

LEHIGH CARBON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees

October 5, 2023

Volume 59

The scheduled regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Lehigh Carbon Community College was held in a conventional manner with virtual access via a telecommunications device on Thursday, October 5, 2023. Public in-person access was available in the Nevin Earl Remaley Technology Center, Room TC203, on the Schnecksville Campus, PA. Mr. David Krause, Board Chair, convened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Mr. Daniel C. Bosket	Mr. David L. Krause
Mr. Samuel P. DeFrank	Ms. Audrey L. Larvey
Mr. William P. Fonzone, Sr.	Mr. Paul R. McArdle, Jr.
Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr.	Mr. William Miracle
Mr. David J. Hein	Mr. Kenneth H. Mohr, Jr.
Dr. Barbara C. Kistler	Mr. Scott R. Pompa
Mr. Matthew T. Korp	Mrs. Ann L. Thompson

Staff Present:

Dr. Ann D. Bieber, President
Mr. Mark Case, Project Director, Mobile Science and Education
Ms. Ann C. Conte, Office Assistant to the President's Office and Board of Trustees
Dr. Cindy Haney, Vice President for Enrollment Management
Mr. Joshua Mitchell, Chief Information Officer
Ms. Stefanie Nester, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services
Ms. Larissa Verta, Vice President for Academic Services and Student Support
Dr. Melanie Turrano, Professor of English

Counsel Present:

Attorney Jerome B. Frank

Press Present:

None.

Others Present:

None.

Members of Public Present:

None.

Public Comment –
Agenda Items

None.

Minutes of
September 7, 2023

On a motion by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Miracle, the minutes of the September 7, 2023 LCCC Board of Trustees meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Trustee William Miracle, Treasurer, provided the Treasurer's Report as listed below:

Cash Balance 8/01/23	\$37,886,141.00
Receipts	<u>+3,071,834.00</u>
Total	\$40,957,975.00
Disbursed	<u>-4,793,021.00</u>
Cash Balance 8/31/23	<u>\$36,164,954.00</u>

President's Report

Dr. Bieber reported the Deputy Secretary of Education, Dr. Kate Shaw, recently reached out to Dr. Stan Sidor, President for the PA Commission for Community Colleges (PACCC), requesting a meeting with all of the community college presidents. The purpose of the meeting was to gain input and to inform the Governor that all had participated and provided thoughtful input on the higher education sector. Dr. Shaw will meet with all sectors in order to learn their best thinking to advance the economic well-being of the Commonwealth. Dr. Bieber, along with Dr. Tuesday Stanley, President, Westmoreland County Community College, requested that Dr. Shaw put in writing the outcomes she wished to achieve in order to prepare/brief the other presidents. Dr. Shaw stated it is her job to help the Governor understand how each sector functions and how to best position them to meet the needs of the State. She further explained that it will not be revenue neutral; the goal is to strengthen the entire sector and find ways to lift everyone up with honest conversations about the current status of the sector from resources, to political position, to the workforce position, and how could local investment change. If there is no desire for change, that will hurt the sector.

Dr. Bieber reported the presidents are working on a date to meet later in the month in order to prepare for the meeting and of course, some would prefer things stay the same. The conversations are moving fast; the Higher Education Task Force report is due to the Governor in December. Meetings were scheduled with the presidents in December with Dr. Shaw, but have since been canceled and rescheduled to after December. The conversations about how local investment could change are real-
-Dr. Shaw mentioned before that local sponsors have a lot of

power and on average contribute about 15% of an institution's budget--for the college it is closer to 11%. Dr. Bieber will continue to provide updates.

Dr. Haney reviewed the Enrollment Registration report for Week 5 of the Fall semester. Right now, the headcount is up about 5% due to Dual Enrollment registrations from the high schools. Credit hours are down 1.3%, however, there is some movement with about 600 additional credit registrations and these will show up in the numbers for next month.

Personnel,
Curriculum, and
Government
Relations
Committee
*LCCC Science in
Motion*

Dr. Kistler introduced Mr. Mark Case, Project Director, Mobile Science and Education, to provide an overview of the LCCC Science in Motion (SIM) program. Mr. Case has been in STEM education for about 30 years and is in charge of the Mobile Science in Motion program.

Mr. Case began work on this program in 2014 when Cedar Crest College decided it did not want to support the program. The college inherited all of the equipment and materials including a 2014 Ford van that had only 45,000 miles on it and continues to be used to this day.

The goal of the program is to provide outreach to students and teachers in the area, primarily in Lehigh and Carbon counties, as well as Schuylkill County. The program provides equipment, loans of sensors, and different types of instruments that allow students to collect and analyze all types of experimental data.

When the program first began, there were six labs ready to go out the door. Now, there are over 400 scaffolded labs partly due to the partnership with Vernier. Vernier has done scaffolding of their different experiments from the elementary to the high school level offering many options for teachers.

The program also provides mobile educators who will go out to teach and assist, acting as lab techs to help with the technology. Mr. Case is a mobile educator, as well as being the director of the program. Two new staff members, an assistant director and a mobile educator, were added to the program this year.

In response to the needs of the teachers, the program now offers consumable resources such as chemicals, and the different types of materials needed to collect and do hands-on science.

The program also adapted to changing situations and the needs of teachers. During Covid, a Canvas course was created and is still available on the website. Teachers were able to find experimental data to analyze with accompanying videos

providing teachers with the opportunity to see how the experiments would run. There are also programs such as the PhET Interactive Simulations that are free lessons and the program can also provide subscriptions to Pivot Interactives, which are high-speed videos that overlay with analysis of the data, such as a rocket taking off.

The website contains many different activities for teachers; there is equipment available as well as materials and it is up to the teachers to decide the level of support they need. The educators will go out and assist and sometimes there might be three or four classes but the teachers are made aware that it is a *co-teaching* experience. The program can also provide help with AP programs by providing the level of equipment needed for the specific required experiments. The program provides help with Science Clubs with robotic or rocketry experiments. The equipment list is huge, and the advantage is the equipment can also be shared with the college. The outreach for the program has expanded outside of Lehigh and Carbon Counties to Northampton County and the Bethlehem School District, where they would receive second priority for the equipment orders.

Some of the resources offered by the SIM Program are Investigating Temperature, Wind Energy, and Voltage; Robotics and Coding; Heart Rate and EKG testing. Solar energy is also significant and Bridge Design, which has always been a challenge. There are many different items available for students and for teachers to use and incorporate into the classroom.

SIM typically offered two workshops per year but with funding delays it has ended up being one per year usually with a soda bottle launch where many schools participate in a competition. During the past year, 22 different schools were served; 46 teachers; 57 different labs; and overall contact with over 6,000 students. The program supports the consortium at ten different sites with training or loaning of equipment. SIM also participated in the consortium meeting held this year at Juniata College and even though it was out of the region, it helps to make the SIM program a stronger group and contributes to the recognition of the program across the State.

Trustee Krause thanked Mr. Case for very informative and comprehensive review of the Science in Motion program.

The news from the Commission is the House is working to pass an education code bill. Representatives Peter Schweyer and Mary Isaacson are both working hard to include Dual Enrollment in the Omnibus School Code Bill. HB1434, directs State funds for dual enrollment, rather than being used to offset school district costs, be sent to the institutions of higher education to be used to expand dual enrollment offerings. The provision puts a focus on low income and minority students where costs have been historically prohibitive and the bill has the approval of the Governor's administration. Also included, are the provisions of HB1258, which would allow school districts to include dually enrolled students, who take courses at the college while still in high school, as a part of their average daily membership calculations.

Trustee Thompson commented that since the bill is so partisan, it is unlikely to become law, but there is hope for lobbying in the Senate to have the Dual Enrollment piece passed. The current major concern is the state dollars and how they will be distributed in the future, and right now there is no answer. The other idea is the centralized form of governance for community colleges, which Dr. Bieber has addressed at some length, and it makes sense for the presidents to meet to discuss these ideas in a united fashion. Trustee Thompson stated, "There is change coming, and this is the opportunity to define the kind of change there will be, but we can be certain some kind of change is coming."

Dr. Kistler noted the agenda for the September 18 committee meeting was light, and therefore there were no additional comments regarding the minutes.

A complete report of this committee can be found in its minutes of September 18, 2023.

Finance and
Facilities
Committee

Trustee Mohr reviewed this committee's minutes for September 18, 2023. The committee reviewed the CARES, CRRSA and ARP Act Update and the financial statements. The committee also received an overview of the Enrollment Management Plan year-end report. There were no resolutions for consideration.

A complete report of this committee can be found in its minutes of September 18, 2023.

Negotiations
Committee

No report.

Joint Coordinating
Committee

Trustee Larvey reported the committee would meet next on November 17.

LCCC Foundation

Dr. Kistler reported the Tony Boyle Golf Tournament was held Monday, October 2, at the Club at Twin Lakes and Trustees David Krause, Ken Mohr and Dr. Kistler attended. There were 115 golfers compared to 109 from the previous year and that number included the LCCC Golf Team. There were 47 corporate sponsors, compared to 38 last year, and three of the corporate sponsors have already committed for next year. The Club at Twin Lakes did an excellent job; the recently renovated facility was beautiful and the weather was great. Trustee Krause presented the Collegiate Award of Distinction to Mr. Buddy Lesavoy, whose wife and family attended as well.

Dr. Kistler reported there is currently an interim Executive Director, Nicole Rodriguez, who did an excellent job, and a permanent full-time administrative assistant has been hired.

Trustee Krause stated he was impressed with the fact that there were two to three sponsors per hole, which is amazing considering the goal is just to have every hole covered. The event is strong, and it will be interesting to see the outcome.

Old Business

None discussed.

New Business

None discussed.

Public Comment
Non-Agenda

None.

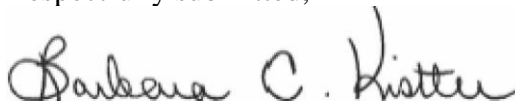
Announcements

Trustee Krause encouraged trustees who have relationships with local legislators to talk with them about the budget. Trustee Krause will be attending some campaign events to plug community colleges, school funding, and other issues as well.

Adjournment

Trustee Krause called for a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Barbara C. Kistler, Secretary
Board of Trustees
Lehigh Carbon Community College