

MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Board Retreat – Session 779

A Board Retreat of the Mt. Hood Community College District Board of Education was held on January 19, 2008 beginning with executive session at 8:38 a.m. and workshop session at 9:00 a.m. at the Four Points Sheraton Portland East, Portland, Oregon.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Chair Duke Shepard called the executive session to order at 8:38 a.m. in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (a) to consider employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.
- 1.2 Board members present: Brian Freeman; Rod Monroe; Bob Morris; Beverly Russell; Duke Shepard; Dave Shields; and Ralph Yates.
- 1.3 Staff present: June Jacobs; Gary Murph
- 1.4 Chair Shepard recessed to the workshop session

2. WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

- 2.1 Chair Shepard reconvened to the workshop session, and the agenda was approved without objection.

Board members present: Brian Freeman; Rod Monroe; Bob Morris; Beverly Russell; Duke Shepard; Dave Shields; and Ralph Yates.

Staff present: Gary DeRoest; June Jacobs; Gary Murph; Nancy Szofran; and Mike Wolfe.

Guests present: David Longanecker and Dennis Nelson, Facilitators.

- 2.2 Gary Murph and Mike Wolfe presented a facilities update, which included a capital investment proposal and information regarding issuance of Full Faith & Credit Obligations in the amount of \$5.5 million to match the State funds for design and construction of the Child Development Center and replacement of the roof on the Main Academic Center. Assumptions presented were that the average annual amount

allocated to capital improvements has been approximately \$2m over the past five years; material costs will continue to escalate; and that the college has maintained an appropriate level of debt financing to meet various needs in the past (2001 and 2004 debt issues). A recommended action for the Board to consider would include completing the entire Main Academic Center roof as one project in 2008; maintaining the current debt service schedules for 2001 and 2004 issues; increasing the debt load by approximately \$5.5 million (\$2.5m for the Child Development Center and \$3m for the Main Academic Center re-roofing project); and maintaining the \$2m annual allocation to physical plant maintenance (debt service and general fund transfer). The Board will consider this at a future board meeting. Mike Wolfe also presented information about the possibility of future public/private partnerships which could result in redevelopment of the entire main campus property. The Board concurred that administration should explore this further with developers as long as there was no cost to the college and no commitment made.

- 2.3 Chair Shepard led a review of the Board Self Evaluation. A suggestion was made to have additional dinner meetings and workshop sessions in order to have more time to discuss projects before they are brought to the Board for approval. The Facilitators, Dennis Jones, President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) and David Longanecker, President, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), were introduced and led a discussion and review of the Carver Model of Board Governance. The facilitators then presented information on local, regional and national trends in education, particularly relating to enrollment. Oregon is average in most areas compared to the other states and is a low producer of graduates but a high importer. The state's system of higher education produces too few graduates to meet employer demand. The fact that the state is "average" on so many measures makes it hard to create a sense of urgency that can drive change and improvement. The nature of the economy is such that the economic value of having a college degree is less in Oregon than in most other states. There is evidence that the state is moving toward an economy characterized by jobs that require lower skills and pay lower wages. There is a changing demographic and the college may need to change in order to accurately meet the needs of the students. It is important for the college to know how it is doing with different populations and where successes with students are currently before changing anything. The facilitators suggested possibly visiting a "best-in-practice" institution outside of Oregon. Contact names

suggested were: Earl Hale in Olympia (Bridges to Opportunity); Sinclair Community College, Dayton, Ohio; Kay McClenney, University of Texas; Katherine Bosworth; and Keith Bird, Kentucky Community and Technical College System. The facilitators suggested finding out where the college needs to be in order to be more successful and then set goals to get there. Rod Monroe left the meeting after lunch.

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Clerk

Board Chair

Recorded by June Jacobs