

**MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2022**

Approved January 18, 2023

Attendees: Bonnie Blacker, Tom Carroll, Eshita Chakrabarti, Laura Lawson, Steve Murphy, Ann Sullivan, Kate Welch

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Chair Sullivan - yes

Vice Chair Carroll – yes

Trustee Blackler - yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Trustee Lawson - yes

Trustee Murphy - yes

Trustee Welch – yes

Chairwoman Report

Chair Sullivan thanked Vincent Livoti, Director of Libraries, for hosting the meeting in Canton. A Legislative breakfast was held on Tuesday, September 27th. Those in attendance included Senator Brady, Senator Timilty, Rep. Cassidy, Rep. DuBois, and Matthew O’Brien, aide to Rep. Doherty. Updates on the Allied Health and Science building renovations were provided. The annual MCC Foundation golf tournament was held on Monday, October 17 at Thorny Lea Country Club. Over 90 golfers participated, and the tournament generated \$23,000 after expenses for the United Student Fund. The MCC Foundation Board of Directors and the MCC Board of Trustees retreat is scheduled for November 30 in Canton to discuss the Transformation through Renovation capital campaign. The November 16, 2022, Board of Trustees meeting will be held on the Brockton campus at 6:00 p.m. in the Louison Board Room.

Presidents Report

President DiPasquale thanked Chair Sullivan for her enthusiasm at the College. President DiPasquale reviewed the final fall 2022 enrollment numbers noting that last year our headcount was 5,485 compared to 4,810 today representing a decline of 12.3%. Credits last year were 47,898 compared to 41,073 this year representing a decline of 14.2% which equates to a projected \$1.5 to 2 million annual revenue shortfall. The College currently has twenty-five open positions which could offset the revenue shortfall. The Board was reminded that the remaining COVID funds had to be spent by May 2023. The focus is to increase enrollment for Fall 2023 through retention and recruitment. Looking back to 2018, we had 6,995 students, 2019, 6,637 students, 2020 5,665 students and in 2021 5,485. Part time students represent 66.4% of our enrollment. Part time students take fewer credits thereby generate less revenues. Ruben Barato, Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment Management will present an enrollment plan by the end of this calendar year. MCC currently has 634 high school students. The breakdown includes Champion Alternative High School – 8; East Bridgewater High School - 21; Middleborough High School - 30; New Heights Charter School – 227; of which sixty-nine of those students graduated from college and high school at same time; Gateway – 47, IDEA - 73. The Academic Deans have been reviewing data which includes diversity, age, and enrollment of our students in each academic program. The goal is to present the Board with an Academic Plan for the next academic year.

Vice President Mitchell, chair of the Vice President of Academic Affairs search, shared there were 44 qualified applicants. The committee met today and plans to have a finalist recommendation to the President the week of Thanksgiving. The Dean of Mathematics & Science search committee have identified finalists. Both searches will have an open forum zoom session that the Board will be invited to. The student culinary luncheon program is open to all and provides a gourmet lunch for \$7. Two hundred staff and faculty participated in Professional Development Day. Vice President Barato announced two new hires in our Registrar's office: Michael Orlandi, Associate Registrar and Katie Walo, Registrar. Vice President Barato looks forward to working with both. Frank Hughes, Director of Client Services, has accepted the position of CIO at Cape Cod Community College. The College is hosting a Brockton premier video release on November 7th sponsored by Metro South Chamber of Commerce, Eastern Bank, and the City of Brockton. Massasoit's own, Virginia DePina, Director of Marketing, narrated the video. The College held an alumni employee breakfast. There are over 100 alumni who are also employees. Vice President Badger and the President met with an anonymous donor. This donor has provided significant resources that support Brockton High School graduate here at Massasoit. President DiPasquale will visit the donor sometime after the holidays. The College continues to grow our partnership with the Boys & Girls Club. They have many young students that could potentially be on a pathway to Massasoit. Senator Elizabeth Warren and Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley will visit our Brockton campus on Tuesday, October 25th to discuss the federal student loan forgiveness program. President DiPasquale shared an interesting statistic: Dr. Witcher, and her team at Corporate & Community Education, generated revenue of \$178,000, up \$20,000 more the previous year. Dr. Carine Sauvignon shared that Chairman Josh Cutler, Commission on Workforce and Labor Development, along with five members from his office, Senator Timilty and Rep. Galvin will visit and tour our diesel technology training program. We are in partnership with Commonwealth Corporation funded through a Reentry Workforce grant. We provide training for citizens of the Department of Corrections and to identify courses that can have these individuals be work ready upon their release. As a result of this program, Chairman Cutler asked Dr. Sauvignon to speak at a board meeting to increase funds and to extend the program from 12 to 14 months. The College has hired a full-time program coordinator, Gisela Morton that is also funded under this grant. We currently have eight who attend this program. President DiPasquale thanked Dr. Sauvignon on her dedication and success of this program. President DiPasquale invites the Board back to the Canton campus to tour the medical and dental classrooms at our spring BOT meeting. Dr. Camara continues to focus on incubator and entrepreneurship opportunities in Canton.

Alumni Trustee Report

Trustee Blacker held the first Alumni meeting with six people in attendance. The next scheduled meeting is on November 9th at 6 pm via zoom. Trustee Blacker welcomes your ideas.

Student Trustee

Trustee Lawrence was not in attendance.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Chakrabarti and seconded by Trustee Welch to approve to the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call:

Chair Sullivan - yes

Vice Chair Carroll – yes

Trustee Blackler - yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Trustee Lawrence - yes

Trustee Lawson - yes

Trustee Murphy – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation of the FY22 Audited Financial Statements by O'Connor & Drew and recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve the FY22 Audited Financial Statements (vote needed)

Michael Cosgrove, partner with O'Connor & Drew, and Ryan Sheehan, Audit Manager, reviewed the required communications to the Board of Trustees. The Auditors met last week with the audit and finance committee and went into detail of the financial statements. The final draft is due October 15 to the Commonwealth. Once approved by the MCC board they will be submitted to the state. O'Connor & Drew stated that they currently perform all financial statement audits for MA state community colleges and several of the state universities. The colleges opinion is unmodified which is the cleanest opinion a college can have. Internal controls and trial controls are both a clean report. We did not find any significant deficiencies. There was an adoption of a new accounting standard regarding leases. If the college enters a lease for more than one year it is now an asset & liability on the colleges balance sheet. We do have HEERS money remaining. The college was awarded three rounds of aid which comes to a total of \$26 million. For the year ended 2022 the college recognized \$11 million and there is \$2.9 million remaining to be recognized in 2023. \$12 million had been recognized before this year and \$11 million this year, with \$3 million remaining. The leases at the college include printers and the Middleboro campus. The College ended the year with a \$7.7 million net income. \$4.2 million came directly from a change in pension liabilities. There were no transactions where there was a lack of authoritative guidance, and all significant transactions were recognized. The communication between us, the board and management contained no disagreements or issues to be discussed. We did consult with an outside accountant, the auditors from the Mass Pension Liability plan, which is at the state level and those liabilities are then pushed down to the College.

Trustee Murphy noticed a value given to the property that was donated by the foundation. He asked how was the fair market value of the property determined? Mr. Sheehan responded that the value was transferred as the book value that had been carried on the MCC foundation books.

Vice Chair Carroll added that the audit and finance committee went through a thorough report with the team from O'Connor & Drew. We are fortunate to have Mr. Cosgrove and Mr. Sheehan and their experience from working with all the other community colleges. He also added that the quality of work received from Vice President Mitchell and Comptroller, Ms. Marcella is top notch. The audit was organized and clean and we are aware of how much work was put into it.

A motion was made by Chair Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Murphy to approve the FY22 Audited Financial Statements.

Roll Call:

Chair Sullivan - yes

Vice Chair Carroll – yes

Trustee Blackler - yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Trustee Lawrence - yes

Trustee Lawson - yes

Trustee Murphy – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve an expenditure in the amount not to exceed of \$514,557 over 6 years to renew and expand EAB's Navigate student success platform by Ruben Barato, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services, and Joseph Harris, Associate Dean of Student Success. (vote needed).

Vice President Barato announced that he is here to seek a renewal of our investment in EAB strategic care platform for a total of five years. This core platform has been included in the annual spending since 2015. The new cost associated with the component will be the 3% annual increase which is consistent with the software platform. We are looking to add two navigate modules: the milestone guidance and the student success and analytics predictive modeling. There is no new spending to the college. The way the milestone guidance and predictive modeling will be subsidized is in the savings that we had in the changing of the portal. Joseph Harris, Associate Dean of Student Success, shared that EAB is crucial to the colleges advising, tutoring and peer coaching operations with a measurable positive impact on student outcome. Massasoit recorded over 19,000 advising, tutoring and peer coaching appointments with 4,500 students using the system. Tutor coordinators use the system and the data that it produces to assist in staffing their prospective areas. Each semester the college uses EAB to regularly ask hundreds of faculty to report on the academic progress and preparedness of the students enrolled in their courses. These are called early alert campaigns. Last year 260 faculty members submitted more than 15,000 reports on the progress of 2,500 students who are grouped traditionally as being at risk of not completing a post-secondary credential. These reports targeted student services, outreach, and intervention efforts. EAV navigate provides detailed analytics on the effectiveness of these intervention efforts. Students who were a target of an outreach or intervention, enrolled in both fall 2021 and spring 2022, increased their average attempted credits from fall 2021 to spring 2022 by 16.9 % or from 7.39 credits to 8.64 credits. Mr. Harris noted that in his opinion EAB navigate system is one of the college's most important tools to increase and track engagement, retention, and enrollment. Vice President Barato added that we want to provide a mobile app for our students. This will allow us onboarding and retention features in the students' hands. Along with the strategic platform expanding its use, we will be able to reach more students quicker and set them up for success. Trustee Murphy added that using this system is a compliment to you and your students and thanks them for their hard work.

A motion was made by Trustee Murphy and seconded by Chair Sullivan to approve the expenditure in the amount not to exceed of \$514,557 over 6 years to renew and expand EAB's Navigate student success platform.

Roll Call:

Chair Sullivan - yes

Vice Chair Carroll – yes

Trustee Blackler - yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Trustee Lawrence - yes

Trustee Lawson - yes

Trustee Murphy - yes

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Chair Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Blacker to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call:

Chair Sullivan - yes

Vice Chair Carroll – yes

Trustee Blackler - yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Trustee Lawrence - yes

Trustee Lawson - yes

Trustee Murphy - yes

Trustee Welch – yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by:



Cori Foy
Recording Secretary



Ann M. Sullivan
Chair, Board of Trustees