
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Coast Community College District
Special Meeting of the Legislative Affairs Committee
Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.
Board Conference Room
1370 Adams Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Trustees Present: Trustee Patterson (via phone) and Trustee Prinsky
Trustees Absent: None

In Attendance: Dr. John Weispfenning, Chancellor; Dr. Andreea Serban, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Technology; Dr. Andy Dunn, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administrative Services; Dr. Marco Baeza, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources; Dr. Miles Nevin, Director Chancellor's Office Operations and Projects; Michael Scott, Director of Adult Education Program; Austin Webster, Townsend Public Affairs Senior Associate; Jane Burton, Manager, Board Support Services/Board Secretary.

Also in attendance: Laura Kroeger, Townsend Public Affairs Associate, participated through teleconference.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no requests to address the Legislative Affairs Committee during Public Comment

4. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Affairs Committee

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to appoint Trustee Patterson as Chair and Trustee Prinsky as Vice Chair of the Committee.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye: Trustee Patterson and Trustee Prinsky
No: None
Absent: None

5. Approval of Minutes: Meeting of September 6, 2018

On a motion by Trustee Prinsky, seconded by Trustee Patterson, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 6, 2018 as amended.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye:	Trustee Patterson and Trustee Prinsky
No:	None
Absent:	None

6. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action in Preparation for New Legislative Sessions

Mr. Webster reported the following in regards to preparation for new legislative sessions:

- The state legislature returned on January 7, 2019 and were primarily working on organizational tasks, full staff would be in place the beginning of February 2019.
- No committees were scheduled as of yet for policy hearings.
- The Budget Committee would start meeting shortly.
- There had not been many bills introduced yet; legislature had until January 25, 2019 to get their ideas into the counsel's office and they did not have to physically introduce bills until February 22, 2019.
- Mid-February there would be a major push of legislation introduced.
- On a Federal level new congress was seated on January 3rd and had been in shut down since then.
- Ms. Kroeger reported things were going similar to state updates, not quite efficient on committee assignments as those were still being rolled out little by little.
- Harley Rouda on Transportation and Infrastructure.
- Katie Porter on Financial Services.
- Gil and Mike Leven on Veterans Affairs.
- Newly renamed Education and Labor Committee, which was no longer Education of Workforce.
- Legislators were taking time to rewrite and make any changes to bills that might have died at the end of last year.
- Department of Education's plans on Accreditation – Ms. Kroeger reported that it was expected to be only an administration action, which would come out as a proposed rule. Congress would have an opportunity to respond. They started yesterday with negotiations, ongoing through tomorrow, something should come out in the next couple weeks.

- Chancellor Weispfenning reported on an article in *Inside Higher Ed* - one thing that had been proposed to require regional creditors to become more geographically similar because the North Central Association covers 19 states, the Western Association covers 2 states, and the proposal was that you must cover at least 3 states, no more than 6, to be a regional accreditor.

7. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on Federal Community College Legislation

Ms. Kroeger provided an update on Federal Community College Legislation.

- Expected to see a lot more in the coming weeks, especially from the freshman who want to start putting their policies out there.
- Many were running on education and more specifically higher education policy; Kate Porter was one of them.
- Right now the biggest thing expected from the House was the Higher Education Act Reauthorization bill from the Democrats; it would probably look similar to what we saw last year. They are making it very specific, making sure it's ready for reintroduction; new chairman Bobby Scott from Virginia. Ms. Kroeger indicated she would send details when available. Expected to be different from the Prosper Act, the Higher Education Act Reauthorization, that we were following last year introduced by the Republicans when they were the majority. Also expect to see a redirection of the Prosper Act, which would allow the IRS to share information more easily with FASFA Applicants – passed in the last few days of the 115th Congress, passed the Senate, but did not pass the House – they are in the process of reintroducing it. Lamar Alexander, Chair of the Health Committee

8. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on State Community College Legislation

Mr. Webster reported on the status of the following bills that were in the first week of December or early in this month. A lot of these pieces of legislation was still being reviewed by their committee staff and there would be minor tweaks between now and when policy hearings actually start up.

a. Support

- **AB 2 (Santiago D) Community Colleges: California College Promise:** makes statutory changes associated with the Governor's proposal for a second year of free community college
- **AB 6 (Reyes D) Early Childhood Education: Office of Early Childhood Education**
- **AB 30 (Holden D) Community Colleges: College and Career Access Pathways Partnerships**

- **AB 48 (O'Donnell D) Kindergarten-Community Colleges Public Education Facilities Bond of 2020 and 2022:** rolling two of them into one bill, trying to take a swing at the very large backlog of facility needs both on the K-12 side and community college side – would be good for everyone to keep in mind.
- **AB 130 (Low D) Postsecondary Education: Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability** is essentially the same measure as **SB 3 (Allen D) Office of Higher Education Coordination, Accountability, and Performance:** creating a higher education coordinating body. Assembly Member Low tried multiple times to get this reinstated, but Governor Brown vetoed it every time; it is widely anticipated that Governor Newsom would sign one of these two measures, Assuming the assembly bill is the one to pass.
- **AB 140 (Cervantes D) California Kickstart My Future Loan Forgiveness Program**
- **ACR 1 (Bonta D) Immigration: Public Charges**
- **SB 2 (Glazer D) Statewide Longitudinal Student Database**
- **SB 52 (Atkins D) The Cal Grant Program: Cal Grant C Awards:** expansion of the Cal Grant C Program, this is straightforward, moving the deadline to September 2nd to give students more time to apply for financial aid. This is part of a larger package that will be rolled out between the Senate and Assembly to dramatically expand Cal Grant offerings; the Governor's budget had funding to increase the number of competitive Cal Grants and also very dramatically expand Cal Grant C in terms of who's eligible for it and the amount of money that they can actually receive. This would be a very large benefit to our students.

9. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on Tutoring Bills

Mr. Webster reported on two tutoring bills last year, one by Assemblyman Irwin and one by Senator Wilke that would have allowed for more flexibility with the use of apportionment dollars to support tutoring efforts on campus; both of those bills wound up being held up in Appropriations for a variety of reasons. We had conversations about potentially sponsoring a similar measure this year. Mr. indicated we should have received a memo with new guidance on using those apportionment dollars for tutoring in the manner that we wanted to do so rather than run a bill. We were not anticipating any other challenges to that, but have assurances from Assemblyman Irwin's office that they would be willing to take that up in bill form again. There didn't appear to be anyone pushing back on additional flexibility with spending that money, so on that front no sponsored bill coming up this year.

10. Review, Discuss, and Possible Action on State Budget

Mr. Webster provided an update regarding the State Budget:

- Last week the Governor announced his California for All Budget, which in total in between the General fund, Special fund, and Bond money spending is \$209.1 billion; the largest state budget in history.

- Of that, \$36.4 billion was higher education related; \$1.4 billion up from last year.
- There was \$402 million in new and ongoing funding for the community college system; primarily accounting for a 3.4 % COLA.
- \$40 million for the second year of free community college.
- Governor proposed a one-time non-Prop 98 payment to STERS and PERS to help alleviate retirement costs on the employer side; numbers would be unclear until the budget detail came out. Initially, it was \$3 billion one time and then it was \$2 billion with \$700 million over the next two years.
- Increases in the number of competitive Cal Grants and eligibility and dollar range for Cal Grant C; would be a part of a much larger overhaul of financial aid that was going to be rolled out in the next couple of weeks by legislator leadership.
- Governor's Budget Proposal made some changes to the funding formula that clarified the student success portion of the funding; duplicated counts were not accepted, so if we have a student leave with 3 associates degrees, they would only count that student once.
- Putting a freeze on the formula itself – general apportionment was supposed to go down slightly as the student success pot went up a little bit; it would now be the same formula as this past year in order to give the legislature more time to evaluate how the formula is working within the system.
- Dr. Dunn reported concern on certain cuts in the budget; Mr. Webster explained that the budget was a mix of all the things the new administration wanted to do and what the old administration already put down on paper, between now and the May Revision there would be a lot of changes.
- Mr. Webster reported that they started scheduling for the Legislative Conference at the end of the month and the trip to DC.

11. Future Meeting Dates

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to hold the next meeting on March 7, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye:	Trustee Patterson and Trustee Prinsky
No:	None
Absent:	None

12. Future Agenda Items

- Revisit and introduce State Legislation and Federal Legislation
- Recap of both Sacramento and DC Conferences
- Governor's Budget Update

13. Adjourn

On a motion by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Prinsky, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Motion carried with the following vote:

Aye:	Trustee Patterson and Trustee Prinsky
No:	None
Absent:	None



Secretary of the Board