



2000 Tower Street – Everett – Washington – 98201-1390

Board of Trustees

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The Board of Trustees of Everett Community College held a regular meeting on September 21, 2021 in the Jackson Conference Center. The meeting was also streamed live using Zoom.

Board Chair Toraya Miller called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Briefing by the President

Dr. Willis recognized and thanked the following people:

Derek Walker for the great work he did in making EvCC's 80th Anniversary video. The video was shared at the September Trojan Talk and on EvCC's social media.

Officer Nick Aldrich for his bravery and service to the campus and community. She read a letter from the BoT members and presented him with a plaque of appreciation.

Debbie Sarich for her service to PTK for five years. She was presented with a letter and pin from PTK for outstanding work and for being instrumental in student success.

The LRC Groundbreaking event team and all who made it a success. It was well attended and the college was blessed with good weather the day of the event and construction is already underway.

Mike Deller was thanked for his service to EvCC with this being his last meeting as a trustee. He was presented with a gift as a token of thanks for his many years of dedication to the EvCC Board. Mike shared that his dad started at college in the 50's and it is a family legacy. EvCC is in his blood and his dad will be here forever in spirit and forever honored by the naming of Deller Plaza. Mike praised the great team he worked with and shared that trustees do a lot for education. The Board Members shared that Mike had an oversight to budget, served on the audit committee and helped with the footprint on campus with greenspace and also served on congressional delegations. Mike has been stellar and was thanked for outstanding service and all echoed it was an honor and pleasure to serve with him.

Lastly Dr. Willis introduced the new board member Kelly Shepherd and shared her background and experience in the education field that will help support her role.

Roll call

Present for the meeting were Trustees, Toraya Miller, Bob Bolerjack, Jerry Martin, Mike Deller and Dr. Betty Cobbs. Also present were President Dr. Daria Willis, Executive Assistant to the President Rita Belvill, Assistant Attorney General Leanne Foster, Mike Bowers, Shelby Burke, Ronda Hansen, as well as students, faculty, staff, and administrators who joined in person and virtually to view the meeting via Livestream.

Reports from the Board

Board Retreat

Mike reported that Trimeka Benjamin kept the board on track and it was good for Strategic Planning. There is \$7,000,000 in assets and \$500,000 in scholarships-congrats to John and Cassandra. The Groundbreaking event was a huge success and great design. Betty shared that the retreat was excellent and Tremika Benjamin had great energy and did a great job acknowledging the differences of the students we serve.

Consent Agenda

MOTION 01-09-2021 Trustee Bob Bolerjack moved for approval of the minutes from the July 20, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting as presented. Trustee Mike Deller seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION 02-09-2021 Trustee Mike Deller moved for approval of the minutes from the August 21, 2021 Board of Trustees retreat as presented. Trustee Jerry Martin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

A. Review and take action on Covid-19 Health & Safety Policy

Joseph Whalen presented the policy.

MOTION 03-09-2021 Trustee Bob Bolerjack moved for approval of the minutes from the Covid-19 Health & Safety Policy. Trustee Mike Deller seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Board Comments

Huge shout out from Board Chair, Toraya Miller to Shelby and the budget office for doing an amazing job. Dr. Willis echoed the sentiment and gave high praises and appreciation to Shelby and her team for their great work during these unprecedented and challenging times. Mike Deller gave compliments to Shelby Burke and everyone who assisted with the budget process. He recognized EvCC for doing a great job with prudent fiscal management resulting in the college being in a better position than many other intuitions.

General Public Comments

There were no general public comments.

Reports to the Board

Exempt Union Representative

Kelsey Lindstrom was not in attendance.

Faculty Representative

Nina Benedetti talked about the importance of supporting faculty and hiring for positions, and these two items will help the college save money over time.

Faculty Senate Representative

Mike Nevins reported they are trying to fill 3 positions; shared governance is coming soon, and Mike is serving as a member of the Strategic Planning Team.

Classified Union Representative

Stephanie Doyle presented the results of the classified survey that was sent to staff and explained the importance of the survey to her bargaining unit.

Student Senate Representative

Baydaa Alshatee introduced the Student Senate Team and reported about fall events for students.

Student Success

A. Free & Low-Cost Housing –

Mike Bowers, Director of Student Housing gave an update to the Board.

- Student Housing has rolled out its inaugural Learning Community program, offering free housing to students registered full-time at EvCC.
- We're also working on a partnership with Housing Hope and Cocoon House that will provide free/reduced housing to unaccompanied homeless youth.
- Occupancy for the quarter is currently at 87%, which far exceeds last year's rates and is higher than most two-year colleges in the area

B. Student Debt –

Shelby Burke, Vice President of Finance, and Ronda Hansen, Director of Budget and Grants at EvCC, shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Board.

EvCC will be covering student's debt that was incurred during the pandemic by charging the funds to the institutional side of our federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) grant. We will be covering student debt from Spring of 2020 through Summer of 2021. The debt is worth approximately \$1.2 million

She explained why the college is covering the debt, and the benefits to the students and the college from relieving this debt.

This will help:

- Eliminates barriers for students
- Recapture lost tuition revenue for the college
- Clean up student accounts
- Could boost enrollment

Executive Session

At 6:20 p.m., Board Chair Toraya Miller thanked everyone for coming and shared the Board will convene into an Executive Session to review personnel matters. She shared that the Executive Session will end at 7:20 p.m. No action will be taken. The Regular Board Meeting will reconvene following the executive session.

At 7:20 Board Chair Toraya Miller reconvened the Regular Meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Board Chair Toraya Miller at 7:20 p.m.

Toraya Miller

Toraya Miller, Chair
Board of Trustees


Daria Willis (Dec 3, 2021 13:52 PST)

Daria J. Willis, Secretary
Board of Trustees