

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 17, 2023 STUDY SESSION MINUTES

STUDY SESSION - JACKSON CONFERENCE CENTER & VIRTUAL PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Call to Order

Chair Jerry Martin called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

B. Trustee Roll Call

TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE	
Jerry Martin, Chair	Present
Kelly Shepherd, Vice Chair	Present
Toraya Miller	Present
Bob Bolerjack	Present
Dr. Betty Cobbs	Present
Dr. Chemene Crawford, President	Present

INFORMATION HIGHLIGHTS

C. Cybersecurity Update:

Ed Alexander, Executive Director of Information Technology and Jose Martinez Gomez, Interim Associate Director of Information Technology gave a presentation on cybersecurity and the steps that IT is taking to protect the college. IT at EvCC is proactively researching and addressing cybersecurity threats and taking steps to help data stay secure. They provided information on phishing and how the messages are difficult for recipients to determine if they are valid. Google Workspace and Microsoft defense reports enables the IT department to prevent damage to the college systems. IT appreciates vigilant employees who notice these attempts and helps by contacting IT so they can assist in determining if they are valid or if steps need to be taken. Trustee Toraya Miller thanked Ed and Jose for the presentation and said the content was great. She asked about the college's backup plan and Ed explained there are plans in place. Ed also shared the social energy piece of this is amazing.

D. DEI Update: Dr. John Hudson, VP of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion gave an update on the projects the Division is working on and the plans for more work to be done to support the college. Faculty and Staff are attending conferences such as the ENCORE and the Staff of Color Conference. The Division is also seeking opportunities for staff and faculty to attend local conferences as well as providing resources for professional development. He highlighted the work that was done with the land and labor acknowledgement which is now presented at each EvCC Board meeting. Dr. Hudson and Division continue to develop sessions for the college for the

Beloved Community and is working with the college to continue to integrate equity in our hiring processes, which supports the Strategic Plan.

- **E. Enrollment, Retention and Completion Data:** I Dr. Cathy Leaker, VP of Instruction, Neal Parker, Executive Director of Institutional Research, and Laurie Franklin, VP of Student Services gave a robust presentation on enrollment, retention, and completion data. Neal stated that the college needs to transition to persistence, not just retention because its success for a student. He said it's worrisome to report out to the college about enrollment based on one indicator-it's a leadership change in how we look at things. Trustee Cobbs commented that the completion rates seem low. Data shows where we are now and where we want to be. Trustee Bolerjack said that the data for Snohomish County median income shows that Everett was the lowest city. Marketing needs to be intentional in that we reach out to the financial needs of Everett, not just Snohomish County as a whole, the stats and needs are very different.
- **F. Budget Development for FY 2024** Shelby Burke, VP of Finance said She was excited to share that the college had a balanced budget. She showed the stages of the budget process and the data which got the college to this stage. The board thanked Shelby for all the work she has done to help the college balanced budget. They recognized the extensive effort and work the Finance Division had done and it was not a simple task. They said it was exciting to have been able to get this point and applauded Shelby's work.

G. Adjournment

The chair announced that the Special Meeting would start at 7:05pm. The Study Session was adjourned at 7:00pm.

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Jerry Martin, Chair Board of Trustees Dr. Chemene Crawford, Secretary
Board of Trustees