



**Yakima Campus**

S. 16th Avenue & Nob Hill Boulevard, PO Box 22520, Yakima, WA 98907-2520

P: 509.574.6800 • [www.yvcc.edu](http://www.yvcc.edu)

**MINUTES**

SPECIAL MEETING/STUDY SESSION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

YAKIMA VALLEY COLLEGE

November 10, 4:00 p.m.

West Campus Conference Center 038-122, Meeting Room D

1704 W. Nob Hill Blvd, Yakima WA

**A. Clery Report**

Mr. Michael Lane, Security Supervisor, presented an overview of the history of the Clery Act and explained YVC's obligation to make timely warning to the campus community about crimes that pose a threat to students and employees. He discussed the expansion of responsibilities as it relates to fire safety, alarm testing and a documented case of arson on the Yakima Campus. A complete copy of the report can be found at <https://www.yvcc.edu/Annual-Security-Fire-Report.pdf>

**MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING

YAKIMA VALLEY COLLEGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

November 10, 4:30 p.m.

West Campus Conference Center 038-122, Meeting Room D

1704 W. Nob Hill Blvd, Yakima WA

**A. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests and New Employees**

**Board of Trustees Present**

Cus Arteaga, Chair  
Patrick Baldoz, Trustee  
Dr. Sara Cate, Trustee  
Neil McClure, Trustee

Dr. Linda Kaminski

**Trustees Absent**

Bertha Ortega, Vice Chair (excused)

**Others Present**

YVC Students  
YVC Faculty & Staff

**Introduction of Guests and New Employees.** Alma Ramirez indicated there were no new employees or guests to introduce.

**B. Proposed Changes to the Agenda.** There were no changes to the agenda.

**C. Approval of Minutes:** Trustee Baldoz noted one correction of his title on page one of the draft minutes for October 13, 2022. That correction was made. Trustee McClure moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 12, 2022 be approved. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cate and passed unanimously.

**D. Action Items:**

**1. Exceptional Faculty Awards:**

Dr. Jennifer Ernst, stated that the Washington State Legislature under RCW 28B.50.835 authorized an exceptional faculty award program to “foster partnerships by creating matching grant programs to assist public community and technical colleges in creating endowments for funding exceptional faculty awards.” In 1992, Yakima Valley College and the YVC Foundation agreed to participate in the program for exceptional faculty. In 2001, in accordance with RCW 28B.50.843, the college negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with the faculty union regarding the process for determining local awards from the Exceptional Faculty Awards fund invested by the YVC Foundation. The MOU reflected the division structure in place at that time. The faculty union executive board and the college have agreed on a Faculty Development Committee that reflects the current division structure. The committee is composed of one dean, one Arts & Sciences faculty, one Workforce Education faculty, one College and Career Readiness faculty, one faculty counselor, and one librarian. This committee has received and reviewed ten (10) faculty proposals for fall 2022. The recommendation is provided in the document submitted today for the board’s approval.

MOTION 22-11-01: Trustee McClure moved that the Board of Trustees adopt a motion to approve the recommended award amounts to the recipients as submitted by the Faculty Development Committee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Cate and passed unanimously.

**E. Communications:** There were no communications.

**F. Reports**

- 1. Board of Trustees.** Trustee Cate discussed attending the memorial night for Wendy Baker, \$25,000 was raised for the nursing scholarship fund. Trustee Cate discussed her roll on the committee for selecting this year’s transforming lives awardees. Trustee Baldoz mentioned that he met with Senator King and let him know that YVC could use more funding for running start. Chair Arteaga mentioned that the freeway sign still says Yakima Valley “Community” College. Dr. Rich indicated that those signs are managed by Department of Transportation; they changed some signs but not all. Unless the college wants to spend a lot of money for replacement signs, we will have to wait for DOT to change them.
- 2. Students:** Victoria Cardenas, YSC President introduced herself to the Board and discussed her history with YVC; he is a running start student from Toppenish. She hopes to graduate this spring with her diploma and AA. Abigail Moran YSC Programmer introduced herself to the Board and discussed some of her history with YVC; she is also a running start student with Granger High School. Dr. Kaminski indicated that Abigail was at both of the recent legislative meetings. She asked Abigail to share some of her experiences during those meetings. Abigail indicated it was an amazing experience. Dr. Kaminski indicated that the legislators were very impressed with all our students who participated. Chair Arteaga said it has been the wish of the Board to have more of our students included in these meeting with our legislators. Victoria shared some of their past events. A copy of the written report is filed with these minutes in the president’s office.
- 3. Classified Staff.** Michelle Perry, WPEA Representative, thanked classified staff for the 100% approval of their contract. Bargaining was a little different this year with all new members on the bargaining team this year. Mentioned a couple concerns with the contract, about professional development and the removal of \$3000 from the contract. Did think it needed to be in our contract because the college community values the training. Still have concerns, some classified staff who did not work from home; they were here keeping college running and clean. They did not feel like they got the recognition for keeping the doors open and grounds cleaned during COVID. Reiterated that WPEA stands with the other bargaining groups and support a fair contract with them and asks Board to respect our workers.

4. **Professional Staff** – Ms. Hillary Emerson, AFT-YPS Professional Representative. Stated they have been assigned a mediator for their mediation process. Working on scheduling those meetings. Look forward to working with Ms. Ramirez on this and get to a quick resolution for an equitable contract for their members.
5. **Faculty** – Ms. Rachel Dorn, AFT-Y Yakima President. AFT-Y is still waiting to hear a response from the Board that were raised at the last meeting. Faculty are frustrated with frequent pay errors, missing contracts, lack of communication regarding promotions. Frustrated with delays. Had a productive meeting today with Ms. Ramirez and VP Rich, the communication is very much appreciated. Some of the issues pre-dated ctcLink, in the interim asking for better communication. Hiring is a problem, but problems get worse with staffing shortages. Rachel indicated AFT-Y has consistently been asking for timely and honest communication for the good of the college. Faculty have concerns that YVC is hiding or not paying attention to concerns about racial equity on campus and college not publishing or discussing the results of the Hanover Survey. Process for selecting the DEI leadership should be open and transparent and informed by DEI leaders on campus.
6. **Vice President for Administrative Services** – Dr. Teresa Rich provided an update on ctcLink. The college has been deployed for six months and things are coming along, one thing that is important is to focus on process. We have changed how we do business and how we get things done. Processes have changed; it is an awareness and focus of the administration that communication is important. It is not just the administrative support processes, its student services. It's a complete institutional change and that takes time. Started working on financial statements for this year. When we converted our financial data to ctcLink they said it would be easier but it is not easier. Hope to have it done by December 1<sup>st</sup>, so we can start our audit the middle of December.
7. **Vice President for Instruction and Student Services** – Dr. Jennifer Ernst introduced Jeremy Buegge who is presenting his sabbatical report.

**Sabbatical Report**, Jeremy Buegge, presented a report on his sabbatical. Students are learning differently, not just looking at books. Explored having more lectures online, so class time can be more active. Traditional textbooks are written for academics but students are not the same, they are wired differently. Explored re-doing the whole class, going without textbook but students were not interested in that. With student input came up with a new textbook a lot of YouTube videos and a different approach going through different areas of study. Guiding principals were; ideas come first. Made 54 lecture videos that go along with the textbook. Trustee Cate asked if the students seemed more engaged, Jeremy indicated that yes, they seem more engaged in the class but it is hard to measure. The final exam will be a good indicator.

**Student Services Division Report**, Dean Blackaby presented her report to the Board. She indicated that student services has seen triple the requests for most services. The emergency fund is funded by the Foundation and we are indebted to them. In addition to increase of requests for face-to-face student services, there are still many request for services via zoom. Trying to find the right balance, what our new service modalities will look like. We still have in-person services and seeing all the student has been great. During pandemic saw a decline in student participation while everything was remote. Adding new study center for TRIO participants. Have in-person services on both campuses. The number of clubs has doubled since last year. It has been exciting, will bolster their academic success. Hillary and her team have been very busy, turned presentation over to Hillary. Hillary indicated transitioning back to in person services. Did most advising for winter quarter in person. Will be keeping some online services; CANVAS orientation materials and forms. Almost back to full capacity at all schools. Hillary went over some

statistical data for running start. Discussed a recent email from OSPI that opens funds for original three colleges, a dual credit fee subsidy pilot program. A copy of the written report is filed with these minutes in the president's office. Dr. Kaminski mentioned that two of the three students who attended the legislative meetings were running start students and that Hillary would have been proud of them.

Dr. Ernst shared a few updates; we did have an accreditation visit with NWCCU. We received verbal feedback and they were impressed with our progress in several areas; program learning outcomes in our curriculum and that program review process is led by faculty for faculty they found it was responsive to faculty needs. Thought our strategic plan process was innovative and inclusive. They gave YVC lots of helpful advice. They encourage us to continue to close the loop on program review progress and strategic planning process. Dr. Ernst shared some award winning art projects created by YVC CAMP students. Also had a STEM roundtable with Senator Cantwell on campus. Thanked Dustin for pulling this together on short notice and thanked all the participants.

8. **President** – Chair Arteaga wanted to share with the Board that he had the privilege to sit with Dr. Kaminski as she addressed Senator King and Representative Chandler. Was impressed with the passion and energy she brought to this meeting, they were engaged in the communication, the president continues to plant seeds of opportunity by sharing information about our operating budgets, information about being provided fully funded competitive compensation, advanced equity, diversity and inclusion, and needed support workforce development programs. Did not want that to go unnoticed.

**Community Relations Report** – Mr. Dustin Wunderlich, Director of Community Relations, discussed Senator Cantwell's visit. He thanked everyone who participated in the roundtable. Senator's staff praised about how it went and how some of their staff were interested in reaching out to some of our students. Senator talked to some of our students about their research posters and projects. KNDO covered the visit and a reporter from the Yakima Herald was present and followed up with Cristy Rasmussen in a Q&A about supporting STEM students. The fall edition of the YVC magazine will be coming out. A copy of the written report is filed with these minutes in the president's office.

**Human Resource Activity Report** – Written report is file with these minutes in the president's office.

**President's Report** – 1) Introduced Alma Ramirez to the Board as the Interim Director of Human Resources. A national search for the position will be posted immediately. 2) Thanked Chair Arteaga for attending the recent legislative meeting. 3) Dr. Kaminski and Trustee Ortega attended a meeting at Heritage University with other independent colleges, State Board, and universities about transfers. How to get community colleges to transfer to the independent colleges. The student speaker spoke a lot about his positive experiences with YVC. 4) Marc Coomer received a JSP grant from the state board for a partnership with the Yakama Forest Products for training. 5) Received an email that the state board is increasing our correction education grant. 6) Dr. Sund with Heritage has a new VP for instruction and he wanted Dr. Ernst to meet her, so an introduction luncheon has been scheduled. 7) Shared the story and photo of YVC's Transforming Lives nominee. 8) Meeting on Monday at Big Bend Community College on Tribal Relations, Dr. Ernst and Trustee Baldoz will be attending. 9) On November 29<sup>th</sup> virtual meeting on mental health pilots so they can discuss what they learned through this pilot program.



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**G. Call to the Public** – No one present expressed a desire to address the Board.

**H. Date of Next Meeting**— The next meeting will be Thursday, January 12, 2023.

**I. Executive Session** – No executive session was called.

**J. Action Items.** N/A

**K. Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

CUS ARTEAGA

Cus Arteaga, Chair

LINDA KAMINSKI

Attest: Linda Kaminski, Secretary