

THE OFFICIAL MINUTES

The Big Bend Community College Board of Trustees held a special joint Board meeting with the Quincy School District Board of Directors on Thursday, March 19, 2009, 5:30 p.m. on the BBCC campus in the Hardin Community Room.

Call to Order

Chair Mike Blakely called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Present:	BBCC Trustees:	Staff:
	Mike Blakely, Chair	Bill Bonaudi, President
	Katherine Kenison	Mike Lang, Vice-President
	Felix Ramon Vice Chair	Holly Moos, Vice-President
		Gail Hamburg, Vice President
		Clyde Rasmussen, Dean
		Tim Fuhrman, Dean
		Rachel Anderson, Dean
		Doug Sly, Foundation Director
		Assoc. VP Candy Lacher
		Kara Garrett, Dean
		Valerie Kirkwood, Dean
		Russ Beard, Director of BBT
		Melinda Dourte, Exec Asst to the Pres
	Quincy School District	Staff:
	Board of Directors:	Chris McKnight, High School Principal
	Tricia Lubach, President	Rod Luce, Counselor
	Myrna Blakely, Vice President	
	Mike Scharbach	
	Lisa Mickelson	

President Bonaudi explained that this meeting was being streamed live on the internet and captured for access after the meeting too. Board Chair Trustee Blakely announced this is a special meeting with lots of conversation and friendship building but no business transacted. President Bonaudi introduced each BBCC person around the table. He also announced that the IBEST Commercial Driver License (CDL) Graduation was beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Masto Conference Center. BBCC is a great institution and a wonderful resource.

Tricia Lubach, Quincy Board President introduced the Quincy Board of Directors and staff. Trustee Mike Blakely encouraged the guests from Quincy to ask questions and share information. He also said he hoped to visit the IBEST Graduation Ceremony if time allows. The CDL Graduation provides an opportunity for graduates to share their successes with their families. President Bonaudi stated this group would also be meeting for dinner. He expounded that we hope BBCC visits in the district community will result in reciprocal visit on our campus just like this one.

Quincy Board President, Tricia Lubach, reported the Quincy High School students and faculty are in the thick of WASL testing. They are also wondering about the changes that will be occurring with the WASL. Quincy High School Principal Chris McKnight, thanked President Bonaudi for the invitation to come to BBCC. He stated he recently brought a student and parents to visit the welding department accompanied by Trustee Mike Blakely. Principal McKnight complimented Welding Instructor Shawn McDaniel for really grabbing the students' attention. President Bonaudi responded that our faculty is very good at one on one with students and potential students. Quincy School Board President Lubach stated that they are also watching their budgets closely now. She said Superintendent Burton Dickerson is doing a good job keeping the Quincy School District fiscally conservative. President Bonaudi reported that the state revenue forecast released today increased the shortfall from \$8.3 billion to \$9 billion. These are challenging times for all. He went on to say that we expected the legislators to bring out a draft budget early next week but now it sounds like that step will be delayed.

Dean Kara Garrett shared that 880 eighth grade students will be on campus Tuesday, March 24. They will experience classroom presentations from 50 professionals. BBCC will also host 100 ninth and tenth grade students for Destination Healthcare. This event highlights healthcare careers; students exhibit a lot of growth during their three days on campus. Dean Garrett relayed that 18 Quincy students attended Destination Healthcare last year.

President Bonaudi explained that a Quincy student information data report was distributed to everyone. He introduced Dean Kirkwood again to detail the report. Dean Kirkwood described the report as containing the number of students enrolled at BBCC since 2003-04 listing the Quincy zip code as their home address, Running Start students were also broken out of those totals. The students' intentions were noted in a chart on page two. Page three of the report listed the BBCC courses offered in the Quincy and George communities. A pie chart featured on page four illustrated the Quincy students' completions in each BBCC program. Arts & Sciences showed the highest percentage of completers with the CDL program and then GED following. Lastly Dean Kirkwood advised the group that the final page of the report lists contact information for staff working in different areas at BBCC.

President Bonaudi asked Associate VP of Student Services Candy Lacher to update the group on Spring registration. She relayed that Spring registration is open and spring break is next week. Associate VP Lacher also reported that enrollments have picked up this year, and Spring enrollment numbers look good. Often a rise in unemployment spurs potential students to enroll in retraining classes. All area high school juniors and seniors have been invited to attend Running Start information sessions that will be held tonight and also next week..

Dean Rachel Anderson was invited by President Bonaudi to discuss the two-week summer Math Jam math skill improvement session. She explained that juniors or seniors in high school can take a math assessment test prior to the workshop. The tailored Math Jam workshops are designed to fit the specific needs of the students who will be attending. The goal of the Math Jam is that this intense math workshop will advance the students through the math class ranking system up one or two levels.

Our goal is that the students will be more successful in their classes following this workshop. Dean Anderson stated she would like to administer the assessment tests at the local high schools. Some high schools have already agreed to hold the tests on their campuses and we hope Quincy will also agree. The results of the assessment tests will also benefit the local high schools by helping with their self-evaluations.

President Bonaudi reported that Running Start is coming before the legislature. This is a successful program and also challenging for colleges because the fees paid into the college from that program minus the service fee paid to the high school only meet about 60% of the cost for instruction.

President Bonaudi went on to explain that community colleges aren't allowed to claim the Running Start FTEs as part of their state enrollment target. We provide education without receiving the credit for it. We try to make it clear that we do not want to do anything to take away the compensation or the FTEs that the school districts receive. The bill being considered keeps Running Start the way it is but gives the colleges FTEs for the classes being taught. There is a provision in the House bill that is not in the Senate bill that requires Running Start students to pay the customary fees that students pay. He stated we are anxious to see what happens with that, we'd like to expand Running Start if we can get those accommodations. A misunderstanding by school districts has led to a lack of support of community colleges by school districts. If anyone would like more information on this issue Dr. Bonaudi indicated he would be happy to share. BBCC has not reached it's enrollment target the past two years and as a result we lost growth money each year of about \$200,000. Counting the Running Start FTE's would have resulted in meeting our target.

President Bonaudi described the MediaSite link on the screen from the BBCC website (<http://mediasite.bigbend.edu/Mediasite/catalog/>). This link is very easy to follow from a desktop and accompanying powerpoints can easily be seen too. Audience members watching a meeting on MediaSite can submit questions. This is also being used in classrooms and Dean Anderson explained a benefit to students is the flexibility of watching their class live or whenever their schedule allows and the students can go back and review specific topics as often as necessary. Students can also interact electronically and submit questions to the instructor.

Dean Tim Fuhrman submitted an electronic question regarding the fee to participate in the math jam. Dean Anderson responded that there is a \$25 community education fee to attend the BBCC Math Jam.

Trustee Mike Blakely pointed out campus news on the website on the screen. He stated we have the best faculty in the state, cohesive board, and fine administrators. Our teachers really care about the students. He mentioned that 100% of nursing students who took the NCLEX test passed. He stated there aren't many students on campus at this time and not much opportunity for a tour but he urged the Quincy folks to visit the campus for tours while student are on campus.

Criminal Justice/Psychology Instructor, Dr. Ryann Leonard submitted an electronic question asking how faculty could encourage students to attend BBCC. President Bonaudi responded that faculty could go off campus to engage with students. Vice-President Mike Lang recommended faculty meet with their counterparts at the high schools on Friday to build connections and discuss test scores, curriculum, etc. Dean Anderson stated she is the point person for this and she would be happy to coordinate.

President Bonaudi introduced BBCC Foundation Executive Director Doug Sly again to talk about scholarships. Director Sly stated the BBCC Foundation has about 75 funds and provides 200 scholarships annually. He stated that the Foundation offers scholarships specifically for Professional/Technical students too. Recent high school graduates' applications are separated from the more non-traditional students. The BBCC Foundation scholarship application deadline is April 1. Over 90% of the applications come in the last two days.

Director Sly highlighted the Intervention Scholarship started by Weinstein Distributing. This scholarship provides funding to intervene when a student encounters fees that must be paid in order to continue with classes. This fund helps with emergency situations, tuition, books, fees, etc. This is a real boost to students and staff. One example of "out of the box funding" involved a Medical Assistant student who was required to get immunized. Her medical insurance would not cover it and the cost of the shots was \$300. She could not overcome this barrier without help from the Intervention Scholarship. Director Sly reported this kind of funding resonates with staff and donors. There is a high percentage of Latino students in Quincy, the law allows students without social security numbers to pay in-state tuition, but they can't receive state or federal financial aid. The Weinstein Intervention Scholarship helps these folks too. Students work their way through school and may run out of money during spring quarter, this fund can supplement those students. He anticipates that the counseling staff will make some meaningful funding recommendations the next couple of weeks.

Trustee Felix Ramon encouraged the Quincy School Board members and staff to visit anytime as a group or individually, let us know and we will make the arrangements. He said he hopes they will take back a message to the Quincy school staff that BBCC has transfer programs and also vocational training and we have the ability to take some people who may not be graduating high in their class or even graduating and help them. As students they don't have to pursue an advanced degree, they can take classes to gain the skills to make a living wage. Quincy School Board member Myrna Blakely commented that she has noticed that BBCC faculty, staff, students are very friendly and welcoming. President Bonaudi stated that was a powerful observation and it's nice to hear that from visitors.

Mike Blakely, Chair

ATTEST:

William C. Bonaudi, Secretary