

ISOTHERMAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MAY 16, 2023

The Board of Trustees of Isothermal Community College met on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 12:30 p.m. at Isothermal Community College's Main Campus in Spindale NC. The following trustees were present: Bill Miller, Chivous Bradley, Dave Hunt, Grady Franklin, Jackie Godlock, James Hutchins, John Condrey, Marche Pittman, Seema Daigle, Amy Jenkins, David Scherping, and Francisco Chavez, SGA President. The following personnel were present from the College: President Margaret Annunziata, DeeDee Barnard, Greg Thomas, Leeann Cline-Burris, Mike Gavin, Stephen Matheny, and Thad Harrill. Dean Shatley of Campbell Shatley, PLLC was in attendance.

Chairman John Condrey called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He discussed the recent commencement and congratulated Mr. Francisco Chavez on his graduation.

Agenda Confirmation

Chairman Condrey presented the agenda. Mr. Chivous Bradley made a motion to approve the agenda and Mrs. Jackie Godlock seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Ethics Statement

Dr. Seema Daigle asked Board members if they knew of any actual conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest which exists concerning any matter coming before the Board of Trustees. No conflicts were noted.

Consent Agenda

Chairman Condrey presented the Consent Agenda. Mr. Dave Hunt made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Mr. Marche Pittman seconded the motion. The motion was approved. The Consent Agenda contained meeting minutes from the regular meeting on March 28, 2023, meeting minutes from April 06, 2023, meeting minutes from April 06, 2023, with the Rutherford County Commissioners, Dr. Annunziata's local travel authorization, and Budget Revisions.

Trustee Items

Mr. James Hutchins gave the Executive Committee report and informed the Board of Trustees that the committee discussed the meeting agenda for today's meeting. On behalf of the Executive Committee, Mr. Hutchins made a motion to approve the resolution in support of myFutureNC's attainment goal of 2 million North Carolinians having a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree by 2030. Dr. Annunziata discussed the relationship with myFutureNC that included representation from the community. She announced that the school superintendents, county managers, and hospital directors from Rutherford and Polk County partnered with Isothermal and myFutureNC to identify local priorities to meet the goal of myFutureNC. She discussed the additional 13,025 individuals needed to obtain a post-secondary credential in Rutherford and Polk County as our local priority to assist myFutureNC. She announced that this number is in addition to the individuals already enrolled and seeking higher credentials. A similar resolution will be presented to each County Commission board for approval. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Condrey appointed Grady Franklin, Chivous Bradley, Dave Hunt, and Seema Daigle to a Naming Committee for the purpose of reviewing the naming of one of the bays in the Walter Dalton Engineering and Workforce Development Center.

President's Report

Dr. Annunziata informed the Board that the recent commencement programs were a success and expressed her gratitude to the faculty and staff for making the programs special for the graduates. She congratulated Francisco on his recent graduation and being a part of ceremony. She announced that 178 students participated in the curriculum ceremony and 17 students participated in the College and Career Readiness ceremony.

Dr. Annunziata gave a state budget and legislative update (see table below).

Senate Budget released on May 15, 2023	House Budget released on March 29, 2023
Across the board salary increase of 2.5% each year of biennium	Salary increases of 4.25% in 2023-24; 3.25% in 2024-25
\$26MM recurring for labor market salary adjustments	\$26 million recurring for the Faculty Recruitment and Retention Fund
\$19.5MM non-recurring for high cost start up programs (\$15MM health related)	\$30MM non-recurring for high cost start up programs (\$20MM nursing)
\$30MM non-recurring for healthcare workforce program expansion	\$40MM non-recurring over the biennium for healthcare workforce program expansions
\$25MM recurring to increase need-based scholarship funds for CC students	\$25MM recurring to establish the Longleaf Commitment Community College Grant program. Provides \$15MM non-recurring to waive workforce training and continuing education fees (Beginning next fiscal year, the waivers would become part of the funding formula.)
	\$14MM non-recurring over the biennium for additional rural college broadband investment
\$4MM to establish regional support network for students with intellectual disabilities	
\$200MM non-recurring for capital needs	\$200MM non-recurring for capital needs

Dr. Annunziata announced that Isothermal Community College was named in the proposed Senate budget bill to receive \$30 million of the non-recurring funds for a health sciences facility.

Chairman Condrey discussed the proposed Senate Bill 692 for Community College Governance. He presented a drafted memo to Speaker Moore, Representative Johnson, and Senator Moffitt in response to the bill and the impact on the community and college. After discussion, Mr. Dave Hunt made a motion to approve the memo (attached) and Mr. Grady Franklin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved for the attached memo to be sent from Chairman Condrey to the legislators and a copy be sent to the Isothermal Community College Board of Trustees and each county commission board.

Dr. Annunziata announced that forty-two faculty completed the Course Redesign for professional development as the college transitions toward eight-week courses. The Board discussed the impact of the eight-week courses on the semesters of high schools. Dr. Greg Thomas announced that the college is in communication with high school counselors and staff about the eight-week transition. He announced the development of memorandums of understanding with each high school on the responsibilities of the Career and College Promise (CCP) Coordinators and their role with assisting students through their CCP courses. He also discussed that high school students may take two eight-week courses back to back to make up the sixteen-week semester. The Board discussed the importance of getting correct information to high school students. Mr. Francisco Chavez shared his experience as a CCP Student in high school and the importance of having a staff person on site dedicated to assisting students with their CCP courses.

Dr. Annunziata announced that current enrollment for the upcoming summer semester is down compared to last year. She discussed the ongoing campaigns to increase summer course enrollment. She announced that enrollment for fall is tracking ahead in headcount.

Mr. Marche' Pittman and Mrs. Jackie Godlock left the meeting due to other obligations.

Mr. James Hutchins made a motion to go into closed session under General Statute 143-318.11.6 of the North Carolina General Statutes to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. Mr. Chivous Bradley seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Dave Hunt made a motion to return to open session. Mrs. Amy Jenkins seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Condrey announced that the Board of Trustees completed an evaluation of Dr. Annunziata. He announced that Dr. Annunziata's evaluation was great, and the Board of Trustees were grateful to have Dr. Annunziata as president of Isothermal Community College.

Mr. Grady Franklin made a motion to extend Dr. Annunziata's contract through June 30, 2026, and add coverage for a cyber-security and identify theft policy that insures the President in the case of a cyber-attack or other online crime. Mr. Dave Hunt seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned.



CHAIRMAN
MR. JOHN CONDREY



PARLIMENTARIAN/SECRETARY
DR. SEEMA DAIGLE



Resolution to Support the myFutureNC Attainment Goal

- WHEREAS, myFutureNC is a statewide non-profit organization focused on educational attainment and is the result of cross-sector collaboration between North Carolina leaders in education, business and government; and
- WHEREAS, North Carolina has the goal that that 2 million North Carolinians will have a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree by 2030; and
- WHEREAS, Isothermal Community College is committed to being the benchmark for excellence in learning, innovation, service, and economic development by preparing learners for future success in a career, further education, and personal enrichment; and
- WHEREAS, Isothermal Community College, along with other key partners, will help advance the educational attainment of students in North Carolina by improving life through learning; and
- WHEREAS, Isothermal Community College agrees that North Carolina faces a gap between the projected needs for citizens with high-quality credentials or postsecondary degrees and the attainment of those high-quality credentials or postsecondary degrees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Isothermal Community College supports the attainment goal of myFutureNC that 2 million North Carolinians should have a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree by 2030; and

Isothermal Community College supports and adopts the local educational attainment goal of 13,025 individuals with a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree by 2030 in Polk and Rutherford Counties; and

Isothermal Community College along with leaders in business, education, state and local government, and community organizations will continue to foster partnerships to achieve the goal.

Adopted this the 16th day of May 2023 by Isothermal Community College.

Signed: 
John Condrey, Board Chair
Isothermal Community College

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To: Speaker Moore, Rep. Johnson, and Sen. Moffitt

From: John Condrey, Chair, Isothermal Community College Board of Trustees

Subject: Senate Bill 692 and other similar provisions

CC: Isothermal Community College Board of Trustees, Polk County, and Rutherford County Commissioners

Date: May 16, 2023

Thank you for the support you provide to Isothermal Community College and the students we serve. The college is fortunate to have such a distinguished delegation representing us in Raleigh.

I would like to share some thoughts and concerns that I and my fellow trustees have with regard to the most recent version of Senate Bill 692 and the proposed Senate budget bill. Isothermal Community College has enjoyed a long history of having a majority of our trustees appointed by locally elected officials. This has created a board that has exemplified a nonpartisan spirit of cooperation. Because session law was previously enacted to remove local Boards of Education appointments, the current appointment of trustees to the ICC Board includes seven trustees appointed by Rutherford County Commissioners, three trustees appointed by Polk County Commissioners, and four trustees appointed by the Governor. As these numbers show, ten trustees have been appointed by local Boards of Commissioners, elected and serving in the two counties.

As we understand, the most recent version of the proposed bill would have two trustees appointed by Polk County Commissioners, four by Rutherford County Commissioners, and eight by the legislature. We are concerned that this structure may have negative implications for the nonpartisan, locally appointed, community focused trustees that have served the college and our communities throughout our entire history.

Another concern is the issue of determination of contract terms for the college president. We consider no duty to be more important than that of the trustees' selection of the college president and the assignment of contract terms that meet the needs of the local college and the communities it serves. We hope that no legislation would ever be considered that would diminish the trustees' role in this process.

We respectfully ask that you consider the possible negative impact of this legislation and recognize that some colleges, like Isothermal, will be affected differently and not in the manner intended by the proposed legislation. Again, thank you for your support of the college and your service in the General Assembly to support the people of the state and of our local communities.