

FULL BOARD MEETING – via Zoom
September 12, 2024
SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Linda Maykel, Eric Goodwine, Raj Rajeshkumar, Satya Mitra, Lori Jones

OTHERS PRESENT: President Pedraja, VP Steve Marini, VP Kathy Rentsch, VP Michelle Tufau, AVP Deb LaFlash, ED Kevin Lovaincy, ED Ingrid Skadberg, Jess Ahrens, Lu Costa-Board Secretary

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Mariyam Bhatti, Lynn Keeley

1. Meeting commenced at 12:10pm by Chair Linda Maykel and roll call attendance noted.

The Board of Trustees of Quinsigamond Community College, at its regular meeting held on Thursday, September 12 at the Worcester Senior Center, took the following actions:

- 2. Consent Agenda:** *The purpose of the Consent Agenda is to expedite business by grouping routine agenda items together to be dealt with by one Board motion without discussion. Any member of the Board or staff may ask that any item on the Consent Agenda be removed and placed later on the agenda for full discussion. Such requests will be automatically respected.*

If any item is not removed from the Consent Agenda, the action on the agenda is approved/accepted by single Board action adopting the Consent Agenda.

1. Minutes from the June 11, 2024 Regular Board Meeting (approve)
2. Trust Fund Reports –FY25 through current period (accept)
3. Informational Personnel Items (accept)
4. President’s Out-of-State Travel (accept)
5. President’s Leave Time (accept)

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Consent Agenda was approved/accepted unanimously as presented.

3. Chair Update

Chair Maykel provided updates for the Trustees.

- The PENC Committee will meet in mid-September to address the shortages on Boards of Trustees. This board is short 3 Trustees.
- Chair Maykel welcomed Raj to the Chair seat on the SPESS Committee and expressed her gratitude for him stepping up.
- Gonsler-Gerber is finished with the feasibility study for the QCC Foundation. The official report will be discussed at the upcoming Foundation Board meeting.

4. Standing Committee Reports

A. Audit and Oversight (no meeting)

1. Budget Presentation

VP Marini and AVP LaFlash presented the FY25 budget passed in April. There will not be as much spent for students with the implementation of MassEducate. President Pedraja worked with VP Marini and AVP LaFlash to pull each cost center apart and realigned the budgets. This will provide

better tracking. The budget will be released to the cost centers 6 months at a time to give the College more control. VP Marini explained that we will have to return MassEducate monies when students don't show up after registering.

VP Marini went over the Trustee Fund budget and explained that we have slowed spending. He provided an update on the College reserves. They have expended the \$300k as approved and are holding out before drawing down more. We'll know better in the spring and draw down as necessary and put funds back as able.

B. Strategic Planning, Education, and Student Success (no meeting)

1. Academic Affairs Presentation

VP Rentsch presented on the effects of MassEducate programs and the increase in enrollment. She discussed onboarding, Advising, curriculum, and adding sections. The focus was on the gateway courses – English and Math 100/101, introductory courses. They added the most sections in English 101 and Psychology 101. The biggest impact is on the adjuncts who are taking on more sections. Overall, the cost associated is worth it.

2. Enrollment & Student Services Presentation

VP Tufau presented an update on the efforts in her areas related to MassEducate and the increases we are seeing. She explained that we are now above in attendance where we were in 2019! She presented the enrollment numbers year over year to demonstrate the successes. We now have the capacity to better support the students than we did in the past. ED Skadberg read the data to the Trustees on the year over year demographics.

C. Executive (8/28/24)

1. Sabbatical Leave Approvals

The Executive Committee presented the five applications they received and approved at their August 28 meeting.

Upon a motion duly made and vote by roll call, the sabbatical leave applications were approved as presented.

5. Student Trustee Report (no report)

6. QCC Foundation Report

Matt Wally presented on the initiatives of the Foundation. They are doing well financially. They are looking at how MassEducate will impact the Foundations scholarship program. They will look into changing the way those are distributed. Child care is a growing demand as well as how donors will still be able to give. Demand will only increase. The Gonser Gerber report is in. The recommendations are about the resources to run a capital campaign. Mr. Wally is done as President and Jorgo Gushi is the incoming president. Kola Akindele is staying on for a second term. Micah Klayman is resigning. A new person is joining the Foundation – Linda Camusso. The Executive Committee of the Foundation has a strong board and is poised for growth.

6. President's Report

President Pedraja provided updates to the Board.

- The President is serving as the Chair of MACC this year. As Chair, he has been in conversations with legislators about the impacts of Mass Educate.
- Mass Educate has brought a record number of new students. Parking so far is okay. While this removes the financial barriers, it doesn't remove life's barriers.
- Areas of focus are:

- **AI** – gamechanger for higher education
- **“what does a degree mean”?** micro-credentials, stackable degrees, competency based, apprenticeships
- **HIS/MSI Designation** – we are close to achieving this federal designation.

President Pedraja went into some detail to explain the details of being an HIS designated school. He answered questions from the trustees and discussed creating a coordinator position as the point person.

- The President has been meeting with potential donors and asking for advice as we move into our capital campaign.
- The retreat to follow will be held at no charge thanks to ACCT as of thanking their members.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Trustees adjourned at 1:50pm.

Upcoming Meetings:

Executive Committee – Wednesday 11/13 at 8:30am

Strategic Planning, Education & Student Success Committee – Wednesday 10/2 at 8:30am

Audit & Oversight Committee – Wednesday 10/2 at 9:30am

Regular Board Meeting – Wednesday 10/16 at 8:30am

Respectfully submitted,

Lucinda Costa

Lucinda Costa
QCC Board Secretary