APPROVED

Agenda

464th Meeting of the

Illinois Community College Board

Illinois Central College

Room 212C

1 College Dr

East Peoria, IL

## January 31, 2025

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

It is recommended that the following motion be adopted:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Board minutes of the January 31, 2025, meeting as recorded.

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

Chair Lopez called the Board meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and asked Ann Knoedler to call roll. The following Board members were present: Maureen Banks, Mara Botman, Craig Bradley, An-Me Chung, Marlon McClinton, George Evans, Lisa Dziekan, Teresa Garate, and Sylvia Jenkins were present. Larry Peterson was absent. A quorum was declared.

**Item #3 - Welcoming Remarks from Dr. Sheila Quirk-Bailey, President, IL Central College**

Chair Lopez moved item #3 up in the agenda due to Dr. Quirk-Bailey currently being out of state at a conference. She joined the meeting via webex. Dr. Quirk-Bailey welcomed and thanked the Board members for holding their ICCB Board meeting at IL Central College. She also announced there will be a tour of the workforce development center at 11:30, immediately following the Board meeting.

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

Chair Lopez welcomed everyone to the March Board meeting. He welcome new Board Member Lisa Dziekan. Lisa works at Lamar Johnson Collaborative which is an architecture firm based in Chicago. The Board is excited to have her on the Board. The Board members welcomed her and each introduced themselves.

With the recent inauguration of the Trump Administration, the landscape of higher education has been thrown into flux, made worse by the debacle of freezing federal funds. However, it was rescinded yesterday. There are many executive orders are targeting DEI programs, or related efforts. In that context, it is important for ICCB to remember that the Board’s first Goal is focused on equity for all underserved students—minorities, first generation, and low-income students and closing equity gaps. Much like the community colleges ICCB serves, the commitment to the equity goals must continue.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education has the statutory requirement to submit a budget recommendation to the Governor’s Office and General Assembly on behalf of all of higher education. This includes the ICCB (inclusive of the community colleges), ISAC, the Public Universities, and IMSA, and a few other higher education entities. The Governor’s Budget address is scheduled for February 19th.

Food insecurity remains a widespread issue affecting college students across the country, with estimates suggesting that 33 percent to 51 percent of college students experience food insecurity (Inside Higher Ed). Nationwide, 48 percent of students at both community colleges and universities reported food insecurity in the previous 30 days, with 25 percent of community college students experiencing very low food security.

The issue disproportionately impacts students of color, with 57 percent of Black or African American students reporting food insecurity. This is one of the many ways in which community colleges have stepped up to help students meet their basic needs, empowering them to be successful academically. To this end, the ICCB kicked off an annual contest where CCs that chose to participate, will engage a food drive. For this inaugural year, 24 of the 45 colleges chose to participate and collected over 91,000 individual food items. The top 5 colleges: John Wood Community College (Quincy), Elgin Community College (Elgin), College of DuPage (Glen Ellyn), Waubonsee Community College (Sugar Grove), and Shawnee Community College (Ullin). The winner, John Wood Community College, collected over half of those. A plaque was presented to the college President and staff involved.

Finally, for the January meeting, there is an annual mid-year update on the Board Goals. Brian will give his report as a part of his comments.

**Item #2.1 - Recognition of John Wood Community College for Top Spot In Feed The Need Food Drive**

Illinois Community Colleges are helping address food insecurity on campuses across the state through the inaugural Feed the Need, Food Drive, an initiative aimed at combating food insecurity on college campuses. Collectively, participating colleges collected more than 91,000 individual nonperishable food items for local campus and community food banks. John Wood Community College took home the top spot in the inaugural Feed the Need Food Drive, collecting the most items, and will receive a commemorative plaque during the board meeting.

**Item #4 - Board Member Comments**

There were no Board comments

**Item #4.1 - Illinois Board of Higher Education Report**

Dr. Sylvia Jenkins stated the last meeting was held on January 22, 2025 at Chicago State University and during this meeting the Board heard an update from Dr. Keith Cornille, President, Heartland Community College and Chair of the Community College Presidents’ Council; Zaldwaynaka “Z” Scott, J.D., President, Chicago State University and Convener, Public University Presidents; took action on a number of items; and received a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Recommendations.

**Item #4.2 -ICCB's Adequacy and Equity in Community College Funding Work Group**

Mr. George Evans stated the fourth and final meeting of the CC Funding Working Group met on January 23rd virtually, after a winter storm in Tallahassee Florida forced the consultants online. The meeting started with the consultants laying out the agenda which included most importantly finalizing the recommendations and providing some sense of their priority. Under each of the five recommendations there was some discussion:

* Recommendation 1: Conduct comprehensive funding analyses. Analysis really underpins any work going forward. After a lot of discussion about how to analyze the data, the group agreed to move this recommendation forward, with the understanding that it was really about analysis for the additional recommendations and looking across multiple funding categories.
* Recommendation 2: Establish a base funding model. In this context, the group discussed institutional size, equalization, and operational costs.
* Recommendation 3: Implement an equity-driven funding model. There was consensus on supporting all student types, including adult and non-credit learners.
* Recommendation 4: Enhance equalization formula for stability. There were concerns expressed about property tax fluctuations and funding predictability.
* Recommendation 5: Analyze and improve dual credit funding structures. There was a lot of discussion on a need for greater consistency, sustainability, and faculty credentialing. This is very much tied to legislative conversations that are taking place.

All Recommendations were approved and will be incorporated into what is presented to the Board.

ICCB staff presented very preliminary funding models for state support, inflation adjustments, and equalization over 10 years. There was some Discussion on the necessity of increased state contributions to reduce reliance on tuition.

Finally, the group considered some additional considerations for the Board including. Guiding Principles: The adoption of some guiding principles, Transition Planning: Discussions about how any changes to formulas (with existing or new money) had to consider how to transition to those models (transition planning), Ramp / Timeline: What a funding ramp or timeline for new funding might look like. There was also some discussion forming taskforces or groups to consider equalization and dual credit.

TSG Advisors will compile a final report for ICCB review and Working Group feedback. The final report will be presented to the Board in March.

**Item #5 – Executive Director Report**

Executive Director Brian Durham stated he will go straight into item #5.1-Mid-Year Board Goals Update.

**Item #5.1 - Mid-Year Board Goals Update**

Executive Director Brian Durham explained the Illinois Community College Board staff periodically update the Board on the agency’s progress toward the three adopted goals. Each year, during the first Board meeting of the calendar year the Board meeting provides an opportunity to share a midyear update on progress toward the goals. A presentation that detailed progress toward the goals was provided. Subsequently, the report summarizes a few of the agency’s core responsibilities and related tasks that contribute to the effective support of the Board Goals.

**Item #5.2 - Workforce Equity Initiative Showcase – Student Panel**

The Board heard from five Workforce Equity Initiative (WEI) students from five participating colleges in the state. These five of the approximately 15,883 students served through the WEI shared their experiences from their backgrounds, the comprehensive supportive services they have received, to their success. Public Act 101-0637 provided for $18.7 million dollars to respond to the increasing need to ensure workforce equity for African Americans in Illinois. Since 2020, the Illinois Community College Board has provided funding to approximately 20 community colleges statewide. The major goals of the WEI are to 1). accelerate the time for the targeted population to enter and succeed in postsecondary education/training programs that lead to employment in high skilled, high wage, and in-demand occupations that pay 30% above the regional living wage or on an educational pathway leading to 30% above the regional living wage, and 2) of the population to be served under this grant, a minimum of 60% must be African American. The outcomes of the WEI program have been phenomenal with over 120 WEI programs offered by the 20 participating colleges throughout the state, and 68% of completers (10,737) were employed at an average wage of over $23.00 per hour. As of November 30, 2024, approximately15,883 students have been served in the program which includes 11,595 (73%) African American students.

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At this time, the Board took a break at 10:47 a.m. and returned at 10:56 a.m.

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**Item #6 - Advisory Organizations**

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

During the meeting on January 24, 2025, Dr. Josh Bullock gave an update on legislative activities. A second lobbyist, Vojas Taylor, was recently contracted for one month, but a short contract through mid-February was approved for the second lobbyist. Now, approval is being sought from the ICCCP to approve a contract through June. The addition of this second lobbyist is crucial at this time, some stated, given the importance of the BAS and other key issues. Stephanie Stuart shared a list of the membership of the Legislative Committee and information about its structure. The Legislative Committee anticipates meeting on Mondays during the spring. During the Monday meetings, the Legislative Committee follows up on action items from the Friday calls.

Updates on three major legislative initiatives were shared: Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS), Common Course Numbering, and Dual Credit. On Common Course Numbering, a group has been meeting and working on items to move this forward. There is consensus around starting with community colleges (as opposed to waiting for universities). On Dual Credit, there is continuing conversation about the qualifications for instructors. Dr. Boyd thinks CAOs need better structure around what is asked from them and suggested considering expanding the group working on this issue. Again in regards to Dual Credit, HB 5020 is dead, but the concept is not. The new language that is or will be drafted/submitted is different because it is being drafted by the ICCCP. President Cornille stated that a smaller group is being pulled together on this to work on language to move a bill forward.

George Evans gave an update on the upcoming fall Presidents retreat. It will be at Walkers Bluff. There was discussion of the impact of recent federal Executive Orders and their impact on campuses and communities. Registration is now open for the current and upcoming cohorts for the Aspiring Leaders program. They are looking for one or two participants from each campus if possible. Jason Dockter gave IMWE update. Dr. Josh Bullock gave a Marketing Collaborative update on various activities. Dr. Ken Trzaska will give a full report on Competency Based Education in March. He is still planning a state summit for late spring/early summer. Dr. Spearman is serving as the PTK liaison and the PTK reception will be in April. Dr. Spearman will be sending sponsorship info out to colleges soon.

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

Mr. Jim Reed discussed the strategic plan for 2025-2027 and legislative priorities of the Illinois Community College Trustees Association. There was an emphasis on the community college baccalaureate - they reviewed the status of this initiative which is embodied in House Bill 3717 and Senate Bill 2482. CCB advocates are awaiting the Governor’s State of the State address on February 19 for indications of the Pritkzer administration’s support. Also areas of interest are enhancing transfer and articulation policies, and preparing for the future workforce. The traustees will be traveling to Washington, DC in February to meet with U.S. Senators Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth. Their next meeting is on March 14-15 in Naperville.

**Item #7 - Committee Reports**

**Item #7.1 - Finance, Budgeting, Accountability and External Affairs**

The committee met on the morning of January 31st at 8:00a with Sylvia, Jenkins, George Evans, Lisa Dziekan and An-Me Chung in attendance. The following items were discussed: Public Relations and Marketing Update which included Recent Press Releases, Career and Technical Education Month, and the 60th Anniversary of the Community College System, Spring 2025 Legislative Update, IBHE’s Fiscal Year 2026 Higher Education Budget Recommendations, Adequacy and Equity in Funding Workgroup Update, and the FY24 ICCB Annual Student Enrollment and Completion Report.

**Item #7.1a - Career and Technical Education Resolution**

George Evans made a motion, which was seconded by Maureen Banks, to approve the following resolution with the correction of changing the word “week” to “month” in the title:

**CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ~~WEEK~~ MONTH RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, February is nationally recognized as Career and Technical Education (CTE) month; and

**WHEREAS,** CTE’s origins stem from the signing of the Smith-Hughes Vocation Education Act of 1917, which was the first major federal investment in CTE; and

**WHEREAS,** CTE continues today through the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for 21st Act; and

**WHEREAS,** approximately 396,000 students participated in CTE across the State of Illinois and over 41,000 students graduate each year from these programs; and

**WHEREAS,** CTE in Illinois is instrumental in ensuring equitable access to learning opportunities, supporting students and local communities, fostering innovation, and promoting continuous improvement; and

**WHEREAS,** CTE programs lead in providing instruction for careers in high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand occupations in fields such as, healthcare, business and finance, information technology, agriculture, advanced manufacturing, and education; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Illinois Community College Board do hereby proclaim February 2025 as Career and Technical Education Month in Illinois to raise public awareness about the important role CTE plays in preparing students for tomorrow’s careers and driving economic growth; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** the we recognize the teachers, students, employers, and community partners for their efforts, persistence, and accomplishments.

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote.

**Item #7.2 - Academic, Workforce, and Student Support**

The committee met on the morning of January 31st at 8:00a with Mara Botman, Teresa Garate, Marlon McClinton, Maureen Banks, and Craig Bradley in attendance. The committee discussed the following: Transfer and IAI Report, Equity Plan, New Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access Plan, Workforce Equity Initiative, and New Units of Instruction.

**Item #8 - New Units**

Craig Bradley made a motion, which was seconded by Maureen Banks, to approve the following motion:

**Item #8.1 -** **Lake Land College, McHenry County College, Triton College, Harry S. Truman College**

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

**PERMANENT PROGRAM APPROVAL**

**Lake Land College**

* Environmental Health and Safety Services Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree (60 credit hours)
* Building Maintenance Certificate (31 credit hours)
* Maintenance Supervisor Certificate (44 credit hours)

**McHenry County College**

* Architectural Technology A.A.S. degree (60 credit hours)
* Radiologic Technology A.A.S. degree (60 credit hours)
* Respiratory Therapy A.A.S. degree (65 credit hours)
* Video Production and Editing A.A.S. degree (61 credit hours)
* Video Production and Editing Certificate (37 credit hours)

**Triton College**

* Associate in Engineering Science (A.E.S.) degree (61 credit hours)

**Harry S Truman College**

* Cloud Computing A.A.S. degree (60 credit hours)
* Cloud Computing Advanced Certificate (30 credit hours)

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote.

**Item #9 - Recognition of the Illinois Community Colleges**

Mara Botman made a motion, which was seconded by An-Me Chung, to vote on Shawnee Community college separately amd approve the following motion:

**Item #9.1 - City Colleges of Chicago**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby grants a status of “recognition continued” to the following districts:

City Colleges of Chicago, District 508

01 Kennedy-King College

02 Harold Washing College

03 Malcolm X College

04 Harry S Truman College

05 Olive-Harvey College

06 Richard J Daley College

07 Wilbur Wright College

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote.

**Item #9.1 - Shawnee Community College**

George Evans made a motion, which was seconded by Teresa Garate, to approve the following motion:

The Illinois Community College Board hereby grants a status of “recognition continued” to the following districts:

Shawnee Community Colleges, District 531

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote. Craig Bradly abstained.

**Item #10 - Adoption of Minutes**

Marlon McClinton made a motion, which was seconded by Sylvia Jenkins, to approve the following motion:

**Item #10.1 - Minutes of the September 27, 2024 Board Meeting**

The Illinois Community College Board hereby approves the Board minutes of the December 6, 2024, meeting as recorded.

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote. Board member Lisa Dziekan abstained.

**Item #11 - Information Items**

There was no discussion.

**Item #11.1 - Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Statements**

**Item #11.2 - FY24 ICCB Annual Student Enrollment and Completion Report**

**Item #11.3 - Basic Certificate Program Approval approved on behalf of the Board by the**

**Executive Director**

**Item #11.4 - ICCB Annual Joint Report of the Illinois Articulation Initiative**

**Item #11.5 - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access (DEIA) Plan**

**Item #12 - Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Item #13 - Public Comment**

There was a public comment from Frank H. Brooks from the IL Education Association.

**Item #14 - Executive Session**

The Board did not go into Executive Session.

**Item #15 - Executive Session Recommendations**

There were no recommendations.

**Item #15.1 - Employment/Appointment Matters**

**Item #16 - Adjournment**

Mara Botman made a motion, which was seconded by Craig Bradley, to adjourn the Board meeting at 11:33 a.m.

The motion was approved via unanimous voice vote.