Community College, 2800 S. Lone Tree Rd., Flagstaff, AZ. Board Chair Joey Smith called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm.

PRESENT: Mr. Joey Smith, Board Chair
Mr. Patrick Hurley, Board Vice Chair/Secretary
Mr. Eric Eikenberry
Ms. Patricia Garcia
Dr. Nat White

ABSENT: None

Also Present: President Eric Heiser, Ms. Kirsten Mead, Dr. Adriana Flores-Church, Ms. Dianna Sanchez, Dr. Jami Van Ess, Dr. Sandra Hinski, Mr. Tony Williams, Ms. Alimah Damgaard, Ms. Alyssa Sergent, Mr. Brian Blue, Mr. David Asencio, Dr. David Borofsky, Ms. Esther Cuellar, Mr. Keith Becker, Mr. Kurt Stull, Mr. Nolan Begaye, Mr. Ryan Bouwhuis, Ms. Sonni Marbury, and Mr. Van Walker.

The March 19, 2025, documents file contains reports, summaries, background materials, and other documents referenced in these minutes.

1. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Federal Policy Updates – President Eric Heiser

President Heiser briefed the Board on how the College is addressing federal policy updates during weekly Cabinet meetings. Faculty Senate President Doug Friedman, Staff Council Chair Alimah Damgaard, and Sonni Marbury attend the federal policy update segment of each Cabinet meeting to relay pertinent information to their respective groups. He noted that the Cabinet is proactively monitoring potential cuts to the Department of Education and anticipatory reductions in federal student funding. Plans are being developed to support both students and grant-funded staff in the event of such cuts.

The Board Discussed:

- How the College receives federal policy information (e.g., AACC, ACCT, AC4)
- Employee access to reliable news sources via the College's SharePoint
- Weekly meetings of the ten Arizona community college presidents to discuss state and federal developments
- Opportunities to engage with Senator Kelly and Senator Gallego
- Appreciation from Chair Smith for the Cabinet's transparent and thoughtful handling of federal updates
- Ensuring CCC remains a safe, inclusive, and welcoming space for all students prior to launching new programming

- The Board’s role in supporting the College through these transitions

2. Rethinking Strategic Enrollment Management at CCC through 4DX and Achieve the Dream – Mr. Tony Williams

Mr. Williams presented an overview of CCC’s strategy to enhance student enrollment through the implementation of the 4DX framework and the Achieve the Dream initiative. See the March 19, 2025 documents file for additional information.

The Board Discussed:

- Interest in having Alex Purchase present at a future Board meeting on Dual Enrollment activities across districts
- Collaboration between CCC’s Dual Enrollment staff, students, and high schools to create clear pathways to CCC
- Remarkable retention of three out of four Pell Grant recipients—positively impacting 583 students
- The powerful role of Foundation scholarships in supporting Pell-eligible students
- The importance of retraining programs if the economy enters a recession
- Low completion rate (20%) of FAFSA among CCC students compared to the national average (over 50%), and efforts underway to address this gap
- Promoting CTE programs that do not require a degree
- Providing support for students whose parents refuse to participate in FAFSA
- Enhancing the website with simplified and accessible financial aid information

3. Future Work Session Agenda Items – Chair Smith

- Regular policy updates: 1–2 per meeting
- Creation of a new Board communications policy, as suggested by Dr. Spilde during the June Board Retreat

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:

- Additional information on distance learning from Mr. Williams
- A deeper analysis using Edify data to determine student geographic origins once the tool is ready
- A presentation by Alex Purchase on Dual Enrollment activities across various districts at an upcoming Board meeting

ADJOURNMENT: The Work Session adjourned at 5:35 pm.

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Ms. Kirsten Mead
Board Recorder

ATTEST and APPROVED:

Mr. Patrick Hurley
Vice Chair/Secretary of the Board

Mr. Joey Smith
Board Chair