

UNAPPROVED

Minutes of the Retreat of the  
Illinois Community College Board

Harper Community College  
Wojcik Conference Center  
Sullivan Room (W101)  
1200 W. Algonquin Rd  
Palatine, IL

August 23, 2019

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

It is recommended that the following motion be adopted:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the minutes of the August 23, 2019 Retreat as recorded.

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

To begin the retreat, item #3 - roll call was moved up with no objection. Chair Lopez called the Board meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and asked Ann Knoedler to call roll. The following Board members were present at this time; Nick Kachiroubas, Paige Ponder, Suzanne Morris, Doug Mraz, and student Board member Isabella Hernandez. There was a quorum present. Board member Teresa Garate and Terry Bruce were absent.

**Item #2 - Welcome from Dr. Proctor, President of Harper College**

Chair Lopez began by welcoming the recently hired President of Harper College, Dr. Proctor. The Board thanked the President and Harper College for hosting the ICCB retreat. Dr. Avis Proctor took this time to welcome the Board and give a brief update about her background. The Harper College Board of Trustees approved the selection of Dr. Avis Proctor as its next College President by unanimous vote on Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Proctor became the sixth President of Harper College on July 1, 2019, succeeding Dr. Ken Ender. Dr. Proctor served as Broward College's North Campus President in Coconut Creek, Florida. Dr. Proctor has 25 years of experience working in multicultural environments as a mathematics educator and academic administrator with a focus on teaching, service, and research. Dr. Proctor believes in working closely with local school districts, the business community, and higher education institutions. She has provided collaborative leadership for early childhood education, dual enrollment, and college readiness/completion initiatives which have gained national attention. Her work at previous institutions has included expanding articulation, internship, and employment opportunities to enhance student-employer connections for current students as well as alumni. Dr. Proctor earned her bachelor's degree in Mathematics Education at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, a Master of Science in Teaching Mathematics at Florida Atlantic University, and her Doctorate in Higher Education at Florida International University.

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BREAK at 11:25 a.m.

The Board began having lunch.

RETURNED at 11:34 a.m.

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**Item #3 - Announcements and Remarks by Dr. Laz Lopez, Board Chair**

Chair Lopez stated that during these retreats the ICCB staff provide recommendations to the Board on the Board Goals. The Board then decides if the current goals need adjustments. During this retreat, the Board should consider if the current goals:

- Align with the state and current administration
- Which have been successful and had the most progress
- Stay on the same focus
- Adjust the language

Chair Lopez again stressed the importance of having three focused goals:

- Protects the agency
- Stays focused on work of the Board
- Sets the agenda for the ICCB staff
- Evaluates the Executive Director and agency accomplishments

**Item #4 - Board Member Comments**

There were no Board comments.

**Item #5 - Executive Director Report**

Dr. Brian Durham began by commenting that, having just attended the National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges Conference and the Aspen Institute 2019 State Education Leaders Retreat, the Board should also consider if the current goals align nationally.

**Item a - National and Illinois Landscape of Higher Education**

Dr. Durham gave a presentation on the National and Illinois Landscape of Higher Education. Dr. Durham briefly highlighted specific content from the slide show presentation.

To begin, Dr. Durham highlighted some of the content from the Gallup Greatest Hits in Higher Education report:

- Sixty-seven percent of Americans say a “Good Job” is what they want from higher education; 88% of freshmen
- Number one desire of employers: internships / on-the-job experience
- Ninety-five percent of Chief Academic Officers rate their institutions as effective at preparing students for the world of work
- Highest rated institution by Americans (% is confidence level)
  - Military: 74%
  - Small Business: 67%
  - The Police: 54%
  - Higher Education: 48% - Higher Education has the largest historical decline in confidence level among institutions (-9%)
  - The Presidency: 37%
  - Television News: 20%
  - Congress: 11%
- There are only 46% of Associate Degree holders and 45% of Bachelor Degree holders that believe the education is worth the cost

On the National Landscape, these are the topics on the mind of policy makers:

- Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act
- Applied Baccalaureate
- Free Community College
- Dual Enrollment / Dual Credit
- Apprenticeships

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- Short Term Pell Grants
- Pell for Incarcerated Individuals

Two HEA reauthorization bills were introduced in the House in 2017 and 2018, one by Republicans and a separate bill from the Democrats:

- AIM HIGHER ACT (H.R. 6543)
  - Significantly more generous than current programs for students and borrowers
  - Increases funding for Pell, TRIO, and GEAR Up
  - Makes loans more affordable
  - Restructures Work-Study and other grants
  - Significantly increases reporting and regulatory burden
- PROSPER ACT (H.R. 4508)
  - Removes restrictions on providing aid to for-profit institutions, correspondence courses, and certificate programs
  - Revises accountability measures and adds new measures such as adding measures for minority serving institutions
  - Prohibits denying religious institutions the same privileges afforded to other groups
  - Limits USDOE's ability to issue regulations
  - Revises sexual assault requirements on campus
  - Authorizes an industry-led apprenticeship grant program
  - Revises the Federal Pell Grant program, the Federal Work-Study program, and an aid program for students whose families are seasonal farm workers
  - Revises requirements governing the Federal TRIO program for students from disadvantaged backgrounds
  - Repeals Public Service Loan Forgiveness for new borrowers
  - Changes student loan programs

Applied Baccalaureate: Increasing access to baccalaureate degrees for those enrolled in Associate of Applied Science programs is the goal for allowing community colleges to confer Bachelor of Applied Science.

- Twenty-six states have approved community colleges to award applied baccalaureate degree programs
- Washington, Ohio, Texas, California, Florida, and Colorado are a few of the states with policies.

Free Community College: The number of states providing tuition-free community college education for low-income students has increased over the last five years.

- In 2017, eight states implemented tuition-free community college (Promise Scholarship Programs) for low-income citizens; Maryland was the most recent.
- Over 350 local Promise Programs across the country, including some here in Illinois.
- Most programs are last-dollar programs.

Agenda item #12.3  
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- Hawaii and New York offer programs for 4-year programs, and New Jersey will launch program for 2019-2020 academic year.

Dual Enrollment / Dual Credit: More states are implementing statewide policies offering high school students opportunities to earn college academic and CTE credit at community colleges.

- For 2019-2020, Georgia reduced the school's transportation appropriation and discontinued reimbursement for books and supplies for dual enrollment (DE) students.
- Ohio and Georgia instituted a cap on the number of credits earned.
- Montana and Idaho expanded DE opportunities to CTE credits and Alaska implemented a statewide DE policy.

Apprenticeship: Apprenticeship offers students opportunity to earn-while-they-learn.

- Department of Labor (DOL) announced awards totaling \$183.8 million to states to expand apprenticeship programs in partnership with industry partners. Twenty-three states were funded for such programs including Illinois.
- DOL will make available an additional \$100 million to expand apprenticeship programs and focus on closing skills gaps.
- Since 2017, more than 500,000 new apprenticeships have been developed.

Short-Term Pell Grants: Approval to award students enrolled in short-term training programs Pell Grants is of interest to many stakeholders and there is a big push to include it in the Reauthorized Higher Education Act.

- The proposal includes the following:
  - Allocate 2% of previous year's Pell Grant fund to students in short-term training programs.
  - Administer in the same way that campuses administer supplemental grant programs of federal aid; identify eligible students and award the aid based on eligibility.

Pell for Incarcerated: In April 2019, U.S. Congressman Davis (D-IL) introduced a bill on the floor of the House to amend the Higher Education Act to allow incarcerated persons to be eligible for Pell Grants.

- The current ban was enacted in 1994.
- Allows institutions and workforce training provider's opportunity to offer academic programs and workforce training to incarcerated persons.
- This is considered the next step to the Second Chance Pell program piloted to offer Pell Grants to formerly incarcerated.
- The bill has been assigned to the Education & Labor Committee.

Governor Pritzker's Priorities (Transition Reports) and Programmatic Priorities:

- |                                     |                                      |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Growing Our Agricultural Economy  | • Healthy Children and Families      |
| • Budget and Innovation             | • Restoring Illinois' Infrastructure |
| • Educational Success               | • Serving Illinois' Heroes           |
| • Equality, Equity, and opportunity | • Illinois' Emerging Leaders         |
|                                     | • Equity                             |

- Cradle to Career
- Early Childhood Education
- Teacher Education Pipeline
- Data Infrastructure
- Apprenticeships
- Dual Credit

Governor Pritzker's Legislative Successes:

- Legislative Accomplishment --- Implications for Community Colleges
  - Graduated-rate income tax --- Potential for new revenue
  - Recreational Marijuana --- Workforce Development Opportunities the System / Careers in Cannabis Certificate
  - Sports Betting --- Additional Workforce Training Opportunities
  - 'Rebuild Illinois' capital bill --- \$425 million for community colleges
  - Balanced budget --- Fiscal Stability; 5% increase for FY2020

Dr. Durham ended the discussion with a brief explanation of Governor Pritzker's Executive Order #3: Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2019-03 directed Illinois' state agencies to:

- Action Area 1: Unite workforce development partners around a regional cluster strategy.
  - Identify high-impact regional clusters and associated in-demand occupations.
- Action Area 2: Prepare Illinois workers for a career, not just their next job.
  - Increase apprenticeship opportunities.
  - Scale up the use of Integrated Education and Training models to help adults get their high school equivalency (e.g., GED®) certificate and work on other basic skills while getting credentials for in-demand occupations.
- Action Area 3: Connect job seekers with employers.
  - Shorten time from credential to employment.
    - Scale up dual credit programs to give high school students an early start on college credits.

Before beginning discussions on the Preamble and revisions to the Board Goals, the Board decided to take a quick break.

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BREAK at 12:37 p.m.  
RETURNED at 12:47 p.m.

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**Item #6 - Development of a Preamble to the Board Goals**

With no objections, Item # 6 - Development of a Preamble to the Board Goals was moved ahead of modifying the Board goals. With some lengthy discussions, the Board decided on the following Preamble as an introduction to the Board Goals:

*The Illinois Community College Board affirms the comprehensive mission of the state's community colleges to provide all Illinois residents with opportunities for economic and personal growth, civic engagement, and cultural awareness. The Board is committed to implementing its goals with a focus on equity and a commitment to access, opportunity, and outcomes for all students.*

*The Board accomplishes these goals by promoting best practices, enabling evidence-based decision making, and supporting system wide continuous improvement.*

**Item #7 - Modifying the Board Goals**

With a very lengthy discussion, the Board decided on the following revisions to the Board Goals:

**Item a - GOAL 1: Smooth the transition for all students into and through postsecondary education**

**Item i. - MODIFIED BOARD GOAL 1**

*Foster system engagement and equitable outcomes by supporting a seamless transition into and through postsecondary education and the workforce.*

**Item b - GOAL 2: Contribute to the economic development of Illinois by providing robust workforce training, increasing credential attainment, closing the skills gap through talent pipeline management, and addressing the future needs of the workforce**

**Item i. - MODIFIED BOARD GOAL 2**

*Contribute to economic development by providing robust workforce training, expansion of apprenticeships, increasing credential attainment, building quality career pathways, and addressing the future needs of the Illinois workforce.*

**Item c - GOAL 3: Engage with all stakeholders to align policies to improve outcomes and increase access to public information on system effectiveness**

**Item i. - MODIFIED BOARD GOAL 3**

*Increase access and completion, with an emphasis on equitable outcomes, through the alignment of policies and increased data transparency to improve system effectiveness.*

The Board will publicly vote on these revised goals during the scheduled September 20, 2019 Board meeting being held at Harold Washington College in Chicago.

**Item #8 – Adjournment**

Nick Kachiroubas made a motion, which was seconded by Doug Mraz, to conclude the retreat at 2:10 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Nick Kachiroubas	Yea	Paige Ponder	Yea
Doug Mraz	Yea	Isabella Hernandez	Yea
Suzanne Morris	Yea	Laz Lopez	Yea

The motion was approved. Student Advisory vote: Yea.