APPROVED

Agenda

447th Meeting of the

Illinois Community College Board

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September 17, 2021

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

It is recommended that the following motion be adopted:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Board minutes of the September 17, 2021 meeting as recorded.

**Item #1 – Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum**

Chair Lopez called the Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Ann Knoedler to call roll. The following Board members were present on the call: Craig Bradley, Paige Ponder, Larry Peterson, Terry Bruce, Lynette Stokes, Suzanne Morris, Teresa Garate, Nick Kachiroubas and Jaleel Harris, Student Board member, were present. An-Me Chung was absent at the time roll call was taken but should arrive later and will be documented. A quorum was declared.

**Item #2 – Announcements and Remarks by Dr. Lazaro Lopez, Board Chair**

Chair Lopez called the meeting to order with the following statement: Though the Governor’s disaster proclamation does not in person meetings are necessarily infeasible, the head of a public body may determine that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent given the disaster. Given the onset of the delta variant, I have made that determination, hence we find ourselves now meeting remotely. He stated that he does anticipate the same plan for September 17th, assuming the Governor reissues the disaster proclamation. It is important to note that as a part of this determination, the ICCB will be keeping a verbatim recording of this meeting for a period of 18 months, as required by law. This zoom meeting will be recorded. Also, to be noted, ICCB staff, Jeff Newell, is present at the ICCB 2nd floor conference room, per requirements of the OMA law. The [Governor’s disaster proclamation was filed on 8/20](https://www.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/illinois/documents/government/coronavirus-disaster-proc-08-20-2021.pdf) and expires on 9/20.

Chair Lopez welcomed the two new Board members recently appointed to the Board and allowed them to introduce themselves:

* An-Me Chung - appointed (pending senate confirmation) on August 30th, 2021.
* Craig Bradley - appointed (pending Senate Confirmation) on September 8, 2021.

Chair Lopez announced the recommendation of Dr. Lynette Stokes to Governor Pritzker’s office to be appointed to the Illinois’ Taskforce on Campus Sexual Misconduct Climate Surveys. There was some hesitation to ask Dr. Stokes to serve given how busy College Presidents are right now, with COVID and the vaccine mandate, among the “regular” work of educators; however, Dr. Stokes voice from the campus perspective is absolutely essential in any conversation about sexual misconduct on campus. Dr. Stokes graciously agreed and indicated that this is in line with some work that the campus is already doing. Chair Lopez thanked Dr. Stokes for agreeing to be recommended and look forward to updates as this work gets off the ground.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Lopez thanked the 48 community colleges for their dedication to the staff and students of the community college system, as they once again pivot quickly to implement the requirements of Governor Pritzker’s COVID vaccine mandate. This requires a lot of work in implementing the mandates and brings many types of challenges associated with it.

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An-Me Chung joined the meeting at 9:07 a.m.

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**Item #2.1 - Adult Education Week Resolution**

Vice Chair Suzanne Morris read the following Resolution for Adult Education & Family Literacy Week:

WHEREAS, on November 3, 1966 the Adult Education Act was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson establishing a new education system comprised of a partnership between the federal government and the states; and

WHEREAS, in Illinois close to 1 million residents lack basic academic skills and over 2.7 million residents speak a language other than English in their home; and

WHEREAS, the national and state economy is transforming into a knowledge-based economy where 65% of jobs in the United States requires some level of postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Adult Education is to assist adults become literate and obtain the knowledge and skills necessary for self-sufficiency and assist adults who are parents develop the skills to be full partners in their child’s education; and

WHEREAS, Adult Education and Literacy instruction is an essential strategy addressing inequities in access to learning opportunities and is instrumental in Illinois’ recovery efforts from the Covid-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the focus of adult literacy provides individuals with Integrated Education and Training (IET) and Bridge programs designed to accelerate and connect the adult literacy instruction with technical or workforce training leading to industry-recognized/postsecondary credentials and meaningful employment; and

WHEREAS, through the challenges brought on by COVID-19 and its impact on education, the Illinois Community College Board and its network of diverse providers remained steadfast in providing adult learners with high quality education access; and

WHEREAS, a network of over 50,000 adult learners access adult literacy instruction annually and are provided with career and workforce preparation to improve the Illinois’ talent pipeline;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Illinois Community College Board do hereby proclaim September 19 – 25, 2021 as Adult Education and Family Literacy Week in Illinois to raise public awareness about the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy; and be it further

RESOLVED, the we recognize the teachers, adult educators, community partners and thousands of adult learners for their efforts, persistence, and accomplishments.

**Item #3 - Board Member Comments**

Each Board member welcomed the two new members and introduce themselves adding a bit about their own backgrounds.

**Item #3.1 - Illinois Board of Higher Education Report**

There was no update.

**Item #4 – Executive Director Report**

Executive Director Brian Durham first welcomed the new Board members to the Board. Dr. Durham then went on to congratulate all the many adult education providers that are in the system, which are approximately 78 to 80 or so providers that provide adult education to the system, which includes the community colleges, as well as a number of community based organizations. In light of it being Adult Education Week, ICCB acknowledges their hard work in order to help students and connect these students with opportunities in workforce and post-secondary education. Dr. Durham introduced the ICCB executive staff and explained their job responsibilities for the new Board members information.

Dr. Durham introduced a few new ICCB staff members as well as acknowledged staff member Nora Rossman, Office Administrator, who is retiring after 14 years with the agency.

Dr. Durham stated the staff have been working closely with the community college presidents to help assist them in the implementation of the vaccine mandate put into effect by the Governor’s executive order. Many meetings have taken place to work through the details.

Currently, ICCB staff is working on a pre-set schedule of presentations on topics for upcoming Board meetings. Dr. Durham asked that the Board members share their thoughts and suggestions. This will help the Board members as well as the staff be prepared of what will be discussed during each upcoming Board meeting throughout the year.

Lastly, ICCB just signed an intergovernmental agreement with Southern Illinois University in Carbondale that will guarantee transfer for community college students in a set of specific programs into an online program bachelor's degree with SIUC to smooth the path for community colleges. So colleges will have an opportunity to sign on to that agreement and will not have to do an individual negotiation each time that SIUC approaches them. It also includes a $4000 scholarship for students that transfer for each year that they enroll in the particular programs. This will be included as an information item in the December 3rd Board meeting materials.

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Chair Lopez moved item #6 – Advisory Organizations ahead of item #5 – Committee Reports.

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**Item #6 - Advisory Organizations**

Chair Lopez announced Dr. Julia DiLiberti, speaker for item #6.4 - Illinois Community College Faculty Association, will be speaking before the other organizations.

**Item #6.4 - Illinois Community College Faculty Association**

Dr. Julia DiLiberti stated the annual conference named the “Year of the Pandemic”. During the conference, people will be telling stories of what the pandemic brought to their campus. The conference will be 100% virtual on November 12th from 8:45 to 3:30. Board member Suzanne Morris thanked all the faculty for their hard work and adaptation through the pandemic.

**Item #6.1 - Illinois Council of Community College Presidents**

Dr. Jonathan Bullock stated the meetings are still being conducted virtually. The retreat has been postponed. The main focuses will be on a plan for enrollment post COVID-19, the financial stability of the community colleges post COVID-19, collaborative adventures between community colleges, DEI focus, capitol funding projects, and legislative advocacy focused on MAP grants.

**Item #6.2 - Illinois Community College Trustees Association**

Mr. Jim Reed stated the Council held their executive committee retreat back in August and held their regular scheduled meeting in September. All the community colleges in Illinois are a part of the association. Many have began holding retreats again. The Joyce proposal that the ICCTA had put fourth which continues to pursue avenues around the community college baccalaureate. This is an opportunity that should be afforded to the community colleges, but some of the strategies that have been used in the past have been a little bit divisive. So ICCTA has partnered with both Deb Bragg and Tim Harmon to conduct research with MC and bring back some data that reflects workforce needs around the state which will then overlay the educational opportunities or lack of opportunities across the state. Hopefully in the coming year, ICCTA will develop a proposal that reflects workforce needs and align with education. In the New Year, the ICCTA will also be conducting focus groups in four regions of the state consistent with that proposal. The grant itself is worth $75,000 which helps complete this work. Also, the ICCTA is now providing the leadership training online. The trustees who were not able to attend the June meeting in person are encouraged to complete the training online. During the recent meeting, there was a seminar that addressed the issues of mental health. The annual national meeting will be held in San Diego in October.

**Item #6.3 - Adult Education and Family Literacy**

Ms. Ginger Harner shared the information from their final report from FY21 work and the recommendations in moving forward in FY22. The FY21 work was focused in three areas. Those were providing support services remotely, recruiting and onboarding students remotely, and lastly, on equity. The first two committees were charged with evaluating emerging practices and disseminating those practices directly to the field so that practitioners could have the tools they needed to change up their games during the pandemic. The first committee on remote support services created a comprehensive toolkit that served as a framework of strategies and tools and resources for colleges to engage and re-engage students to help them address barriers and to aid in retention during the pandemic. The recommendation of that committee is to keep that toolkit available as a living document on the excellence and adult ed website. The second committee looked at recruiting and onboarding students remotely. Their recommendations were to create a statewide marketing plan to assist programs and reaching students. Their second recommendation was creating a repository of marketing materials in multiple languages. The last recommendation was to consider ease of access in program locations. The last committee was on equity. This committee was charged with evaluating trends and enrollment to look at the index of need and to see if students that need help are being reached. They also specifically look at trends in ICAP and transit programs. The recommendation of that committee includes looking at the end of the year data to truly see where they are missing students. In the upcoming year, the group will be looking at Digital Equity, discussing workforce and service integration, and looking at workplace literacy. In terms of digital equity, the group will be looking at both at access and digital literacy. These workgroups have begun and will be moving forward into that work.

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Item #6.5 – Student Advisory council, Jaleel Harris, will give his report after the break.

The Board took a break at 10:08 am and returned at 10:17 am.

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**Item #6.5 - Student Advisory Council**

Student Board member, Jaleel Harris, did not have any updates at this time. However he did attend an IL Board of Higher Education which was very interesting.

**Item #5 - Committee Reports**

**Item #5.1 - Finance, Budgeting, Accountability and External Affairs Committee**

The committee met on the morning of September 17th at 8:00a with Terry Bruce, Larry Peterson and Lynette Stokes and discussed the following items: Timeliness of State Payments – the State is currently up to date on their payments, Public Relations and Marketing Update-Economic Impact Study Press Conference and the State is currently celebrating Adult Education Week; Spring 2022 Legislative Proposals; Legislative Update – information item included in the packet; and Illinois Postsecondary Profiles – New Equity Profiles.

**Item #5.2 - Academic, Workforce, and Student Support Committee**

The committee met on the morning of September 17th at 8:00a with Paige Ponder, Suzanne Morris, Teresa Garate, Nick Kachiroubas, Jaleel Harris, and Craig Bradley and discussed the following items:

* Strategic Initiatives, which included:
  + Learning Renewal - ICCB received $10,425,000 in federal Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Funds (GEERF) II funding to support implementation of key aspects of the guide, Colleges must submit a Learning Renewal Plan, released on September 2, due September 30, and ICCB reserves the right to extend this funding through the end of FY2023.
  + High Impact Tutoring - A Learning Renewal initiative to focus on High-impact tutoring practices to support the learning and social/emotional well-being of students in the wake of the pandemic and focused 1:1 and small group tutoring, collaboration between institutions of higher education and K-12 school districts of need in six regions across the state have been developed, two-year project (AY 2022 and 2023), and expected to begin in the spring 2022 semester.
* High School Equivalency – specifically name change consideration and educational testing services (ETS) Changes – Changes the name of the High School Equivalency Certificate to State of Illinois High School Diploma, High school equivalency standards are aligned to the College and Career Readiness Standards provided by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Vocational and Adult Education, which are in turn aligned to the Common Core State Standards utilized by K-12 education, candidates who complete an Illinois High School Equivalency Certificate demonstrate achievement of the equivalent of a K-12 education and readiness to move forward into postsecondary education or the workforce.
  + Reasons: Employers and educational institutions often place more value in a Diploma; the potential for discrimination based on the name of the candidate’s credential – rather than the educational level the credential demonstrates the candidate has achieved – presents an equity issue for individuals who have earned their Illinois High School Equivalency Certificate that may act as a barrier to their future success; and, the proposed name change is an effort to bring high school equivalency completion on par with high school completion by naming both awards a diploma.
* Educational Testing Service (“ETS”) has agreed to sell its High School Equivalency Testing business (“HiSET”) to PSI Services LLC, which will involve an assignment of ETS’s rights, title and interests in and relating to the Contract to PSI. PSI has agreed to assume all of ETS’s executory obligations post-closing, which includes all contract agreements with the ICCB including any vouchers and release of data. ICCB staff have met with ETS and PSI staff. ETS will maintain a partnership with PSI for up to year to ensure the successful transition. This change will occur immediately upon approval of the ICCB at the December 2021 Board meeting.
* Workforce Education – which includes:
  + Ability to Benefit Plan - also an information item. The purpose of Illinois’ Ability to Benefit State-Defined Process is to increase access to federal financial aid for eligible adults without a high school diploma, who with proper support can be as successful as their peers in postsecondary credential and degree completion.
    - Next steps: Informational Webinars for Institutional Sign On: September 27 and October 1; Submit to U.S. Department of Education in November; Adjust data collection methods in order to appropriately track and monitoring ATB usage; and Implementation to begin July 1, 2022.
* Item #7 the presentation on Adult Education and the New Units were also reviewed.

**Item #7 - Adult Education: Responding to the Future of Work Presentation**

This presentation provided an overview of the implementation of Adult Education and Literacy programming by the Illinois Community College Board as authorized by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014. Adult education aims to serve the diverse need of those who lack basic literacy, knowledge, and skills as well as immigrants and English language learners by providing a wide variety of instructional services and supports. The presenters shared provider and funding information, the strategic goals and initiatives driving adult education implementation, as well as current challenges. The presentation concluded with two local providers of adult education as well as an adult education program graduate student sharing information about their program and highlighting student success stories. Tina Raymond-Carter, Adult Education Administrator for A Safe Haven, which is a Community-Based Organization Adult Education Provider, shared information on the organization, which include: mission- aspire, trasnform, sustain those individuals who are homeless or in crisis; partnerships with ABE/ASE (HSE), Student Support Bridge/IET: Culinary, Security & Soon Welding; and shared current challenges - COVID-19 & Enrollment, Complex Trauma, Marketing, and Overcoming/Adapting. Khrystyna Sanborn, Heartland Community College Assistant Director, Adult Education Instruction, spoke about the community that is served, about the adult education program, partnerships, bridge and IET work, and current challenges. Kelaia Claveria, Heartland Community College Graduate, spoke about her experience as a graduate student in the adult education program.

**Item #8 - New Units**

**Item #8.1 - Richard J. Daley College, College of DuPage, Illinois Valley Community College,**

**Heartland Community College, Kennedy-King College, Olive-Harvey College, Harry S. Truman College**

Nick Kachiroubas made a motion, which was seconded by Paige Ponder, to approve the following items:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the following permanent new units of instruction for the community colleges listed below:

**PERMANENT PROGRAM APPROVAL**

Richard J. Daley College

* Industrial Supervision Engineering Technology A.A.S. degree (61 credit hours)
* Industrial Supervision Engineering Technology Certificate (30 credit hours)
* Mechatronics Engineering Technology A.A.S. degree (61 credit hours)
* Mechatronics Engineering Technology Certificate (30 credit hours)

College of DuPage

* Web Development A.A.S. degree (67 credit hours)

Illinois Valley Community College

* Dental Assisting A.A.S. degree (60 credit hours)

Heartland Community College

* Electric Vehicle Technology A.A.S. degree (60 credit hours)
* Electric Vehicle Technology Certificate (33 credit hours)
* Trades Management A.A.S. degree (60 credit hours)

Kennedy-King College

* Networking Systems and Technologies Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S) degree (61 credit hours)
* Networking Systems and Technologies Certificate (30 credit hours)

Olive-Harvey College

* Networking Systems and Technologies Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S) degree (61 credit hours)
* Networking Systems and Technologies Certificate (30 credit hours)

Harry S. Truman College

* Barbering A.A.S. degree (65 credit hours)
* Cosmetology A.A.S. degree (65 credit hours)

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Craig Bradley Yea Suzanne Morris Yea

Terry Bruce Yea Larry Peterson Yea

An-Me Chung Yea Paige Ponder Yea

Teresa Garate Yea Lynette Stokes Yea

Nick Kachiroubas Yea Jaleel Harris Yea

Lazaro Lopez Yea

The motion was approved. Student advisory vote: yes.

**Item #9 - Adoption of Minutes**

Terry Bruce made a motion, which was seconded by Larry Peterson, to approve the following items:

**Item #9.1 - Minutes of the June 4, 2021 Board Meeting**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Board minutes of the June 4, 2021 meeting as recorded.

**Item #9.2 - Minutes of the June 4, 2021 Executive Session**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Executive Session minutes of the June 4, 2021 meeting as recorded.

**Item #9.3 - Minutes of the August 19, 2021 Retreat**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Board minutes of the August 19, 2021 meeting as recorded.

**Item #9.4 - Minutes of the August 19, 2021 Executive Session**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Executive Session minutes of the August 19, 2021 retreat as recorded.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Craig Bradley Abstain Suzanne Morris Yea

Terry Bruce Yea Larry Peterson Yea

An-Me Chung Abstain Paige Ponder Yea

Teresa Garate Yea Lynette Stokes Yea

Nick Kachiroubas Yea Jaleel Harris Yea

Lazaro Lopez Yea

The motion was approved. Craig Bradley and An-Me Chung abstained. Student advisory vote: yes.

**Item #10 - Consent Agenda**

Larry Peterson made a motion, which was seconded by Nick Kachiroubas, to approve the following items:

**Item #10.1 - Certification on Eligibility for Special Tax Levy**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby authorizes the Executive Director to issue the annual certificates of eligibility for additional taxing authority to the community college districts meeting the following statutory criteria:

1. Received an equalization grant in fiscal year 2021 and/or received an equalization grant in fiscal year 2022; and

2. Had combined educational and operations and maintenance purposes tax rates less than 29.07 cents per $100 of equalized assessed valuation.

**Item #10.2 - Cooperative Education Agreement Between Heartland Community College and**

**Illinois Laborers’ & Contractors’ Joint Apprenticeship & Training Program**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Cooperative Education Agreement between Heartland Community College and the Illinois Laborers’ & Contractors’ Joint Apprenticeship & Training Program.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Craig Bradley Yea Suzanne Morris Yea

Terry Bruce Yea Larry Peterson Yea

An-Me Chung Yea Paige Ponder Yea

Teresa Garate Yea Lynette Stokes Yea

Nick Kachiroubas Yea Jaleel Harris Yea

Lazaro Lopez Yea

The motion was approved. Student advisory vote: yes.

**Item #11 - Information Items**

There was no discussion.

**Item #11.1 - Fiscal Year 2021 and 2022 Financial Statements**

**Item #11.2 - Basic Certificate Program Approval approved on behalf of the Board by the Executive Director**

**Item #11.3 - Illinois Ability to Benefit Alternative State Plan**

**Item #11.4 - Spring 2021 Legislative Report**

**Item #12 - Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Item #13 - Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Item #14 - Executive Session**

The Board did not go into Executive Session.

**Item #15 - Approval of Confidentiality of Executive Session Minutes**

Nick Kachiroubas made a motion, which was seconded by Teresa Garate, to approve the following motion:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby determines the Executive Session Minutes held on September 16, 2005; September 21, 2005; September 15, 2006; November 17, 2006; January 22, 2007; February 26, 2007; March 26, 2007; June 8, 2007; May 19, 2008; September 19, 2008; March 26, 2010; June 4, 2010; January 28, 2011; March 18, 2011; June 3, 2011; September 16, 2011; January 27, 2012; November 16, 2012; January 25, 2013; February 6, 2013; March 22, 2013; September 20, 2013; June 6, 2014; September 18, 2015; November 20, 2015; January 22, 2016; June 3, 2016; March 17, 2017; June 2, 2017; June 1, 2018; August 28, 2018; October 2, 2018; November 30, 2018; March 15, 2019; June 7, 2019; June 12, 2020; September 11, 2020; December 4, 2020 are to remain confidential. All other Executive Session Minutes are available for public inspection.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Craig Bradley Yea Suzanne Morris Yea

Terry Bruce Yea Larry Peterson Yea

An-Me Chung Yea Paige Ponder Yea

Teresa Garate Yea Lynette Stokes Yea

Nick Kachiroubas Yea Jaleel Harris Yea

Lazaro Lopez Yea

The motion was approved. Student advisory vote: yes.

**Item #16 - Executive Session Recommendations**

There were no recommendations.

**Item #16.1 - Employment/Appointment Matters**

**Item #16.2 - Minutes of Closed Sessions**

**Item #17 - Adjournment**

Lynette Stokes made a motion, which was seconded by Craig Bradley, to adjourn the Board meeting at 11:40 a.m.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Craig Bradley Yea Suzanne Morris Yea

Terry Bruce Yea Larry Peterson Yea

An-Me Chung Yea Paige Ponder Yea

Teresa Garate Yea Lynette Stokes Yea

Nick Kachiroubas Yea Jaleel Harris Yea

Lazaro Lopez Yea

The motion was approved. Student advisory vote: yes.