

JOINT DINNER AND BOARD MEETING

Laramie County School District No. 2 Board and Laramie County Community College Board

Wednesday, June 17, 2015
Burns High School Commons Area – 1st Floor
5:30 p.m.

LCCC Board Present: Board Chairman Ed Mosher, Vice Chairman Bill Dubois, Treasurer Don Erickson, Secretary Christine Lummis and Trustees Bradley S. Barker, III, Brenda Lyttle, and Carol Merrell

LCCC Board Excused: ACC Ex Officio Trustee Butch Keadle and Student Ex Officio Trustee Jaime Quinones

LCSD No. 2 Board Staff and Visitors Present: Superintendent Jack Cozort (through the end of June) and Incoming Superintendent Jon Abrams (Summer 2015), Jerry Becking (Burns High School Principal), Jack Bomhoff (Trustee), Jerry Burkett (Burns Elementary Principal), Alex Davison (Guest), Esther Davison (Trustee), Jackie Fornstrom (Guest), Russell Fornstrom (Trustee), Todd Fornstrom (Trustee), Nancy Malcolm (Special Services Director), Anastashia Malcolm (Guest), Julianne Randall (Trustee), LeAnn Smith (Albin Elementary School Principal), and Todd Sweeter (Pine Bluffs High School Principal)

LCCC Staff Present: President Joe Schaffer; Vice Presidents José Fierro, Judy Hay, and Carol Hogle; Associate Vice President James Malm; and Administrators, Faculty and Staff Kari Brown-Herbst, Terry Harper, Kathy Hathaway, Dean McIntire, Jayne Myrick, Jeff Shmidl, Ty Stockton, and Maryellen Tast; and Legal Counsel Tara Nethercott

Visitors: Aerin Curtis and Kristine Galloway (*Wyoming Tribune-Eagle*)

1. OPEN JOINT MEETING – Board Chairman Ed Mosher

Board Chairman Ed Mosher opened the Laramie County School District No. 2 and Laramie County Community College Joint Meeting at 5:57 p.m.

Board Chairman Ed Mosher introduced the Laramie County Community College trustees, and Laramie County School District No. 2 Trustee Todd Fornstrom introduced the Laramie County School District No. 2 trustees and guests.

President Schaffer thanked the District for the opportunity to report on the resources LCCC is providing for the LCSD No. 2 students.

2. UPDATE ON LCSD NO. 2 and LCCC PARTNERSHIPS – President Joe Schaffer

- A. Intermediate Algebra/Algebra II and College Algebra Pilot – Dean of the School of Math and Sciences Kathy Hathaway and Math Lab Coordinator and Instructor Dean McIntire

Math Lab Coordinator and Instructor Dean McIntire reported on the modified dual enrollment Math Alignment Project. The project incorporated a McGraw-Hill product called ALEKS (Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces), which is an artificial intelligence type of program that circles the student back through the material. The project's success is attributed to the collaboration and support by both the Laramie County Community College and Laramie County School District No. 2 administration and faculty.

From Mr. McIntire's report: "In spring 2015, faculty from Laramie County School District No. 2 and LCCC partnered to align curriculum in both *Intermediate Algebra* (developmental) MATH 0939 and *Pre-Calculus Algebra* Math 1400. This successful pilot project helped Laramie County School District No. 2 students ensure they would enter directly into college-level math without needing to take the COMPASS test or enroll in developmental math classes when starting their freshman year of college. This pilot project yielded an 85% completion rate in MATH 0930, which is relatively higher than the spring 2015 60% completion rate of MATH 0930 offered at the LCCC main campus." In addition, Dean of the School of Outreach and Workforce Development Maryellen Tast stated 53% of the completers earned an A.

President Schaffer stated that if the high school's curriculum does not perfectly align with the College's entrance expectations, based on common core standards for high school graduation courses, students are set up for failure. He concluded, then, that high school Algebra II courses, based on common core expectations, should not be different from Intermediate College courses in college. He stated further, that if LCSD No. 2 students finish Algebra II (MATH 0930), they have satisfied the College's developmental math course requirement. Mr. McIntire pointed out, too, that 100% of the 15 high school students who enrolled directly in LCCC's college-level MATH 1400 class completed the class.

- B. CTE (Career and Technical Education) Dual and Concurrent Enrollment Updates – Dean of the School of Outreach and Workforce Development Maryellen Tast

Dean of the School of Outreach and Workforce Development Maryellen Tast stated last fall LCSD No.2 and LCCC in partnership received a demonstration grant for approximately \$125,000 from the Wyoming Department of Education for the development of career & technical coursework for LCSD No. 2 that would align with degree and certificate programs at LCCC. The grant monies are being used to purchase equipment for CTE classes at Pine Bluffs and Burns high schools. The monies are also funding the curriculum development costs incurred by LCSD No. 2 and LCCC faculty. A *Welding Safety* class was launched at Pine Bluffs High School this last academic year as a result of the successful attainment of the grant. Also under development are *Industrial Maintenance*, *Welding Technology*, and *HVAC* credit diploma programs. Three courses tying to each of the aforementioned pathways would be taught at each of the high schools.

Dean Tast also spoke to LCCC's redesign of its general education core courses which of these could be offered to high school students as either concurrent enrollment or dual enrollment courses. *Concurrent enrollment courses* (in this case, general education core courses) as college-level courses being taught by high school faculty on high school campuses for both high school and LCCC credit; *dual enrollment courses* (in this case math courses) are college-level courses being taught by LCCC faculty on any LCCC campus for high school and LCCC credit. Online delivery of these courses is being considered as well along with the delivery of general education core concurrent enrollment courses on Friday mornings at Pine Bluffs high school. Career Readiness Certificate courses may also be offered as concurrent

enrollment courses. The Career Readiness Certificate is an employability credential based on the WorkKeys® job skills assessment test and is an invaluable tool for both job seekers and employers. Dean Tast expressed her appreciation for the LCSD No. 2 counselors and faculty, stating their dedication to Eastern Laramie County students and collaboration with LCCC faculty has been invaluable.

C. Potential Future Projects – Vice President of Academic Affairs José Fierro

Vice President Fierro also spoke to the collaboration of LCSD No.2 and LCCC as teamwork, noting the students of Eastern Laramie County are now being referred to as “our” students in one connected system. Referring to the Math Alignment Project, he pointed out 71 students enrolled in the project’s MATH 0930 and MATH 1400 courses will not be faced with the obstacle of taking a developmental math placement test. He shared that students who are required to enroll in developmental courses in college are two-and-a-half times less likely to graduate than students who are not required to take developmental courses. Conversely, students who take concurrent or dual enrollment courses complete credits at twice the rate, are twice as likely to graduate from high school, and are 75% more likely to enroll in a four-year institution. He purported these are tangible outcomes from the collaborations.

In the future, the following two-step approach to completion will be in place.

- 1) Graduate a majority of high school students with 30 credit hours (transferable credits in general education core courses that count toward degrees of 60 to 64 credit hours).
- 2) Develop a completion map where at least one section of each of the general education courses are offered on Fridays and/or online to provide a pathway for completion of the general education requirements that will award the student a certificate, credentialing that student as a second-year student when they enroll at LCCC or the University of Wyoming.

Farther into the future, planning also includes graduating students with an associate degree by the time they complete their high school degree. Expected to be implemented much sooner are certificates for workforce entry in *Welding*, *HVAC*, and *Process Technology* that will credential high school graduates after 16 weeks of instruction for higher-paying jobs in these areas of high demand. For example, an entry-level position in *Process Technology* pays between \$40,000 and \$50,000 per year. Locally, 80% of students completing the *Process Technology* certificate are being placed in jobs.

3. OPEN DIALOG

President Schaffer wrapped-up the presentations stating LCCC has listened and acted on college-ready placement of LCSD No. 2 students in the math and English and is open to hearing about what still needs to be done. LCSD No. 2 Superintendent Jack Cozort reflected on past scores that showed 92% to 93% of LCSD No. 2 students were not college-ready in math. He expressed his appreciation for what has been done under President Schaffer’s leadership, adding the complicated collaboration process has been successful. Noting the implementation of the math project and CTE grant were not a smooth transition, Superintendent Cozort emphasized conversations need to continue as the College and the District work through the refinements of what has taken place and the implementation of what needs to take place. He also shared that Fridays are fully scheduled, so the College and the District “will have to play around with that and see what we can do.”

District Trustee Esther Davis asked about the status of English 1010 being offered in Burns and Pine Bluffs. Dean Tast stated the English 1010 course offering has been so successful that English 1020 will also be offered as a concurrent enrollment course taught by Burns High School faculty beginning fall 2015. She pointed out offering concurrent enrollment courses that are taught by Burns High School faculty on their campus creates a wash in the costs for providing those course options for students. District Trustee Davis asked about the impact of concurrent enrollment courses on faculty time. Vice President Fierro stated the approach being taken is to look at all the commonalities rather than the differences between the District and

College curriculums. The College and District faculties will need to work on the alignment of the courses and decide how to compare learning outcomes. Dean Tast added the faculties are learning from each other and restated how successful the English pilot has been. District Trustee Julianne Randall remembered the biggest buzz word at the first joint meeting under President Schaffer's leadership meeting was "disconnect" and that she is very excited about the students' math success.

Board Chairman Mosher observed the College and the District are making strides toward working together and acknowledged how doing so requires additional staff and resources for what is being accomplished and will require even more staffing and resources for what the District and the College would like to accomplish in the future. For example, the costs to deliver the math partnership project totaling \$38,313 were not included in the District's or the College's budget. He proposed the additional staff and resource costs could be funded by a BOCHES (Board of Cooperative Higher Education Services) and encouraged the District trustees to think about how even more can be accomplished with a BOCHES in place.

Board Chairman Mosher thanked the District for inviting the LCCC Board of Trustees, President Schaffer, and staff, adding the information sharing, fine food, and comradery has been very much enjoyed.

4. CLOSE JOINT MEETING – Board Chairman Ed Mosher

Board Chairman Ed Mosher closed the Laramie County School District No. 2 and Laramie County Community College Joint Meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Boreing
Board Recording Secretary