

San Jacinto College District Board Workshop

January 27, 2025

The Board of Trustees of the San Jacinto Community College District met for a Board Workshop at 4:45 p.m., Monday, January 27, 2025, in Room 201 of the Thomas S. Sewell District Administration Building, 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, Texas.

MINUTES

	Board Workshop Attendees:	Board Members: Dr. Michelle Cantú-Wilson, Erica Davis Rouse, Dan Mims, John Moon, Jr., Salvador Serrano Jr., Larry Wilson Absent: Keith Sinor Chancellor: Brenda Hellyer Other: Christian Bionat, Joshua Dray, Chuck Layton, Alexander Okwonna, Mandi Reiland, Rob Stanicic, Linda Torres, Teri Zamora
	Agenda Item:	Discussion/Information
I.	Call the Meeting to Order	Chair Mims called the workshop to order at 4:48 p.m.
II.	Roll Call of Board Members	Chair Mims conducted a roll call of the Board members: Dr. Michelle Cantú-Wilson Erica Davis Rouse, Assistant Secretary Dan Mims, Chair John Moon, Jr., Vice Chair Salvado Serrano Jr. Keith Sinor, Secretary (absent) Larry Wilson
III.	Adjournment to closed or executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, 551.074, and 551.076 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes: Legal Matters, Personnel Matters, and Security Matters	Chair Mims adjourned to closed session at 4:49 p.m. The Board members listed above as attending, Brenda Hellyer, Christian Bionat, Teri Zamora, and Mandi Reiland were present for the closed session. Others were present as noted below. a. Legal Matters - For the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law. It was determined after the time of posting that a consultation with an attorney was not needed.

		<p>b. Personnel Matters - For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints or charges against a public officer or employee. It was determined after the time of posting that there were no personnel items to review.</p> <p>c. Security Matters - To consider the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices; or a security audit. Rob Stanicic, Chuck Layton, Joshua Dray, and Linda Torres were present for this item.</p>
IV.	Reconvene in Open Meeting	Chair Mims reconvened to open meeting at 6:00 p.m.
V.	Review Legislative Update and Advocacy Efforts (posted as item VII but reviewed earlier due to travel schedules of presenters)	<p>Christian Bionat provided a legislative update and covered changes in the House and Senate in the 119th Congress. Key themes being focused on by the Trump Administration are immigration, border security, workforce and talent pipelines, national security, economic stability, artificial intelligence, and emerging technologies. Changes to the visa programs are causing labor shortages. Attracting, reskilling, and upskilling domestic talent will continue to be a major focus for the College based on these priorities. Degree and credential alignment to industry is also an opportunity for the College to engage. AI and cybersecurity are a large focus for the Trump administration and is a unique opportunity for the College as there are thousands of cybersecurity jobs available in the region. Dr. Brian Babin was named the Chair of Science Based Technology, which means the College should consider exploring federal grants in emerging fields in this realm and include community funded projects as earmarks.</p> <p>Erica Davis Rouse asked if any of the executive orders have impacted Hispanic Serving Institutions. Dr. Brenda Hellyer explained legal has been consulted and are analyzing the executive orders. Nothing has changed for the College at this point. Legal counsel stated guidelines must be put in place 120 days after the executive orders are enacted to provide parameters. There was concern with the implementation of Senate Bill 17 because it put some restrictions on the data reporting the College could do for grant applications. This may make it to where the College will be more competitive for federal grants.</p>

		<p>John Moon, Jr. stated he heard block grants will be given to the states if the Department of Education is eliminated.</p> <p>Erica asked how the immigration deportations impact the College's student body.</p> <p>Brenda stated this was part of the conversation with legal. The College is trying to get an idea of how students are being affected and also understand the communications that are happening at the school districts. It is difficult to get accurate information.</p> <p>Dr. Michelle Cantú-Wilson asked how many of the executive orders impact community colleges.</p> <p>Christian replied he will confirm.</p> <p>Erica mentioned there is a question that asks if students are documented or undocumented on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. She asked if we have considered how this might impact our student enrollment.</p> <p>Brenda stated this is a concern, and we will be monitoring it and watching all of the communications coming from the administration.</p> <p>Christian provided an update on the state legislature and their priorities for this session. Texas has a \$23.8 billion surplus for the 2026-2027 biennium. The session priorities are education, property tax relief, border security investment, infrastructure, and workforce development. He provided an overview of the funding asks for each of the topics with a budget summary totaling between \$28.1-\$31.1 billion.</p> <p>The Texas Association of Community College (TACC) has three priorities this session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full state appropriations for outcomes-based funding in the upcoming biennium • Support a \$40 million supplemental to fund the FY25 implementation of HB8 • Allow transfer outcomes to include students attending private institutions of higher education in Texas <p>The full funding request is in both House and Senate, and budgets for \$2.4 billion. There appears to be a lot of support for each of the priority items.</p>
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VI.	Update on Enrollment - Spring 2025	<p>Teri Zamora provided an update on Spring enrollment. Spring 2025 enrollment has increased by 2.5 percent in headcount and 4.3 percent in contact hours compared to spring 2024. This year's budget was built on a three percent increase, so this enrollment is aligning with the budget. The College has three full Promise Program cohorts this year, which is positively impacting enrollment.</p>
VII.	Notification to the Board of Trustees Regarding Select Instructional Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Addition of Online Modality for the Bachelor of Applied 	<p>Dr. Brenda Hellyer provided notification to the Board of Trustees regarding select instructional programs. She explained the College would like to add a fully online modality to the Bachelor of Applied Technology (BAT) in Cybersecurity. The Board is being informed of this change so notifications can be made to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). There are currently 64 students enrolled in this program and 209 who are in the associates</p>

	<p>Technology in Cybersecurity</p> <p>b. Expansion of Cancer Data Management Program</p> <p>c. Development of Bachelor of Applied Technology Degree in Logistics and Supply Chain Management (BAT-LSCM)</p>	<p>degree program but have listed BAT in Cybersecurity as their major.</p> <p>Brenda stated the next notification is on the expansion of the Cancer Data Management program offered at San Jacinto College. This notification is to expand this program to be a <u>national</u> fully online program. It is currently fully online.</p> <p>Dr. Alexander Okwonna explained there are only 18 Cancer Data Management programs in the nation and one in Texas, which is offered at San Jacinto College. The program enrolls students from all across Texas. The national accreditor requested the College consider expanding to offer the program nationwide. The intent is to start a pilot program offered nationwide in the summer of 2025. There is capacity to expand with another cohort of students without having to hire additional faculty. The College has received approval through THECB to offer this program nationwide and is now working through logistics.</p> <p>Brenda explained the last notification is regarding the development of the Bachelor of Applied Technology degree in Logistics and Supply Chain Management. This item is in the board book as an action item to vote on during tonight's meeting. This will be the fourth bachelor's degree offered at the College. Alexander explained this request came through the Chancellor's Advisory Council after receiving labor market needs for the logistics job industry. The Advisory Council, led by Ed Emmett, felt this would be a strong program for the College and the robust design of the program would distinguish the College from other programs. The plan is for this degree to kick off in spring 2026.</p> <p>Alexander Okwonna left the workshop.</p>
VIII.	Review of Board Election Calendar	<p>Teri provided an overview of pre-election activities. The first day for a candidate to file for a place on the ballot was January 15, 2025. Candidates can file through February 14, 2025. The election, which will occur May 3, 2025, will be ordered during tonight's Board meeting. The notice of the drawing for the candidate ballot order will be posted on February 20, 2025, and the drawing occurs on February 24, 2025, at 11:00 AM. The Board will vote on the contract</p>

		with Harris County for election services during the March 3, 2025, Board meeting.
IX.	Review Letter from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Regarding the College's Fifth-Year Interim Report	Brenda explained she had a conversation with the College's Vice President at SACSCOC in December and was originally told there were no issues with the College's fifth year report. The College then received a letter in January stating there were some areas in our report which require a response by September 8, 2025. Dr. Chris Duke is working through each of the items to ensure the College has responses submitted by the deadline. All items should be clear by the report deadline.
X.	Review Request for Allocation of Funds for Deferred Maintenance	Teri explained the College connected solar panels at Central Campus. Along with that came an agreement to use the same protocol to work towards getting commissioned at the South Campus. We are requesting \$200,000 for engineering fees for this work, which is considered the maximum cost. Additionally, we are also requesting \$100,000 to complete roof condition assessments and \$550,000 for building foundation repairs to building 7 on North Campus. The total request to fund these projects is \$850,000. The current balance in the 2015 Bond funds contingency is \$18,397,073. The adjusted balance, if these requests are approved, would be \$17,547,073. All Board members present were comfortable with these requests moving forward.
XI.	Update on Harris Central Appraisal District Election Results	Brenda explained that the Board voted to cast the votes for Mike Sullivan for the Harris Central Appraisal District (HCAD) election. Mike Sullivan was elected to the HCAD Board with four others. He will serve a three-year term.
XII.	Provide Overview of 2024 Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report	Brenda provided a report-out on the Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report which will be added to the workshop agenda annually. This report is a federal requirement and is distributed to all students and employees electronically. The report includes crime statistics for the last three years for all five San Jacinto College campuses and the EDGE Center. The summary of statistics for January – December 2023 reported two burglaries at Central Campus, three at South Campus, and one instance of fondling at Generation Park. The instance at Generation Park did not involve students. Brenda also provided an overview of 2024 activities.

XIII.	Review of Calendar	<p>Brenda reviewed the calendar and asked the Board members to let Mandi Reiland know if they would like to attend any events.</p> <p>She let the Board know a Board Retreat needs to be planned and asked if February 20 or 21 works for them. These dates did not work for the Board, so February 19 was recommended and agreed to. Michelle Cantú-Wilson, Dan Mims, and Salvador Serrano Jr. stated they would like to attend the Board of Trustees Institute February 27-28, 2025.</p>
XIV.	General Discussion of Meeting Items	The Board did not have any questions about items included in the Board book.
XV.	Adjournment	Chair Mims adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.