

ISOTHERMAL

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FEBRUARY 04, 2025

The Board of Trustees of Isothermal Community College met on Tuesday, February 04, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at Isothermal Community College's Rutherford Campus in Spindale, NC. The following trustees were present: Michael Benfield, Amy Jenkins, David Scherping, Seema Daigle, James Hutchins, Grady Franklin, John Condrey, Eddie Holland, Tony Helton, and Bill Miller. The following personnel were present from the College: President Margaret Annunziata, DeeDee Barnard, Madeline Smith, Greg Thomas, Robby Walters, and Thad Harrill. Dean Shatley of Campbell Shatley and Marche Pittman from the Board of Trustees attended via Zoom.

Chairman James Hutchins called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Ethics Statement

Mr. Bill Miller asked Board members if they knew of any actual conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest which exists concerning any matter coming before the Board of Trustees. No conflicts were noted.

Agenda Confirmation

Chairman Hutchins presented the agenda. The agenda was confirmed by consensus.

Trustee Items

Mr. John Condrey made a motion to approve the policies from Section Five – Student Affairs section. Mr. Grady Franklin seconded the motion. After discussion on the Clery Act that is part of Section Five, Mr. Shatley reviewed the Clery Act and stated that its main purpose is to require colleges to report any violent crimes on campus. Chairman Hutchins announced that the College has had no reported crimes on campus. Mr. Shatley discussed the low crime rate on NC Community Colleges campuses versus larger universities. The motion to approve the policies from section five Student Affairs was unanimously approved.

Chairman Hutchins reviewed the upcoming events on campus. He informed the Board of Trustees that when Board Members attend conferences and events that they give a report to the full Board of Trustees at the following meeting.

Mr. Grady Franklin discussed his request that the College receive updated renderings from the architect firm for the Health & Sciences Center. Dr. Annunziata presented a video of the facility interior from the design firm. The renderings in the video detail an open environment for easy access to student areas and offices. The Board of Trustees discussed the color scheme of the

interior. There are twelve individuals from the design team with Dr. Madeline Smith and Dr. Margaret Annunziata collaborating on the design. When programming is discussed during the design phase, Dr. Annunziata announced that faculty and staff from the programming areas are involved with the design. The Board of Trustees reviewed the types of spaces housed in the new facility with four lecture classrooms with majority of the space dedicated to lab space. In addition, the Board of Trustees discussed the office areas for faculty and students. Dr. Annunziata discussed the need for flexible space for faculty and/or students who may collaborate in group settings. Dr. Annunziata informed the Board that the facility will have an elevator that is large enough for moving equipment like the equipment in a medical center, i.e., hospital bed. She reviewed the simulation labs with adjourning control rooms that control the simulation mannequins and equipment to assist the students with real-life firsthand learning. The Board of Trustees discussed the technology that will be involved with the facility. Dr. Annunziata announced that once accredited, the nursing program will be able to use the facility for 50% of the clinical requirement for the nursing program. The simulation labs will be interchangeable to different medical situations – pediatrics to a lifesaving trauma unit.

Dr. Annunziata reviewed the nursing degrees offered through Isothermal Community College with an associate degree nursing as the highest degree, licensed practical nursing, and certified nursing assistant program. The Board discussed the number of nursing students and the history around training nurses in a clinical setting. Dr. Greg Thomas announced that the College has between 100 -120 per year in the higher nursing programs with around forty in the licensed practical nursing program. He announced that there are about sixty students per year in the certified nursing program. He informed the Board that Isothermal has agreements with universities for our students to transfer easily into baccalaureate nursing programs. He also discussed the ability to achieve accreditation with a national nursing standard that will allow career tracks in a veteran hospital setting once the facility opens. This accreditation will also reduce the time students spend in clinicals and allow the expansion into other healthcare programs from Isothermal. Dr. Annunziata discussed the capacity limitations with the NC Board of Nursing and that the College will be able to double the capacity of programming with the new facility. In addition, she discussed how the facility will allow the College to meet the workforce demand in the industry and the expansion of faculty for the facility. She discussed the education level with the nursing faculty at a master's degree level.

Mr. Helton discussed and requested a maximum number of students that the facility will allow with programming. In addition, the Board discussed the increase in workforce with the new facility.

The meeting adjourned by consensus.


CHAIRMAN
MR. JAMES HUTCHINS


PARLIAMENTARIAN/SECRETARY
MRS. JACKIE GODLOCK