

Governing Board Pass Resolutions to Support Proposition 30 and Oppose Proposition 32

At their September 12, 2012, meeting, the Governing Board passed resolutions to support Proposition 30 – Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act, and oppose Proposition 32 – Prohibition on Political Contributions by Payroll Deduction and on Contributions to Candidates.

Proposition 30 would temporarily increase the state sales tax by 0.25% and the marginal personal income tax rate for individuals earning over \$250,000 and households earning over \$500,000 and dedicate the funds to K-12 schools and community colleges.

Should Proposition 30 not pass, the District would experience an immediate mid-year cut of

approximately \$9.2 million, equating to about 400 course sections.

Proposition 32 would prohibit political contributions from corporations and unions but not from partnerships, including private equity firms, and wealthy individuals.

The Governing Board agreed with the argument that Proposition 32 is unfair and would interfere with the ability for community college supporters to communicate with voters about important issues such as the need for general obligation bonds and parcel taxes.

To review the approved resolutions, visit the District website at www.4cd.edu.

Highlights:

- Governing Board Pass Resolutions to Support Proposition 30 and Oppose Proposition 32
- Chancellor Chats Scheduled
- Five State of the District Meetings Held
- District Welcomes New Employees
- August and September 2012 Cabinet Highlights
- District Awarded \$14.9 Million TAA Grant
- State Vice Chancellor Visits District
- Chancellor Receives NCMPR Region 6 Pacesetter Award
- September 2012 Board Report

Chancellor Chats Scheduled

Have an idea to help close the achievement gap? Do you have a suggestion on how the District can save money? Concerned about the student impact resulting from recent budget decisions? Want to stop in and just say hello?

Chancellor **Helen Benjamin** is coming to your campus soon for her annual “Chancellor Chats” that gives employees the chance to ask questions and talk about issues that are important to them. This is a great opportunity to speak with her on an informal basis, so mark your calendar and stop by for a visit and say hello. To schedule an appointment at any of the locations, contact **Carol Bluitt** at extension 8-6973, or 1-6973.



Chancellor Helen Benjamin

Date	Location	Room	Time
10/30/2012	CCC	Student Services Center Conference Room B	12:30-2:30 pm
11/7/2012	DVC	Trophy Room	3:00-5:00 pm
11/8/2012	LMC	Room 409	1:00-3:00 pm
11/13/2012	DO	Chancellor's Office	3:00-4:30 pm
11/28/2012	San Ramon	W-204	2:30-4:30 pm
12/05/2012	Brentwood	C-1	2:00-4:00 pm



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Your comments and suggestions are welcome. E-mail the Communications and Community Relations Office at info@4cd.edu.

Five State of the District Meetings Held

The Governing Board held State of the District meetings last month at each of the three college locations and two centers to talk with community leaders about the challenges we face, and to hear about issues important to them.

Each meeting was attended by at least one Governing Board member, and featured a presentation that included community college information on a state and national level, the District's fiscal realities, and what we are doing to minimize the impact of reduced funding on student success such as the Measure A parcel tax that will be on the November 6, 2012, ballot.



Governing Board vice president Sheila Grilli greeted attendees at the State of the District meeting held in the LMC Library Community Room.

District Welcomes New Employees

Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in September.

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Linda Johnson	Office Assistant II
CCC	Joel Nickelson-Shanks	Instructional Assistant
CCC	Charles Ramirez	Instructional Assistant
DVC	Newin Orante	Vice President
LMC	Jennifer Adams	Senior Executive Assistant

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the August 2012 Chancellor's Cabinet meetings, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/August%202012.pdf

To review highlights of the September 2012 Chancellor's Cabinet meetings, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/September%202012.pdf

District Awarded \$14.9 Million TAA Grant

The District received great news on September 19, 2012, when it was selected to receive a \$14.9 million consortium grant from the Departments of Labor and Education. Written by District dean of workforce and economic development **Randy Tillery**, the grant is being awarded for a collaborative new program designed by the community colleges. Called “Design it – Build it – Ship it” (DBS), the program is a regional workforce initiative for TAA-eligible, dislocated workers or unemployed adults who will be able to earn degrees or credentials to enter the workforce in advanced manufacturing, logistics and engineering.

The funding comes from a competitive \$2 billion grant program Congressman George Miller, a DVC graduate, passed in 2010 to bolster community colleges across the country and support job training and workforce development opportunities.

“This grant is a ‘win’ for bay area workers and students,” said Miller. “Middle class people who are looking for jobs can develop a new career path by taking advantage of this innovative education and job training service. When American workers can go back to school, get more education, and get on a career path, we know they can succeed and have a better opportunity of achieving the American dream for them and for their families. I have always strongly believed that community colleges play a critical role for millions of Americans who want success on the job and success for our country.

“We are honored to be selected for this grant and thank Congressman Miller for his leadership in creating the program,” said chancellor **Helen Benjamin** of the announcement. “We must think and act differently if we are to be successful in managing the fiscal challenges we face while trying to increase the number of students graduating with certificates and degrees. This grant validates our thinking that we must work closer with every public education system in our community, and become more efficient in engaging our community partners so unemployed and under employed workers can obtain good paying jobs.”

“This application builds upon unprecedented regional collaboration and collaborative investments by the community colleges, workforce boards, and our partners” said Tillery. “This includes the successful East Bay Career Advancement Academy initiative which is a regional career path training system operated jointly by the Contra Costa and Peralta College Districts targeting low income adults entering Career training programs but who assess 1-3 levels below college readiness in math and English. By working collectively, we are able to realize systemic change that allows us to build stronger regional partnerships and better serve both our students and regional industry.”

The competitive federal grant program, known as Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant program (TAACCT), was one of several initiatives passed by Miller in 2010 as part of the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act (SAFRA). Miller’s bill increased investment in community colleges and career paths for middle class Americans, and added \$2 billion to the TAACCT competitive grant program for community colleges that partner with businesses to expand and improve education and career training programs that can be completed in two years or less. SAFRA was included in the health care reconciliation bill that passed on March 21, 2010 by a vote of 220-211 and signed into law on March 30, 2010.

For more details on the grant, visit the District website at www.4cd.edu.

The Contra Costa Community College District, founded in 1948 and governed by a publicly elected five-member board, is one of the largest multi-college community college districts in California. The mission of the District is to attract and transform students and communities by providing accessible, innovative and outstanding higher education learning opportunities and support services.

State Vice Chancellor Visits the District

State vice chancellor of economic and workforce development Van Ton-Quinliven and California Workforce Investment Board director Tim Rainey conducted a town hall meeting on September 18, 2012, to discuss ways to spur job creation and bridge the skills gap. Over 80 East Bay attendees from community colleges, workforce boards, community agencies, and employers came to the District Office to help community college workforce training programs be even more responsive to California's regional economies.

The vice chancellor and WIB director also shared new developments for how the State workforce agencies and State Chancellor's Office are working together to help support regional efforts better align workforce programs with industry in our region.

"The East Bay was selected for this event because of the strong regional planning around workforce development and education," says District dean of workforce and economic development **Randy Tillery**. "Using this regional paradigm, the District has been successful in obtaining a grant to support the East Bay Career Advancement Academies, led by Contra Costa Community College District in partnership with the Peralta Colleges, and a Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College Career Training grant offered by the Departments of Labor and Education (see previous story).

Following completion of the critical conversations, Ton-Quinliven will produce a report that will hopefully guide community colleges to become essential catalysts to California's economic recovery and job creation at the local, regional and state levels. For more information on the critical conversations visit the State Chancellor's website by clicking on the following link: <http://doingwhatmatters.cccco.edu/Events/CriticalConversations.aspx#October>.



State vice chancellor of economic and workforce development Van Ton-Quinliven conducts one of 12 "critical conversations" at the District Office Board Room.

Chancellor Receives NCMPR Region 6 Pacesetter Award

Chancellor Helen Benjamin was recognized by the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations (NCMPR) Region 6 as their Pacesetter Award winner. The honor was bestowed on the chancellor at the organization's region conference held in September 2012.

The award is presented to a community college president or CEO who has demonstrated special leadership and support in marketing and public relations. Upon being selected as the Region 6 Pacesetter, the chancellor automatically will be considered for the national Pacesetter award which will be selected at the organization's national conference in March 2013.

"I am honored to receive this recognition from NCMPR," says chancellor Benjamin. "The student and community perception of our district does not fall just on my shoulders. Each employee makes a contribution to our reputation with every interaction we have with students and the community, so I accept this honor on behalf of every employee of the District."



Chancellor Helen Benjamin receives the NCMPR Region 6 Pacesetter award from region director Amber Chiang.

The District also received recognition at the conference when LMC's marketing department was presented with eight Medallion awards for excellence in marketing and public relations work. The LMC marketing team of **Barbara Cella**, **Eloine Chapman**, and **John Schall** are particularly proud of their gold awards: one for the LMC website (entirely rebuilt in-house over the course of two years), and another for large format graphics supporting student transfer and brightening up the concrete walls of LMC's College Complex. For the entire list of region Medallion winners, click on the following link: http://www.ncmpr.org/cp/uploads/D6_fall_12_conf_Medallion_winners.pdf.

NCMPR is the only national organization of its kind that represents marketing and PR professionals at community and technical colleges, and is an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges, the primary advocacy organization for the nation's community colleges.

Board Report

To review the highlights of the September 12, 2012, Governing Board meeting, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/September%2012,%202012.pdf