

**CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**Board of Governors' Meeting Minutes**  
**October 19, 2023**

Public notice of the time and place of the Central Community College Board of Governors' meeting was given in advance to the board members, college administrators and the five daily newspapers within the 25-county area. The agenda was available to the public in the college president's office and on the CCC website, [www.cccneb.edu](http://www.cccneb.edu). The college adheres to the Open Meetings Act, a copy of which is available in the college president's office.

The meeting was held at Central Community College, 4500 63rd St., Columbus, Nebraska.

All supplemental documents from this meeting are available at:  
<https://meeting.sparqdata.com/Public/Organization/CCC>.

Chair Rita Skiles called the Oct. 19, 2023, meeting to order at 1:15 p.m., with 10 board members present.

**ROLL CALL**

Aerni – present	Keller – present
Borden – absent	Novotny – present
Buss – present	Pirnie – present
Cowan – present	Quick – present
Davis – present	Skiles – present
Heiden – present	

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Skiles asked college representatives to introduce guests and staff members.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Skiles requested that members of the audience register with Scott Miller if they wanted to address the board during the Public Participation segment.

**REVIEWING CLAIMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Dan Quick will review the claims prior to the Nov. 16, 2023, board meeting in Grand Island.

**REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION OF CONSENT ITEMS**

Skiles asked board members for items in the consent agenda they would like to move to discussion of consent/action items.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

Consent items included:

1. Agenda for Oct. 19, 2023.
2. Minutes of the Sept. 21, 2023, Board of Governors meeting and budget hearing.

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3. Claims for the period from Sept. 1 through Sept. 30, 2023.
4. Financial report as of Sept. 30, 2023.
5. Purchases:

**Fine and Performing Arts Program Concert Piano, Columbus:** The College President recommends the search and purchase of a concert grand piano in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.

6. Personnel: None
7. Policies and Procedures Updates:

**Name, Image and Likeness Policy:** This policy has been developed in compliance with the Nebraska Fair Pay to Play Act that allows student-athletes to receive compensation for the use of their name, image, or likeness (NIL) in non-institutional activities.

**Purchasing Policy:** The following changes were made: *Any contract for services, lease purchase, item, or group of items that have an actual cost greater than ~~\$21,000.00~~ 30,000.00 shall require Board approval before purchase. A list of purchases with a cost between \$10,000.00 and ~~\$21,000.00~~ 30,000.00 shall be included within the information presented to the Board at each scheduled monthly Board meeting.*

8. Salama Stove MOU: The Central Community College Board of Governors authorizes the College President to sign the Memorandum of Understanding by and between Global Partners in Hope and Central Community College with regards to Salama Stoves.

MOVED BY PIRNIE, SECONDED BY AERNI to approve the claims, with the exception of payments to themselves, and also to approve the other consent items.

Aerni – aye	Keller – aye
Borden – absent	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – aye
Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS “AYE” VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

**PARNERSHIP/OWNERSHIP**

Amy Mancini, dean of academic education, spoke about how the campus is handling generative Artificial Intelligence. An AI learning opportunity was held over the summer for faculty members. Schools from across the state were invited to share what they're doing to determine

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what is and isn't generated by AI. Sharing their experiences with AI were Tod Heier, associate dean of academic education; Kim Saum, resource center assistant; Sean McDonald, speech instructor, and Fran Wright, a student from England.

Athletic director Mary Young talked about suicide prevention activities. One of these included all CCC athletes wearing the same purple practice T-shirt. It had the Raiders logo on the front and the words, "I am Enough" on the back, with arcs above and below featuring such words as "powerful," "loved," "smart" and "brave." In addition to the athletes, 250 people in the community bought the T-shirt. The proceeds will be used for Raider Athletics mental health programming.

Campus President Dr. Kathy Fuchser complimented Yara Ramos Hernandez for her design flair with the annual report. She also said that 90 events held since January drew 15,848 people to the campus.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Scott Miller stated no one had signed in for Public Participation.

**DISCUSSION OF CONSENT/ACTION ITEMS**

**First Responder Recommendation**

An expansion of a Nebraska law will now allow law enforcement personnel with the authority to arrest to take any classes related to law enforcement tuition-free at the state's community colleges, state colleges and university. The law previously had only covered paid firefighters. The tuition break only kicks in after federal and state scholarships, grants and/or programs have been applied. The new law also allows legal dependents to enroll tuition free, in any major, if they commit to living in Nebraska upon graduation.

MOVED BY DAVIS, SECONDED BY PIRNIE to authorize the College President to adopt or modify the presented recommendations in Central Community College's implementation of Nebraska Statute 85-2601 regarding the First Responder Recruitment and Retention Act.

Aerni – aye	Keller – aye
Borden – absent	Novotny – aye
Buss – aye	Pirnie – aye
Cowan – aye	Quick – aye
Davis – aye	Skiles – aye
Heiden – aye	

UNANIMOUS "AYE" VOTE – MOTION CARRIED

**REPORTS**

**Student Success Report**

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Abie Ott, director of educational planning, gave an overview of how the college assesses its student learning. She said CCC uses the information gained from assessment to improve student learning. Assessment covers general areas such as communication, critical thinking and problem solving, life and career skills, information and technology literacy, and global awareness. Program-specific skills also may be assessed.

**Dr. Gotschall's Report**

Dr. Gotschall reported the following:

- Attended several meetings this past month with InternNE (powered by Aksarben) representatives as they branch out to encourage more internships and apprenticeships with businesses across the state.
- Attended a successful Early College coordinator meeting in Hastings where our area guidance counselors are brought in for updates and information about CCC.
- The exit meeting of the financial audit was positive with a full report to be presented to the CCC Board at the November meeting.
- Participated in the NCCA Board meeting regarding legislative priorities for next year. Rita Skiles, Dan Quick and Diane Keller were also in attendance. Rita participated in executive committee meetings the rest of the day as NCCA's vice president.
- Participated in annual report meeting at the Suzanne & Walter Scott Jr. Foundation in Omaha where Brett Wells, Alison Feeney, Chris Waddle and I shared successes and opportunities of the first 10 months of the Scott Scholars program at CCC-Hastings.
- Participated in State Chamber of Commerce legislative policy committees for Economic Development and Manufacturing. Served as secretary of the Nebraska Manufacturing Advisory Council meeting held at Behlen Mfg. in Columbus.
- Met with Kate Bolz, administrator for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Nebraska office, regarding possible grants to support our expansion of services to additional rural communities within our service area.
- Followed up with MOU discussions with the new Schnase 1906 District in Hastings to promote more entrepreneurship programming and support for small businesses.
- Participated in strategic planning meeting for the Heartland United Way, serving Hall, Hamilton, Howard and Merrick counties.
- Attended the Nebraska Chamber's Manufacturing Summit for updates on manufacturing in Nebraska and where the "Coolest Thing Made in Nebraska" was announced – Rocket Mobility (all-terrain wheelchair) made in Columbus.
- Participated as treasurer of the Postsecondary International Network (PIN) executive committee meeting regarding executive director retirement and upcoming summit in 2024.
- Representatives for NTI (Nebraska Transfer Initiative) course revisions have been selected. Faculty will meet in January in Grand Island to update courses.
- A new paraeducator certificate will be presented at the October Ed Services meeting. This certificate will qualify individuals to work as a Title I, SPED, or Early Childhood para in Nebraska School Districts.

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- Area Entrepreneurship events include Big Idea Grand Island on Nov.6 at Kinkaiders Brewing Company, Big Idea Hastings on Nov. 7 at The Lark and Big Idea Columbus on Nov. 9 at the Columbus Innovation Center.
- CCC-Hastings hosted 75 members of the Nebraska Counseling Association for its fall conference.
- CCC-Columbus commemorated Suicide Awareness Month with a variety of activities that included the first Raider Awareness Walk hosted by the Athletics Office on October 3 and culminated with participation in the Columbus Out of Darkness walk on October 7.
- TRIO students visited a pumpkin patch as one of their career trips, observing behind-the-scenes operation of a self-owned business as well as some agricultural education elements. Several of the students had never been to a pumpkin patch or farm before.
- Barry Horner was recently presented with the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriot Award. An employee serving in the National Guard or Reserves or the spouse of a Guard or Reserve member may nominate supervisors and bosses for supporting the service member and his or her family through flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families and other measures.
- The Columbus admissions office will be hosted the Latino Youth Leadership Summit on October 17 with around 600 students attending.
- Kazia Marques, Grand Island director of student engagement, recently spoke at the Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability Conference at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. She joined Ben Newton to speak about student engagement related to Earth Month activities on all three campuses and at the Kearney Center.
- Dia de los Muertos/Day of the Dead will take place on the Grand Island Campus on Nov. 4 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. In 2022, over 500 people attended this cultural event, which is organized by the Grand Island Campus Multicultural Resource Center.
- The Kearney Center recently held a Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration event. Over 100 Kearney Center students attended the event.
- Central Visit Days have started and are in full swing. The Hastings Campus admissions office hosted 90 sophomores from Grand Island Northwest High School for a tour of the Hastings Campus.
- The Early College and admissions offices hosted the Fall Coordinators Meeting on the Hastings Campus. High School representatives (counselors, principals, and staff) learned about updates at CCC and toured programs.
- CCC staff met with representatives from the University of Nebraska at Kearney to review our housing partnership. Both UNK and CCC are pleased with the shared partnership, and we had our highest number of applications (15) thus far for the fall semester.
- CCC has hired two full-time nursing directors – one in Columbus and one in Kearney – to help faculty and the dean in curriculum and simulation lab updates and coordination. This also will be helpful in preparing for the ACEAN accreditation visits this spring.
- Informal meetings by the nursing dean with first-year students will be Oct. 4 (Columbus), Oct. 18 (Kearney) and Oct. 25 (Grand Island). These meetings give students to answer questions and discuss concerns.

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- The Health Expo was held on Sept. 20 in Grand Island with 94 students attending from 12 different area schools to learn more about our health science programs, nursing, nursing and medication assistants.
- Five Medical Lab Technician students will graduate in December. These are the first students that CCC was able to “accelerate” through the program by offering all courses in spring and fall rather than one semester or the other.
- The Third Annual Winter Commencement will be Dec. 15 at the Columbus Campus at 2 p.m.

Board member John Novotny gave a short report on the ACCT Leadership Congress Oct. 8-12 in Las Vegas. He attended sessions on community colleges that offer a bachelor's degree; rehearsals for a ransomware attack; diversity, equity and inclusion; and daycare on campus.

The following reports were also submitted for board review:

- Enrollment Report
- Grants Report
- Purchasing Report

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Skiles said there was no need for an executive session and requested a motion to adjourn.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Skiles declared the meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.