

**MINUTES OF MEETING
WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM (WTCS) BOARD
NOVEMBER 15-16, 2022
MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

Members Present: Megan Bahr, Quincey Daniels, Douglas Holton, Sr., Becky Lezvow, John W. Miller, Rodney Pasch, Dan Sperberg, Kelly Tourdot, S. Mark Tyler, Jill Underly, Stephen Willett, Mary Williams.

Members Absent: Amy Pechacek.

System Office Staff Present: Judy Barbian, Julie Drake, Morna Foy, Stephanie Glynn, Ben Konruff, Christina Lorge, Colleen McCabe, Carolann Nelson, Jeremy Nichols, Katy Pettersen, Dan Scanlon, Lenard Simpson, Brandon Trujillo, Ann Westrich, Angela White, Jim Zylstra.

District/Others Present: Betty Bruski Mallek, Layla Merrifield, District Boards Association; Bryan Albrecht, Gateway Technical College; Shelly Mondeik, Mid-State Technical College; Chris Brzinski, Vicki Martin, Stefanie Patti, David Rowe, Samantha Shields, Tony Tagliavia, Milwaukee Area Technical College; Bonnie Baerwald, Moraine Park Technical College; Kate Ferrel, Nicolet Area Technical College; Jeannie Worden, Northcentral Technical College; Michelle Renaud, St. Francis High School; Barbara Bales, Tracy Davidson, University of Wisconsin System; Sharon Wendt, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction; Katrina Willis, Wisconsin Student Government; Dan Klecker (Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Education Foundation), Sara Rogers, (Employ Milwaukee), WTCS Board Appointees.

Board President Pasch called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm. Julie Drake read the open meeting statement and roll call indicated that a quorum was present.

President Pasch introduced and recognized Katrina Willis, President of Wisconsin Student Government (WSG), who joined the meeting on behalf of WSG.

Board President Pasch thanked President Vicki Martin and her team for hosting the WTCS Board. Dr. Martin welcomed the Board to Milwaukee Area Technical College and introduced WTCS Student Ambassador Samantha Shields who welcomed and addressed the Board.

ITEM A: Approval of September 13-14, 2022, Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Board Member Sperberg, seconded by Board Member Tyler, that the September 13-14, 2022, meeting minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM B: Report of the Board President

The UW System Board of Regents report for September was shared with Board Members on November 11, 2022.

As a follow-up to Board Member Bahr speaking on a panel at the Reagan Institute Summit on Education, she was asked to participate on a panel of student leaders advocating for civil discourse on campus hosted by the Bipartisan Policy Center. She and one other panelist from that event penned an op-ed on cultivating a culture of free speech on campus. Ms. Drake shared a copy of that article with the Board.

Board President Pasch attended a Veterans ceremony at UW-Platteville of soldiers who died in Vietnam with a wonderful turnout.

Board Member Williams joined the meeting at 4:44 pm.

ITEM C: Report of the System President

System President Foy congratulated President Bonnie Baerwald and the entire Moraine Park Technical College community on passage of the \$55 million referendum. This is the college's first referendum and will include four separate projects, including expansions to the Fond du Lac and West Bend campuses in manufacturing, IT and healthcare and a new fire training facility. President Baerwald shared that the community support has been fantastic.

System President Foy provided an update on the System's Commitment to Progress.

- The Open Educational Resources (OER) Symposium was held in October at Gateway Technical College with more than 250 registrants, including individuals from all 16 colleges and additional attendees from 24 states, Canada and India. Ursula Pike from the Digital Higher Education Consortium of Texas served as the keynote speaker with the theme being equity and how OER can serve as a tool to expand access to postsecondary education opportunities and to tailor course content to best fit the needs of students, communities and programs. System President Foy thanked the WTCS and college staff and faculty involved in planning and executing the event with particular thanks to Dr. Hilary Barker, WTCS education director and OER expert and champion.
- The Common Ground conference took place virtually the first week of November with more than 300 people attending. Session topics included GED/HSED pathways, English for the adult learner, how to make a campus more welcoming for Autistic students and trauma-informed teaching and more. This an annual conference is held in collaboration with Wisconsin Literacy, Inc. and the Department of Public Instruction. Dr. Underly shared her thanks to WTCS for hosting this conference and meeting people where they are.
- The second WisCORE Conference was held November 10 and 11 at Milwaukee Area Technical College, focused on connecting students and employees of color and those focused on increasing equity and inclusion. The goal was to include students in conversations and foster System-wide capacity and accountability around equity and inclusion. The conference had 200 attendees in person with an additional 285 who attended virtually, with representation from all 16 colleges. Board Member Bahr spoke at the event along with other students including Ousmane Kabré & WTCS Student Ambassador Keva Estrada from Waukesha County Technical College. System President Foy asked Board Member Bahr to share her thoughts on WisCORE as co-host of the event. Board Member Bahr shared how much she enjoyed seeing students from across the System get to meet each other and share experiences. Students were brave and vulnerable at the student-focused conference.

System President Foy also noted:

- The 2021-22 Fact Book was released and shows a 10% increase in headcount enrollment over the previous year, measuring against the COVID year where enrollment dropped significantly, showing a positive trend. This is consistent with, and slightly better, than national trends showing greater interest in community college programs as compared to continuing decline at four-year institutions. Additional notes of interest from the report include:
 - WTCS occupational associate degrees remain our largest enrollment area, with health programs the largest program area.

- Dual Credit continues to grow. 2021-22 had the highest number of total students and total credits over the last ten years. The estimated value of these dual credits is \$36.8 million.
- There were significant enrollment increases among several student populations, including American Indians, Hispanics, Justice Involved and youth apprenticeship enrollments increased 20-40%. These enrollment successes confirm that WTCS efforts to attract and serve all Wisconsin communities are working.
- WTCS Provost and Vice President Dr. Colleen McCabe was selected to participate in the second cohort of the Chief Academic Officers Innovations Community with the Gardner Institute. This is a yearlong commitment to participate in discussions to build capacity for innovative action.
- Alex Nock, principal with Penn Hill Group, will be joining the Board at dinner and during the legislative update. Penn Hill Group represents Rebuilding America's Middle Class (RAMC) which is a national community college advocacy group, of which WTCS is a member.

ITEM D: Wisconsin Technical College District Boards Association

Wisconsin Technical College District Boards Association (DBA) President and Mid-State Trustee Betty Bruski Mallek and Executive Director Layla Merrifield updated the Board on recent activities.

The fall meeting, hosted by Chippewa Valley Technical College, was held October 6-8 and included a parliamentary procedure/rules of order presentation by Connie Deford and an update from Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Jee Hang Lee.

The winter meeting and legislative seminar will take place January 11-13, 2023, at the Concourse Hotel in Madison and will include key legislative leaders, issues affecting technical colleges, and budget and session priorities as well as Capitol visits with legislators.

The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) conference was held in New York City, October 26-29. The focus was on Improving the Lives of Entire Families and Federal Priorities with 1,900 attendees. Chippewa Valley Technical College, Fox Valley Technical College, Lakeshore Technical College, Mid-State Technical College and Northwood Technical College presented at the conference and their presentations are available on the DBA website.

Executive Director Merrifield thanked WTCS Executive Vice President Jim Zylstra and WTCS Director of Strategic Advancement Katy Pettersen for their presentations at the October Board meeting.

ITEM E: WTCS Presidents' Association

Dr. Vicki Martin, President of Milwaukee Area Technical College and of the Association, reported that the association has not met since the September Board meeting and will be meeting on Wednesday, November 16. A report will be shared at the January meeting.

ITEM F: Teaching & Learning – Dual Enrollment

WTCS Education Directors Ann Westrich and Ben Konruff provided an overview of the latest report on Dual Credit programs at the colleges and shared the innovative practices being implemented System-wide, including an overview of the new Dual Credit dashboard and how it can help the colleges in partnership with WTCS career preparation coordinators, systemic needs exploration, iterative creation and design, and training and coaching.

More than 57,000 students saved over \$36.8 million in college credit in 2021-22. The vast majority are females and multiple populations were served.

Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) Graphic Design Instructor Chris Brzinski and High School Relations Coordinator Stephanie Patti, joined by St. Francis High School Graphic Design Instructor Michelle Renaud, shared a summary of their partnership.

MATC has seen growth in Start College Now, Dual Enrollment Academy and Transcribed Credit with 98% of their time on MATC's campus for Dual Enrollment. Transcribed Credit has seen the largest growth with Dual Enrollment Liaisons.

Board Member Tyler asked if the technical colleges are talking with employers. Mr. Brzinski said that is the role of the Advisory Boards and will vary by industry. All 16 technical colleges have a career preparation coordinator that employers can connect with to facilitate a partnership.

Board Member Tyler inquired about instructor credentialing and if the technical college credits gained in high school transfer to a four-year institution. Ms. Patti said it depends on the program and on credentialing by degree, program and school. Ms. Westrich shared that there are transfer agreements with Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU) or one of the University of Wisconsin colleges that accept the associate degree from the two years from high school and two years from a technical college. Students may also gain business industry experience and return to one of the UW colleges to use those credits.

Board Member Lezow shared the example that Pardeeville High School sees the value of dual credit and the opportunities they provide. When 55-60 students graduate, they are approving 7-8 students each semester in healthcare, psychology or criminal justice programs through promoting it as a scholarship. They are seeing more involvement and the value in this program. Kudos to the colleges that are making this happen. She added that the evaluation tool is great.

Board Member Daniels commented that his son had average grades and was not excited about much during his junior year. He earned 24 college credits from Western Technical College's instructor for Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and he is now getting his PhD in GIS.

Board Member Miller asked if there are roadblocks at the high school level and if they have the capacity for dual credit programs? Mr. Brzinski stated that the program is successful if the liaisons have tools such as hardware, software and larger equipment handed down from industry partners when they upgrade.

System President Foy asked if dual enrollment provides more interest in school for seniors. Ms. Renaud shared that since growing the program they have added two more electives with hopefully more in the future. Students say this is why they are coming to school, are thinking about the future, and know they are being provided with potential for a career.

Board Member Holton asked what percentage of schools participate. Approximately 90% of public schools participate. Private schools participate through a different program not associated with technical colleges. Private colleges can have students attend but must pay for the services and sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Board President Pasch shared his amazement that 57,000 students can take dual credit and not spend \$36 million to receive credentialed credit. Compliments to all in making this happen for the students.

It was moved by Board Member Underly, seconded by Board Member Miller, to recess the meeting until Wednesday, November 16, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Members Present: Megan Bahr, Quincey Daniels, Douglas Holton, Sr., Becky Lezvow, John W. Miller, Rodney Pasch, Dan Sperberg, Kelly Tourdot, S. Mark Tyler, Jill Underly, Stephen Willett, Mary Williams.

Members Absent: Amy Pechacek.

System Office Staff Present: Judy Barbian, Hilary Barker, Julie Drake, Morna Foy, Stephanie Glynn, Sarah Kavanaugh, Tou Ya Khang, Ben Konruff, Christina Lorge, Colleen McCabe, Carolann Nelson, Jeremy Nichols, Cristina Parente, Katy Pettersen, Anna Richter, Dan Scanlon, Lenard Simpson, Megan Stritchko, Brandon Trujillo, Julie Tyznik, Ann Westrich, Angela White, Jim Zylstra.

District/Others Present: Tracy Pierner, Blackhawk Technical College; Sunem Beaton-Garcia, Chippewa Valley Technical College; Angie Lawrence, Betty Bruski Mallek, Layla Merrifield, District Boards Association; Bryan Albrecht, Gateway Technical College; Paul Carlsen, Jim Lemerond, Lakeshore Technical College; Sylvia Ramirez, Madison Area Technical College; Shelly Mondeik, Mid-State Technical College; Vicki Martin, Tony Tagliavia, Milwaukee Area Technical College; Bonnie Baerwald, Moraine Park Technical College; Jeannie Worden, Northcentral Technical College; John Will, Northwood Technical College; Roger Stanford, Western Technical College; Tacara Lovings, Sharon Wendt, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction; Katrina Willis, Wisconsin Student Government; Dan Klecker (Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Education Foundation), WTCS Board Appointee; Jim Jelak, WTCS Statewide Marketing Consortium.

Board President Pasch called the meeting to order at 9:29 am. Julie Drake read the open meeting statement and roll call indicated that a quorum was present.

Board Member Willett joined the meeting at 9:33 am.

ITEM G: Consent Agenda

It was moved by Board Member Underly, seconded by Board Member Lezvow that the Board approve the program and facilities development requests as presented, as well as verifying the interim board appointments, with the exception of programs and facilities items for Gateway Technical College. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Board Member Tyler, seconded by Board Member Sperberg that the Board approve the program and facilities development requests for Gateway Technical College. Motion carried 11-1. Board Member Bahr abstained.

ITEM H: Lakeshore Technical College – Project Concept Review – Construction of an Addition to and Remodeling of the Center for Healthcare Excellence at the Main Campus in Cleveland

President Paul Carlsen and Vice President of Instruction James Lemerond shared an overview of the project with a cost of \$3.8 million with \$1.5 million in public funds and \$2.3 million in private funds. Annually there are an estimated 600+ healthcare openings in the Lakeshore Technical College (LTC) District.

System President Foy commented that there are three areas of healthcare needed and asked how LTC is navigating and prioritizing all these requests. President Carlsen shared that their challenges are nursing and medical professional shortages, limited classroom and lab spaces, a need for higher capacity clinical skills training sites. Updates to technology outpace existing tools. Their solution is to update technology;

add four new simulation rooms, four dedicated lab and practice rooms, new emergency room and ambulance bay; and train the local professional workforce.

President Carlsen congratulated Vice President Lemerond who has been named President at Bellingham Technical College in Washington State beginning in January 2023.

It was moved by Board Member Underly, seconded by Board Member Miller, that the Board finds the concept for Lakeshore Technical College's proposed construction of an addition to and remodeling of existing facilities in Cleveland as reasonable. The final scope and design of the projects are subject to review and approval by the Board as required by s. 38.04(10) Stats.

ITEM I: 2022-2025 WTCS Facilities Plan

WTCS Facilities Director Dan Scanlon provided an overview of the 2022-2025 WTCS Facilities Plan including a three-year summary of the technical colleges' capital maintenance budgets and planned facility development projects.

Board Member Tyler asked if the landscape exists for referendums in other areas or if we need to address the \$1.5 million limit on capital expenditures as we consider the changing workforce environment. System President Foy said previous conversations with the Legislature have indicated little support for raising the \$1.5 million capital project limit because of the effect on property taxes.

President Baerwald shared Moraine Park Technical College's referendum success. They engaged key stakeholders who endorsed their referendum ask. Employers saw the need and pushed messages out to their employees. President Baerwald indicated that the \$1.5 capital project limit served as a catalyst for support for the referendum because stakeholders acknowledged that the college could not implement needed significant building projects within the limit.

It was moved by Board Member Tyler, seconded by Board Member Miller, that the Board accept the 2022-2025 Facilities Plan. Individual projects included in the Plan are subject to the Board's review and approval, pursuant to s. 38.04(10) Stats. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM J: Legislative Update

Executive Director Layla Merrifield of the Wisconsin Technical College District Boards Association and Alex Nock, principal with Penn Hill Group, representing Rebuilding America's Middle Class (RAMC), shared relevant election results affecting the Wisconsin Technical College System on a statewide and national level.

ITEM K: Announcements/Adjourn

The next meeting of the Board will be held January 17 at the System Office in Madison.

It was moved by Board Member Sperberg, seconded by Board Member Underly, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Drake