

1 FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
3 Regular Board Meeting
4 Tuesday, September 26, 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., Tuesday, September 26, 2023.
9

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

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

13 Peter Akey Callie Langohr Mary Ruby
14 Travis Steindorf

15 Trustee Lyle Mitchell was absent with prior approval. Chairperson Stimpson reported that
16 Trustee Patrick Gulick resigned from the Board because he moved and no longer lives in the
17 district that he represented. Also present were President Jane Karas and Suzanne DeCamp, Clerk
18 of the District.
19

20 President Karas introduced two new executive team members, Michele Purcell,
21 Executive Director, College Relations, Communications, and Marketing and Tricia Fiscus, Vice
22 President/Chief Financial Officer.
23

24 **II. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**
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26 **III. CONSENT ITEMS – ACTION**

27 **A. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on July**
28 **24, 2023.**

29 Trustee Pete Akey moved that the Board of Trustees approve ITEM A under
30 Section III, Consent Agenda. Trustee Travis Steindorf seconded the motion. The motion carried
31 unanimously.
32

33 **IV. MONTHLY REPORTS**

34 **A. Student Activities Report**

35 Carl Mauro, gave an update on the Veteran’s Center. Carl is currently
36 volunteering/serving as the Veteran Center Liaison. Carl’s office is located in the Learning
37 Resource Center, he encouraged the Board to stop by and share their input.
38

39 **B. Faculty Activities Report**

40 The Faculty Activities Report was submitted to the Board and presented by the
41 new Faculty Senate Vice President, Dr. Jessica Ennist, Associate Professor, Chemistry.
42

43 **C. Executive Staff Activities Report**

44 The Board acknowledged the Executive Staff for their informative reports.
45 Chairperson Stimpson thanked the Executive Staff for indicating how their reports line up with
46 our strategic plan goals.

1 **V. COLLEGE ISSUES**

2 **A. Student Success: Nursing Update**

3 Carla Genovese, Program Director, Nursing provided an update on FVCC's
4 various nursing programs. There are currently 66 total nursing students, 46 ASN-RN students (5
5 are on the Lincoln County Campus and 2 FVCC practical nursing graduates have returned to the
6 RN program). The ASN program continues to have more applicants than we can take. There are
7 8 practical nursing students. In 2021 we piloted changing the practical nursing program to run
8 summer and fall, instead of spring and summer to give better access to lab space and clinical
9 sites, the change will become permanent this year. The need for practical nurses has grown due
10 to the national nursing shortage coming out of post-covid. There are 12 Certified Nursing
11 Assistant (CNA) students (9 are on the Lincoln County Campus, offered new this year, due to
12 need). The Libby Care Center and Cabinet Peaks Medical Center identified a need for CNAs in
13 their facilities. We worked with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry and Accelerate
14 Montana to implement an 8-week hybrid class, students do didactic training on-line and then
15 their skills and clinicals are done with an instructor in Libby. We are identifying things that
16 worked well and things that need improvement for next semester. There are already 3 students
17 on a waiting list for the class in Libby next spring.

18 One of the December 2022 nursing graduates just received the Daisy Award at
19 Logan Health. The Daisy Award recipients are nominated by patients because of their
20 compassionate care.

21 Another need that was identified, was assistance in helping students prepare for
22 their national nursing licensure exam. A 3-month training course was designed, FVCC
23 instructors don't teach the content, that is done through an on-line platform. The faculty keeps
24 the students on track taking the practice tests so that they get used to taking licensing exam type
25 questions, looking at scores on tests and encouraging them to study more on areas that they don't
26 score as high in and teaching stress management techniques.

27 In the past, students felt like it took half of the semester to figure out what they
28 were supposed to be doing in their clinical rotations. The nursing program implemented a
29 clinical orientation day for every clinical rotation. The students come into the lab, meet with
30 their faculty and the clinical instructor, go over course objectives, do skills check off,
31 demonstrate a patient assessment and medication pass to ensure patient safety.

32 The nursing program received a Perkins Grant for a new high-fidelity mannequin
33 that will replace an aging mannequin more than 10 years old.

34 Helped host a simulation in healthcare open house event in the Broussard Center
35 for all health science divisions. The goal was to get more students in the building that are
36 interested in healthcare.

37 President Karas asked about the success rate of the students taking the National
38 Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX). The LPN success rate has consistently been 100%
39 for the last three years. The RN program dipped a little in 2022 down to 86%, we did still meet
40 our goal of being above the national average of 79% that year. We have to be within 10% of the
41 national average for the Board of Nursing. The support course was implemented after that year,
42 since then we have been at 100%.

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44 **B. Board Policy, Chapter I – Doctrine, Sections 60, 110, and 115 –**
45 **Second Reading**

1 President Karas reviewed the one word change in Board Policy, Chapter I –
2 Doctrine, Section 60, Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Stalking, and Retaliation.
3 There were no other changes recommended.

- 4 • Chapter I – Doctrine-Section 60 – Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual
5 Misconduct, Stalking, and Retaliation
- 6 • Chapter I – Doctrine-Section 110 – Health Related Conditions and
7 Communicable Diseases
- 8 • Chapter I – Doctrine-Section 115 - Freedom of Speech

9 Trustee Travis Steindorf moved that the Board of Trustees approve Board Policy, Chapter I –
10 Doctrine, Sections 60, 110, and 115 (second reading as revised). Trustee Callie Langohr
11 seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.
12

13 **C. Board Policy, Chapter VII – Students, Sections 20, 30, 40, 50, 70, and 80 –**
14 **First Reading**

15 President Karas reviewed two minor punctuation changes in Board Policy,
16 Chapter VII – Students, Section 70 – Student Life and Section 80 – Student Email. There were
17 no other changes recommended.

- 18 • Chapter VII – Students-Section 20 – Student Records
- 19 • Chapter VII – Students-Section 30 – Financial Aid
- 20 • Chapter VII – Students-Section 40 – Student Activities
- 21 • Chapter VII – Students-Section 50 – Student Publications
- 22 • Chapter VII – Students-Section 70 – Student Life
- 23 • Chapter VII – Students-Section 80 – Student Email

24 Trustee Pete Akey moved that the Board of Trustees approve Board Policy, Chapter VII –
25 Students, Sections 20, 30, 40, 50, 70 and 80 (first reading as revised). Trustee Travis Steindorf
26 seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.
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28 **D. Board of Trustees’ Event Calendar**

29 President Karas reviewed the Trustees’ event calendar. The kickoff for the
30 Festival of Flavors will be this Friday, September 29th outside in the amphitheater, Halladay and
31 Rob Quist will be performing. The Foundation’s Grand Wine Event is Saturday, October 7th.
32 The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 23rd.
33

34 **E. President’s Report**

35 President Karas updated the Board on several items:

- 36 • An all employee in-service was held on August 24th in the Stinson Event Center at
37 the Wachholz College Center. Presentations included what’s coming up for the
38 college this year and the Tableau data system.
- 39 • The enrollment, as of our first census date, showed that the headcount is up 4%
40 and FTE is up 5% from the same time last fall. We are up 8% in both headcount
41 and FTE for in-district students and down a little in out of state and out of district
42 students.
- 43 • President Karas attended the Board of Regents meeting last week in Butte.
44 FVCC’s budget that the Board approved in July was approved.
- 45 • A press release just went out announcing Paul Wachholz’s additional \$4M gift,
46 for an entrepreneurship center. President Karas and Tagen Vine have been

1 talking to a number of different community groups to share the information on the
2 center and get their ideas and feedback. We are continuing to explore options and
3 working on a timeline.

- 4 • The Festival of Flavors dinners and Grand Wine Event are sold out, there are still
5 tickets for the kickoff. All dollars raised from the Festival of Flavors events go
6 toward student scholarships.
- 7 • FVCC is going to be the lead agency for a statewide Perkins Grant to coordinate
8 three areas, Lisa Blank, Executive Director, Workforce Development will be the
9 project manager.
- 10 • The monthly all employee and faculty forums will take place this week. President
11 Karas gives updates on what is happening at the college and employees are able to
12 ask questions and share any concerns.

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14 **F. Other**

15 Trustee Callie Langohr, Foundation Board Liaison, shared her appreciation for the
16 Foundation Board and staff, a group of impressive and dedicated people working for the college
17 and the students. There are so many moving parts when planning their events and they cover
18 them all so well. Chairperson Stimpson asked Trustee Langohr to please pass along the Board's
19 thanks for all that they do.

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21 **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

22 With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

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Kelly Stimpson, JD, Chairperson of the Board