COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT TWELVE BOARD OF TRUSTEES Centralia College	
Hanson Boardrooms **Centralia College Boardrooms** **Centralia, Washington**	**Study Session/Regular Meeting** **September 11, 2025** **3:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- **Study Session**

Open Public Meetings Act

Kasi Walker, Assistant Attorney General, provided the trustees with a review of the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) emphasizing the Act's purpose of ensuring transparency, accountability, and public access to the decision-making processes of public governing bodies. She explained that all meetings of the Board of Trustees where a quorum is present and College business is discussed, whether action is taken or not, must comply with OPMA requirements.

Key topics included the definition of a "meeting," what constitutes a quorum, and the legal obligations around notice, agenda posting, and meeting minutes. Walker also reviewed the types of gatherings that are not considered OPMA meetings, such as social events or training sessions, provided College business is not discussed.

Special attention was given to executive sessions, including proper procedures, allowable topics (such as personnel matters and legal advice), and the importance of not taking action during these sessions. Walker also touched on remote and hybrid meeting compliance, highlighting the need to provide public access and preserve transparency regardless of format.

She concluded with a reminder of the importance of ongoing OPMA training for all board members and staff involved in public meetings and encouraged attendees to consult legal counsel with questions to ensure continued compliance.

Public Records Request Process

Kasi Walker, Assistant Attorney General, provided the trustees with a review of the Public Records Request (PRR) process drawing on her experience as a former Public Records Officer. She explained that Washington State's Public Records Act (PRA) requires government agencies, including colleges, to make identifiable and existing public records available upon request, subject to certain exemptions.

Walker stressed the importance of a prompt and efficient response process, noting that agencies must acknowledge receipt of a request within five business days and either provide the records, give an estimated timeline, ask for clarification, or deny the request with a legal basis. She clarified that public records include not only paper documents but also emails, text messages, voicemails, and digital files even on personal devices if they relate to public business.

She outlined the college's responsibilities under the law, including conducting a reasonable search, applying exemptions correctly, redacting where necessary, and maintaining communication with the requester throughout the process.

Walker also discussed the legal risks of non-compliance, including penalties, reputational harm, and the cost of litigation. She encouraged college staff and trustees to be mindful of record-keeping practices and to consult the designated Public Records Officer when in doubt.

The presentation reinforced the college's duty to balance transparency with privacy protections, and to foster a culture of accountability and legal compliance in managing public records.

1. **Call to Order**
   Board Chair Annalee Tobey called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**
   Board members present:
   - Annalee Tobey
   - Pretrina Mullins
   - Mark Scheibmeir
   - Chris Thomas
   - Court Stanley

Dr. Mohrbacher requested a reorder to the "New Business" section of the board agenda to present the TRIO SSS Resolution first.

It was MOVED BY Mark Scheibmeir THAT THE BOARD REORDER THE BOARD AGENDA. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Introductions/Presentations:**

Dr. Mohrbacher introduced Pat McCarthy, Washington State Auditor, to present the State Auditor's Stewardship Award to Centralia College. The Auditor commended the Business Office staff for their level of professionalism, good practices, and processes. She praised the staff for managing both accountability and financial statement audits while maintaining their regular workload. In addition to their professional dedication, they were simply nice to work with.

SAALT Introductions

- Alicia Jenkins, President
- Alan Cox, Vice President
- Angel Narvaez, Coordinator for Executive Affairs
- Heidi VanWinkle, Coordinator for Civic Engagement
- Katie Collins, Coordinator for Student Engagement
- Jazmin Moctezuma, Coordinator for Diversity
- Izabell Rushing, Coordinator for Wellness
- Ava Shiflett, Coordinator for social media/Publicity

SAALT consists of students who support and plan events for Centralia College students. As the representative for the governing body of Centralia College students, all SAALT members are responsible for advocating for students.

The Board welcomed the students to Centralia College.

Open Forum

Robert “Bear” Fulmer requested to speak to the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Fulmer addressed the board in regard to respectful treatment of employees and workplace culture.

The trustees thanked Mr. Fulmer for addressing the board.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Adoption of Minutes:

It was MOVED BY Court Stanley THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE REGULAR MINUTES OF June 12, 2025 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was MOVED BY Court Stanley THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE SPECIAL MINUTES OF July 22, 2025 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Policy Governance

Policy Updates

Dr. Mohrbacher reported Institutional Effectiveness (IE) does not meet until October 1, 2025, so currently there are no updates.

5. Trustee Reports

Chris Thomas attended the Foundation’s Scholarship Night on September 10, 2025. Chris commended Mark Scheibmeir for doing an outstanding job speaking with students and communicating who we are as a college and what we do. Events like these are incredibly valuable for fostering connections, not only with students but also with the broader community.

Chris invited nurse leaders, including Providence Hospital’s Chief Nursing Officer, to engage directly with the nursing students. Through these conversations, a gap was identified in the current program. The spring nursing cohort is now graduating in March, rather than the usual June timeline while the residency program still begins in July. This creates a potential gap in employment opportunities for those students. By making that connection, we’re now exploring solutions to bridge this timing gap, with the goal of retaining these graduates as local employees.

These kinds of engagement events continue to be instrumental in building relationships and creating solutions that benefit both students and the community.

Mark Scheibmeir noted that in preparation for Scholarship Night, he sent a request to fellow trustees asking them to provide a brief overview of their personal backgrounds and educational experiences. Their responses served as a reminder of how trustees are connected to the educational system and how education has shaped their lives. Mark expressed appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the event and shared enthusiasm for upcoming activities. While unable to attend Monday's kickoff, Mark plans to participate in Saturday's events.

Pretrina Mullins also attended Scholarship Night and enjoyed being a part of the event. Pretrina appreciated Mark's comments, which she thought were meaningful and well received.

Pretrina attended the board retreat and thought spending additional time with colleagues in that setting was beneficial.

Pretrina participated in the most recent Trustee Tuesday session, noting that while attendance was limited, the content was significant. One of the key topics discussed was the advancement of the federal budget and the challenges it brings. While the current federal administration has proposed notable funding cuts, including reductions to programs like TRIO, there is still strong advocacy happening in Congress to preserve key grant and funding initiatives. The discussion highlighted ongoing efforts to influence legislative outcomes and protect student support programs at the national level.

Pretrina will not be able to attend Saturday's Centennial event due to family commitments but expressed interest in participating in additional Centennial activities throughout the month.

Court Stanley attended the Puyallup Fair in support of the Farm Forestry Association booth. While there, he engaged with representatives from the neighboring Society of American Foresters booth, including the forestry instructor from Grays Harbor College. The instructor noted that Grays Harbor College offers a four-year degree in forestry and had several students present, fewer students from Centralia College are transitioning into their program. Court indicated that he may be able to assist in reestablishing that connection.

Annalee Tobey thanked Court for hosting the board retreat in July. It was a pleasure to connect with colleagues in a relaxed setting off-campus, and the waterfront location was thoroughly enjoyable.

She also extended appreciation to Christine and her team for organizing a successful Scholarship Night. A particularly impactful moment was when the students entering the bachelor's in nursing program were recognized. Sitting beside Larry McGee, it was clear he was moved by the acknowledgment of the students' achievements. It was an excellent event, and Annalee looks forward to the activities planned for the coming week.

WA-ACT

Court Stanley will serve as the board's representative on the Legislative Action Committee for the Association of College Trustees (ACT). Although he was unable to attend a scheduled meeting this afternoon due to travel delays on I-5, it was noted that committee activity is increasing in anticipation of the upcoming legislative session. Approximately 20 meetings are scheduled between now and January. Regular updates will be provided to the board as new information becomes available.

ACCT

The 2025 ACCT Leadership Congress will be in New Orleans, Louisiana this year on Wednesday, October 22 through Saturday, October 25, 2025. The theme will be "Reimaging Community College: Innovation for a Changing World." Annalee Tobey, Chris Thomas, Dr. Cox, and Dr. Mohrbacher will be attending this year.

6. **President's Report**

Dr. Mohrbacher acknowledged that having all five trustees present for the recent scholarship event made a meaningful impression.

Dr. Mohrbacher provided an update on the current status of the Talent Search and Upward Bound programs. Unlike in previous years, grant award notifications were not received by the expected August 31 deadline. As a result, the college was required to issue layoff notices to impacted staff. Shortly thereafter, an extension was granted, allowing the programs to continue operations through the end of September, provided sufficient funds remain. Unfortunately, current program budgets are not expected to stretch through that period. The college will allocate additional internal resources to bridge the gap temporarily.

If funding notifications are not received by the end of September, additional layoff notices may need to be issued. While it is probable that the grants will be renewed, this uncertainty creates significant disruption and stress for affected staff, as they are now experiencing a second round of layoffs.

It was noted that Talent Search and Upward Bound are continuing within an existing grant period. This makes it less likely that funding will be rescinded, but the delay still poses operational challenges. The hope is that award notifications will arrive within the next one to two weeks.

Dr. Mohrbacher provided an update on upcoming and ongoing discussions related to higher education funding at the state level. On Tuesday, he will attend a meeting with the Washington Roundtable and other college and university presidents to discuss a potential statewide standardized funding formula for higher education. Some community college presidents serving on the advisory group have expressed skepticism, as many of the proposed elements already exist within the community and technical college (CTC) system. Additionally, concerns remain about whether this proposal would introduce new revenue or simply reallocate existing resources, which may offer limited benefit to the CTC sector. To prepare for that discussion, the community college presidents on the advisory group plan to meet in advance to review the materials and align perspectives.

Dr. Mohrbacher explained the allocation model has been finalized and recommended by the college presidents and approved by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC). However, the six-year implementation timeline has not been approved. The SBCTC has requested further discussion on whether that timeline should be shortened. That discussion is scheduled for October 3.

The impact on the college’s allocation is projected to be a reduction of approximately $539,000. This amount will be phased in over four to six years depending on the adopted schedule. While this is a manageable decrease for the college, some institutions are facing reductions in the millions. The model reflects the principle that funding should follow student enrollment. Although the college’s enrollment is increasing, it is doing so at a slower rate than at other institutions, contributing to the projected decrease.

Dr. Mohrbacher also noted that 5% of the allocation model is tied to the Student Achievement Initiative (SAI), which has its own set of performance-based funding criteria. Further updates on both funding model developments and the SAI will be provided as available.

As part of the recent review of the allocation model, two separate surveys were conducted to gather feedback from colleges on various components of the model. One key question asked whether institutions currently use the Student Achievement Initiative (SAI) framework for planning and resource allocation. The overwhelming response from colleges was "no” citing that the model is overly complex and not effective in guiding resource decisions.

Originally, the recommendation was to delay a formal review of SAI until the next scheduled allocation model review in five years. However, if the model is widely regarded as ineffective, it would be unwise to continue relying on it for an extended period. This prompted the group to revisit SAI sooner.

Dr. Mohrbacher has been asked to chair the group tasked with leading the review of the SAI framework. Efforts are underway to simplify the performance funding model and better align it with the principles of Guided Pathways. This work will continue to roll out over the course of the academic year.

Preparations are in place for the Fall Kickoff event on Monday. The event will include a combination of institutional updates, engaging activities, and opportunities to connect as a community. Trustees who are able to attend are encouraged to stay through the end of the program to participate in the group photo.

The upcoming week will be a full one, with a variety of activities planned to support the ramp-up to the fall quarter.

For those planning to attend the upcoming ACT conference in New Orleans, an email will be sent out shortly to coordinate logistics and explore the possibility of arranging a group dinner during the event.

Dr. Mohrbacher hosted an August leadership retreat at his home. The Cabinet met in the morning to discuss a range of institutional priorities. In the afternoon, the group was joined by deans and directors for a broader working session focused on enrollment, budget, and related historical data. Participants broke into three working groups to explore strategies around student retention and enrollment. Each group returned with a list of actionable items ranging from smaller process improvements to initiatives that may require additional planning and resources.

Building on the retreat, the college’s Tuesday morning management team meetings are now incorporating dedicated time to refine and implement these initiatives. At the most recent meeting, the team spent an hour developing action steps for the ideas generated during the retreat. This work will continue throughout the quarter.

These efforts are aligned with the college's strategic plan, including the target of reaching 2,700 FTE. The college made significant progress in student retention last year. The current focus is on sustaining that progress and expanding efforts to retain specific student populations through targeted support strategies.

Dr. Mohrbacher highlighted recent developments among peer institutions regarding program expansion. For example, Peninsula College has introduced eight or nine new programs within a single year. Columbia Basin College is experiencing rapid growth, reflecting broader population increases in the Tri-Cities area. For other colleges experiencing growth or changes, the underlying causes are less clear, warranting further analysis.

Mark Scheibmeir congratulated Dr. Mohrbacher on his role as chair of the Washington Association of Community and Technical Colleges (WACTC), noting that his leadership reflects positively both on him personally and on the college as a whole.

Dr. Mohrbacher noted that two years ago, significant effort was spent in revising the bylaws to allow for nominations for the WACTC presidency, moving away from the prior practice of selection by seniority. However, no nominations have been submitted since the change, and the presidency has continued to be determined by seniority.

7. <u>SAALT</u>

Alicia Jenkins, Student Advocacy Activities Leadership Team (SAALT) President, reported on several things.

The team participated in training and preparation to support student engagement efforts. Several upcoming events are planned, including an outdoor movie night designed to foster community-building among students. Efforts are also focused on creating opportunities for students to connect—particularly through events that support involvement, helping to build a welcoming and inclusive campus environment.

The student leadership team recently completed a retreat centered on team building and preparing to serve students more effectively. The team also attended the Washington State Community and Technical College Student Leadership Conference, held at Green River College. Valuable insights were gained from the conference, which will strengthen leadership efforts moving forward.

Looking ahead, two major initiatives are being prioritized: securing *Military Friendly Campus* status and regaining the college's *Yellow Ribbon* designation. Both are critical steps toward better supporting military-affiliated students, and board support in these efforts will be key.

These initiatives, along with the schedule of planned events and ongoing leadership training, position the student government for a successful and impactful year.

8. <u>Faculty</u>

Mark Gorecki, faculty representative, Centralia College Federation of Teachers President, reported there are three new tenure track faculty members this year:

- Shauna Lee Martin - Nursing
- Nathaniel Leslie - Physics
- Tim Malroy – Advising/Counseling

The new faculty members will be attending either the October or November board meeting for introductions.

9. **<u>Classified</u>**

Emil Parke-Fagerness, classified representative, reported Jarrett Meers has transitioned to a new role as Program Assistant in the Career and Technical Education office. DuAnn Kenny was recognized by the Business Office as Employee of the Year, an honor awarded by her peers in recognition of her outstanding work in payroll.

10. **<u>Instruction</u>**

Connie Smejkal, Vice President of Instruction, introduced Becky Coleman, the new Dean of Career and Technical Education. Becky began her educational journey at Centralia College, exhibiting a pathway similar to those discussed during Scholarship Night. She holds a master’s degree and is currently pursuing an EdD in Higher Education. Although Becky Coleman has been with the college for only seven days, she has already made a strong impression. Becky demonstrates a passion for supporting students and faculty alike. She actively engages in how to improve programs and increase enrollment.

Building on earlier remarks about program development, Connie noted this remains a consistent focus in Cabinet discussions. Recently, the team has been evaluating existing programs with growth potential, considering whether changes in marketing or other strategies are needed to attract more students.

Efforts are also underway to revise the intake processes for Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) students and to explore the feasibility of starting new program cohorts more frequently, rather than limiting startups to the traditional fall quarter. For example, due to sufficient demand, a second cohort for the Behavioral Healthcare program is planned for the upcoming winter quarter.

Becky Wood, Director of Workforce Funding, secured a grant aimed at developing high-demand programs. As a result, the college will soon onboard a temporary position dedicated to advancing program development initiatives.

Together, these efforts reflect a proactive approach to addressing enrollment and program growth challenges.

11. **<u>Human Resources & Equity</u>**

Joy Anglesey, Vice President of Human Resources and Equity, provided an update on recent HR activities. Despite anticipating a summer lull, the department experienced a very busy period. HR processed 192 applicants, conducted 35 interviews, and held 27 final interviews. A detailed demographic breakdown of applicants was provided.

Significant efforts were made to reorganize two separate departments, alongside additional workload involving departmental reallocations that did not fall under formal reorganization processes. The department also managed a high volume of public records requests, which continued at a steady pace into September.

Ms. Anglesey highlighted the challenges of managing this extensive workload with limited staff, currently comprised of herself and Roberta Graver. Despite these constraints, the HR team is committed to meeting the demands and supporting the college’s operations.

Ms. Anglesey and Roberta participated in recent training opportunities. The tools and techniques they learned have significantly improved departmental operations. Special recognition was given to Roberta for her exceptional work in cataloging, data management, and ensuring proper use of forms and procedures. Her efforts have been instrumental in streamlining processes, and Joy commended Roberta for her contributions.

12. Student Services

Dr. Robert Cox, Vice President of Student Services, provided an update on enrollment. Overall, enrollment is up approximately 5% compared to the previous year. This growth is primarily attributed to an increase in Running Start students, which is up by 80 FTEs. In contrast, state-funded FTEs remain essentially flat, with only a minimal change of about 33 FTEs.

Dr. Cox noted that while the overall student headcount is similar to last year, the increase in FTEs suggests that students may be enrolling in more full-time credit loads. This could explain the growth in FTEs without a corresponding spike in headcount. He also acknowledged the potential for shifts as the quarter progresses, as students may adjust their course loads in response to academic or personal factors, such as extracurricular commitments. Dr. Cox stressed that the 5% increase is a positive sign, especially in contrast to being flat or experiencing a decline.

Dr. Cox provided insight into transfer and enrollment trends among Running Start students. Dashboard data is available that tracks where students transfer after completing high school, sortable by high school. Historically, the majority of Running Start students have been four-year college-bound, often completing an associate degree or a substantial number of credits at the college before transferring directly to a university.

However, with the expansion of bachelor's degree offerings at the college, a shift is emerging. An increasing number of Running Start students are choosing to remain at the college after high school graduation to complete their associate degree and then continue directly into one of the college’s bachelor’s programs. This trend reflects the evolving role of the college in providing accessible and continuous pathways for students pursuing advanced degrees.

Dr. Cox noted that dual credit offerings through local high schools continue to grow, though not always directly through the college. In many cases, high schools first approach the college to credential their instructors for College in the High School programs. When instructors are unable to meet the college’s credentialing requirements, districts often turn to other institutions to provide those credits.

This highlights a strong effort by K–12 partners to expand access to dual credit opportunities for their students, including College in the High School, Running Start, and Advanced Placement (AP). Among these, Running Start remains the most widely utilized program for earning college credit during high school.

Dr. Robert Cox noted that this month’s report emphasizes safety and security, as these functions have recently moved under the Student Services division. Dr. Cox has been working closely with Jared Cunningham, Director of Safety and Security, who oversees campus safety and security operations.

Dr. Cox introduced Jared Cunningham and commended him for his strong leadership and dedication, noting that it had been a particularly busy week and that

Jared had gone above and beyond, including working several late nights, to ensure campus safety.

Dr. Cox provided additional context regarding campus safety procedures in relation to Clery Act requirements. Under the Clery Act, a timely warning must be issued to the campus community if there is a substantial or ongoing threat. While the law mandates timeliness, it does not define a specific timeframe, which can present challenges in implementation. In reference to a recent incident, Dr. Cox noted that while the circumstances did not strictly require a timely warning under the Clery Act, Jared issued a campus-wide notification in alignment with the spirit of the law and out of an abundance of caution.

The situation remains unresolved, and once it is, a follow-up communication will be sent to the college community to provide closure. In the meantime, students and staff are encouraged to remain vigilant, particularly during evening hours, and to report any suspicious activity.

Jared provided an update on a new initiative to enhance campus emergency preparedness. The college is in the process of implementing a *Building Monitor Program* for each building across campus. Under this program, designated individuals will be assigned to each floor and trained to assist in the event of an emergency, such as an evacuation. These individuals will help ensure that buildings are cleared, communicate critical information, and relay that information to campus security and first responders.

Dr. Cox reported that the college's parking lots lack clear signage that indicates the lots are Centralia College property. New signage has been designed to clearly identify college-owned lots and provide information about overnight parking and related policies. These signs will be ordered and installed across campus to improve clarity and reinforce campus boundaries.

13. <u>Administrative Services</u>

Tariq Qureshi, Vice President of Finance and Administration, provided a brief financial update. He reported that the college ended the fiscal year (FY 2024) with actual expenditures totaling $29.5 million, coming in approximately $1 million under the approved budget of $30.5 million.

Looking ahead to FY 2026, the college continues to actively identify and implement non-personnel cost-saving measures as part of ongoing budget management efforts.

14. <u>Foundation</u>

Christine Fossett, Associate Vice President of Advancement, thanked the trustees for attending the previous evening's event. The presence of board members was noted and appreciated by students, several of whom offered positive feedback on both the content and length of the speeches. Based on this success, the Foundation is planning to repeat the event next year, with minor adjustments. Photographs from the scholarship event were completed earlier today and will be distributed shortly.

The college's marketing team, led by Amanda Haines, is currently focused on a website redesign, with rollout expected within the coming months. In addition, targeted marketing plans tied to student retention strategies are also underway.

Foundation revenue began slowly in July but has since increased to $411,000 to date. No new endowments have been added yet this fiscal year, but two are currently in development.

Christine reminded everyone of the upcoming Foundation picnic this Saturday. A designated tent will be available for trustees, and a number of alumni and former staff members are expected to attend.

For the October 11, 2025 gala, The Foundation has a strong selection of live and silent auction items. Currently, ticket sales are a bit slow but that's expected at this stage. Everyone should have received their invitations to the event approximately two weeks ago.

The Foundation is offering two Centennial coffees created in partnership with Mint City Coffee. They will be for sale throughout the year and will be available at the picnic this Saturday. You can also find them at the bookstore and the Blazer Bistro. Mint City Coffee decided not to sell their own blend because they don't want to undercut the Foundation, which is appreciated.

15. New Business

TRIO SSS Resolution

Dr. Mohrbacher provided a resolution for board members regarding the Student Support Services:

> *Whereas, the TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) program has faithfully and effectively served the students of Centralia College from 1985 to 2025; and*
>
> *Whereas, TRIO SSS has been a vital service to thousands of first-generation and low-income students over the past 40 years; and*
>
> *Whereas, the services provided by the TRIO SSS program have consistently improved the performance of the students served, resulting in retention and completion rates above the institutional average; and*
>
> *Whereas, the U.S. Department of Education has now withdrawn support for this program, leading to the unfortunate closure of the program;*
>
> *Now, therefore, on this 11th day of September 2025, the Centralia College Board of Trustees, by unanimous approval, hereby issues this public resolution of thanks and gratitude to the current and former staff of the Centralia College TRIO Student Support Services program for 40 years of dedication to student success at Centralia College and for furthering the mission of the College to promote student success, academic excellence, and support for our community in an inclusive and equitable learning environment.*

On behalf of the Board, thank you for representing 40 years of dedicated TRIO service at Centralia College. Your commitment to student success is truly appreciated.

President's Contract

Due to a delay in finalizing the president's contract, the timeline is currently behind schedule. A letter from Annalee Tobey will be required to proceed, after which the matter will be presented at the next board meeting. Any necessary adjustments will be applied retroactively.

Emeritus Policy update

Dr. Mohrbacher reported that it is within the board's purview to grant emeritus status to retiring or retired employees, which has traditionally been an honorary title. Recently, several emeritus faculty members have expressed interest in receiving a Centralia College emeritus email address as part of their benefits. While technical limitations previously prevented this, Janet Reaume and Casey Schmidt, Chief Technology Officer, have established it is feasible. As a result, an amendment to the emeritus policy is being requested to include a Centralia College email address as a benefit.

It was MOVED BY Chris Thomas THAT THE CENTRALIA COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE AN EMERITUS EMAIL ADDDRESS AS PART OF THE BENEFIT OF BEING AWARDED EMERITUS STATUS.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Acting President

Dr. Mohrbacher reported he will be out of the country from October 13 through 17, 2025. Policy 5.025 specifically requires that an acting president be appointed if the college president is out of the country.

It was MOVED BY Pretrina Mullins THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH POLICY 5.025, ACTING PRESIDENT, BECAUSE PRESIDENT MOHRBACHER WILL BE TRAVELLING OUTSIDE OF THE U.S., THE BOARD APPOINTS DR. ROBERT COX, VP OF STUDENT SERVICES, TO SERVE AS ACTING PRESIDENT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING OCTOBER 13 THROUGH OCTOBER 17, 2025. THE BOARD CHAIR MAY EXTEND THE APPOINTMENT FOR UP TO THREE EXTRA DAYS IF NEEDED.

DURING THIS PERIOD, ACTING PRESIDENT COX WILL BE ASSIGNED TO CARRY OUT ANY DAILY DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT THAT MAY OCCUR AND ARE NECESSARY FOR THE CONTINUING OPERATION OF THE COLLEGE. SHOULD ANY UNUSUAL OR EXTRAORDINARY DECISIONS OR ACTIONS BE NECESSARY DURING THIS PERIOD, ACTING PRESIDENT COX IS DIRECTED TO CONSULT WITH THE BOARD CHAIR OF PRESIDENT MOHRBACHER, AS AVAILABLE.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

16. Old Business

Strategic Planning

Dr. Bob Mohrbacher for Fia Eliasson-Creek, Executive Director of Institutional Research, reported strategic planning work is continuing, with three active work groups focused primarily on enrollment and retention. Some of the initiatives involve streamlining internal processes and making incremental improvements. There are also ambitious, exploratory ideas under consideration, one of which may be brought to the Foundation for potential development, though it is still too early to determine feasibility.

In addition to enrollment and retention, strategic planning efforts are also addressing innovation and operational efficiency. Updates were shared previously on changes to technology purchasing practices, and further improvements such as proposed changes to campus printing are being reviewed.

Amanda Witt, Director of Procurement, provided additional context on upcoming changes to campus printing services.

Following a ransomware incident that affected the campus print server, the Procurement and IT teams seized the opportunity to explore a more efficient printing solution. Amanda Witt and Casey Schmidt have been working to implement PaperCut, a new system that will centralize printing through multifunction copier machines located throughout campus.

Under this model, users, including employees and students, will print from their devices and retrieve documents from any designated machine, reducing reliance on individual desktop printers and high-cost toner. The initiative also includes evaluating current machine locations and relocating them to better serve user needs. The Procurement office volunteered to pilot the system with initial testing last week. While a few technical issues remain, the team is nearing deployment readiness. Plans for a broader campus rollout will follow once the system is fully operational.

<u>Accreditation</u>

Dr. Bob Mohrbacher for Fia Eliasson-Creek, Executive Director of Institutional Research, reported that Centralia College received official notification from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) that the College's accreditation has been reaffirmed. As part of the reaffirmation, the Commission issued several ongoing recommendations.

An ad hoc visit is scheduled for Spring 2027 to follow up on these recommendations, particularly in the area of Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability. The Commission expects to see continued use of mission fulfillment data as part of institutional planning and decision-making. This follow-up is to ensure that the College is maintaining an active and integrated process, rather than one developed solely for the accreditation review.

Standard One which includes 1) mission fulfillment, 2) institutional effectiveness, 3) student achievement, and 4) student learning. The team will meet with a number of groups on campus, including some board members. There may be up to five or six evaluators on campus, each with a different area to focus on.

17. Executive Session

Under RCW 42.30.110, the board may hold an executive session for the purpose of reviewing the performance of a public employee and current or potential agency litigation or to review professional negotiations.

At 5:35 pm board members moved into executive session to consult with legal counsel about current or potential litigation and to review the performance of public employees. The Board will be in Executive Session until 5:55 p.m. unless notified that the time is extended.

At 5:55, the Board extended Executive Session an additional fifteen minutes.

The Board has adjourned the Executive Session and reconvenes in Open Session. The time is 6:09 p.m.

The Board will proceed with the final agenda items.

18. Action from Executive Session

There was no action from executive session.

19. Announcement of Upcoming Meeting Date and Place:

The next board meeting will be Thursday, October 10, 2024 via Teams and Centralia College Boardrooms, Centralia, WA.

20. Comments

21. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Annalee Tobey, Board Chair	*Dr. Bob Mohrbacher, Board Secretary*