Minutes of the Study Session of the Board of Trustees
San Mateo County Community College District
September 27, 2017, San Mateo, CA

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: President Thomas Mohr, Vice President Richard Holober, Trustee Maurice Goodman, Trustee Dave Mandelkern, Trustee Karen Schwarz

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
President Mohr said that during closed session, the Board will (1) hold a conference with legal counsel regarding two cases of existing litigation and one case of potential litigation as listed on the printed agenda. The Board will also consider public employee discipline, dismissal, release.

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS ONLY
None

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION
The Board recessed to closed session at 5:00 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION
The Board reconvened to open session at 6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: President Thomas Mohr, Vice President Richard Holober, Trustee Maurice Goodman, Trustee Dave Mandelkern, Trustee Karen Schwarz, Student Trustee Alfredo Olguin Jr.

Others Present: Chancellor Ron Galatolo, Executive Vice Chancellor Kathy Blackwood, Skyline College President Regina Stanback Stroud, College of San Mateo President Michael Claire, Cañada College President Jamillah Moore, District Academic Senate President Leigh Anne Shaw

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
President Mohr invited Trustee Mandelkern to return to some of his earlier comments regarding the Pledge of Allegiance as well as some additional comments that have special meaning.

Trustee Mandelkern said that at a meeting a little over a year ago, there was discussion surrounding the same types of events that resurfaced over the past weekend regarding the Pledge of Allegiance and the performance of the national anthem and individuals’ responses to them in the form of protest. He said the discussion was very educational for him personally.

Trustee Mandelkern said he believes it is incorrect to think that protesting during the Pledge of Allegiance or national anthem in some way shows disrespect for members of the armed forces or first responders. He said peaceful, nonviolent protest is one of the bedrocks of this country and the ability improve the country through protest is one of our founding principles. He said that to attack the young men who are protesting and say they should be more respectful because they are celebrities or athletes or are rich is in his mind incorrect; it is because of the very fact that they are athletes and have a stage that their opinion is being heard. Trustee Mandelkern said he applauds them for standing up for a cause in which they believe. He said it is a cause that is dear to the District in terms of social justice, examining the issue of race and culture, and trying to eliminate bias in the country.

Trustee Mandelkern said he knows there are mixed feelings about protesting during the Pledge of Allegiance. He said this is fine and not all people need to think alike. He said his position is clear. He recites the Pledge of Allegiance and believes it is aspirational; it describes where we hope to get to as a country, with liberty and justice for all. Trustee Mandelkern said that when he recites the Pledge of Allegiance at this meeting, he will place his right hand over his heart and reach out with his left hand to his colleague next to him. He invited those who are interested in doing the same thing to do so as a display of unity, recognizing that we are one District together regardless of what people’s personal opinions are.

After these comments, those in attendance were invited to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
DISCUSSION OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA
None

MINUTES
It was moved by Trustee Schwarz and seconded by Trustee Mandelkern to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 13, 2017. Trustee Holober asked that the minutes be corrected to note that after reading the Board’s statement under item 17-9-104B, “Ratification of the Purchase Agreement for the Sale of KCSM-TV and Ancillary Agreements,” President Mohr invited questions and comments from members of the public; there were none. With this correction, the motion carried, all members voting Aye.

It was moved by Trustee Holober and seconded by Trustee Goodman to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 20, 2017. Trustee Mandelkern asked that the minutes be corrected to note that prior to voting to ratify the purchase agreement for the sale of KCSM-TV and ancillary agreements, President Mohr invited questions and comments from members of the public; there were none. With this correction, the motion carried, all members voting Aye.

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
None

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ITEMS: CHANGES IN ASSIGNMENT, COMPENSATION, PLACEMENT, LEAVES, STAFF ALLOCATIONS AND CLASSIFICATION OF ACADEMIC AND CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL (17-9-2A)
It was moved by Trustee Holober and seconded by Trustee Schwarz to approve the actions in the report. Annette Perot, CSEA Chapter 33 President, asked the Board to table the request for the reclassification of an employee from Campus Facilities Operation Technician (CFOT) to Project Coordinator II in the Facilities Department because they have been unable to resolve concerns they brought to the District. She said CSEA does not have a problem with the Project Coordinator II position but is concerned that the employee will be preforming duties of the CFOT position as well. She noted that the other campuses have full-time CFOT positions in place. Eugene Whitlock, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources and General Counsel, said CSEA and the District agree that the employee should be reclassified to a Project Coordinator II position. He said there is overlap between the two positions but this is a separate issue and is unrelated to whether the employee deserves to be reclassified. He said the only question presented is whether the reclassification is warranted. He said the District is willing to continue discussions with CSEA regarding their concerns but to hold up a reclassification of a deserving employee for an unrelated issue does not seem fair.

President Mohr questioned why CSEA’s concerns would preclude the reclassification to the new position, with which CSEA seems to be in agreement. He said a concern that some duties might be unmet by the employee being assigned to the new classification would seem to be a separate issue. Juanita Celaya, CSEA 2nd Vice President, said the employee currently holds a CFOT position but is working out of classification and is doing sixty to seventy percent of her work as a Project Coordinator II. She said the concern is that the employee will continue to perform the CFOT duties. She said the CFOT position is essential to all of the campuses and CSEA wants to make sure that the position continues at College of San Mateo. Trustee Holober asked if the employee’s duties would remain the same as they are currently if the reclassification is approved. Vice Chancellor Whitlock said the duties would remain the same because the employee is currently working out of classification.

Trustee Mandelkern asked if the reclassification is time critical. Vice Chancellor Whitlock said the process began last June and the employee has been waiting since that time for the reclassification to take place. Trustee Mandelkern asked if waiting until the next Board meeting, which will take place in two weeks, would affect the employee’s salary and benefits. Vice Chancellor Whitlock said they would not be affected if the Board voted to approve the reclassification retroactively.

President Mohr asked if CSEA is asking that the Board not act on the reclassification request because they want another position to be filled. Ms. Celaya said the employee is currently working partially out of classification and CSEA wants to make sure that the two positions are kept separate and whole.

After this discussion, the motion to approve all items on the report carried, with Trustees Goodman, Holober, Mohr and Schwarz voting Aye and Trustee Mandelkern voting No. Trustee Mandelkern said he was in favor of waiting two more
weeks during which the District and CSEA could continue to work on resolving the issue. President Mohr asked that an update on discussions be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

**STUDY SESSION**

**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTIONS/BOARD DISCUSSION OF TRUSTEE AREAS AND ELECTION SEQUENCE (17-9-2C)**

It was moved by Trustee Mandelkern and seconded by Trustee Schwarz to hold the public hearing. The motion carried, all members voting Aye. President Mohr called the public hearing to order at 6:18 p.m. He said Jason Martinez of Cooperative Strategies would present information on three proposed maps, Scenarios 1, 2 and 4. He said the presentation would include demographic statistics that accompany the three proposed maps. He reminded the Board that Scenario 3 was a seven-area map and was removed from consideration by the Board at a previous meeting. President Mohr said members of the public would be invited to ask questions or make comments following Mr. Martinez’s presentation.

Mr. Martinez reviewed important considerations in drawing trustee areas:
- Each area shall contain nearly equal number of inhabitants
- Drawn to comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act
- Compact and contiguous, as much as possible
- Respect communities of interest, as much as possible
- Follow man-made and natural geographic features, as much as possible
- Respect incumbency if possible
- Other local considerations (i.e. K-12 boundaries)

Mr. Martinez briefly reviewed Scenarios 1 and 2 which the Board has seen at several previous meetings. There is an Asian Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) majority in Trustee Area 1 in both scenarios. In Scenario 2, there is a slight increase in the Hispanic/Latino CVAP in Trustee Areas 1, 3 and 5. Scenario 2 was designed to keep as many cities intact as possible in the southeast region.

Mr. Martinez said Scenario 4 was developed in response to the Board’s request to develop a map that does not consider incumbency. This scenario uses Highway 280 as a dividing line for Trustee Area 1 and to divide Trustee Areas 3 and 4 and, in part, Trustee Area 5. The City of Pacifica and most of the coastal cities are kept intact. There is an Asian CVAP in Trustee Area 2 and a slight increase in the Hispanic/Latino CVAP in Trustee Area 5. In terms of total population, Trustee Area 3 is the largest and Trustee Area 2 is the smallest. Three current Board members reside in Trustee Area 3.

After Mr. Martinez’s presentation, President Mohr called for questions and comments from members of the public. Hearing none, he declared the public hearing closed at 6:26 p.m.

Trustee Holober said that in addition to the move to by-trustee area elections, the move to even year elections, which is required by law, also impacts the election sequence. He asked for an explanation of how these factors work together in affecting the terms of trustees. William Tunick of Dannis Woliver Kelley said that in Scenarios 1 and 2, each trustee would be assigned to the Trustee Area in which he/she resides. The Trustee Areas in which elections are held in 2018 and 2020 would be determined in accordance with which trustees’ terms will expire in those years. In Scenario 4, Area 2 – which has a large Asian CVAP majority and does not have a trustee assigned to it – would have an election in 2018. This would honor the Legislature’s directive to take into account the California Voting Rights Act. Area 4 would also have an election in 2018; this is the Area in which President Mohr resides and his term will expire in 2018. Trustee Holober’s term expires in 2018 but Area 3 in which he resides will not have an election in 2018. Therefore, he would be eligible to run for election in 2018 only if he moved to an Area in which an election will be held in 2018. In 2020 there would be an election in Area 3 and any trustees who reside in that Area would be eligible to run. Mr. Tunick said that if the Board selects Scenario 4, nothing would change immediately. With the 2018 election, the seats related to Areas 2 and 4 would be elected by trustee area and the rest of the County would not vote for District trustees in that election. In 2020, the seats related to Areas 1, 3 and 5 would be up for election. Trustee Holober asked what the requirement is to establish residency in any jurisdiction. Mr. Tunick said that moving one’s voter registration, driver’s license, etc. generally establishes residency.
Trustee Mandelkern asked if there are guidelines regarding the consideration of having a nearly equal number of inhabitants in each area. Mr. Tunick said the courts have ruled that a ten percent or lower variance is acceptable. He said Scenarios 1, 2 and 4 are compliant with this guideline.

Vice President Holober said he previously suggested allowing additional time and additional configurations of geography in order to allow for reflection on the part of trustees regarding their future plans. He said he will be running for re-election. He said he is not in favor of Scenario 4 and believes it is not good for multiple members of the Board. President Mohr said he may run for re-election. He said there is not a great deal of population variance among the three scenarios and, therefore, Scenario 4 would not appear to be desirable in that aspect. Mr. Tunick agreed that there are no major distinctions among any of the scenarios and, therefore, it becomes a matter of Board preference.

Trustee Mandelkern said a major reason for moving to by-trustee area elections is to provide communities of interest the influence to elect candidates. After considering the three scenarios with this in mind, he concluded that Scenario 2 emerges as the best balance.

Trustee Goodman noted that no Board member will serve forever and said he looks at the issue through the lens of a steward. He said the seven-area map that the Board removed from consideration increased the influence of communities of interest. He said he can support any of the three remaining scenarios but said the Board should make sure they keep in mind the reason the Board set off on the journey to begin with – to remove barriers for people who might want to run for a position on the Board and to ensure that communities of interest have the ability to do so.

Trustee Schwarz said she agrees with Trustee Goodman regarding removing barriers for groups who might want to run for positions on the Board. She said it is too early to predict what she will do in 2020 but for now she will say she will run for re-election. She said she admired the Sequoia Union High School District’s Board of Trustees who removed incumbency as a consideration when they were going through this process and instead opted for what they considered the fairest solution.

Trustee Mandelkern said he had not been in favor of the seven-area proposal, primarily because the District was already making major changes with the move to by-trustee area elections and the move to even year elections. However, he is now under the impression that the vast majority of California community colleges have seven-member boards. Mr. Tunick said his sense is that there are more seven-member than five-member boards but he is not sure of the exact number. Trustee Mandelkern said he would be more open to moving to a seven-member board in the future when the District is not making other major changes. Trustee Schwarz said she previously served on the San Mateo County Board of Education which has seven members and it worked well. However, she said she does not believe that communities of interest were considered at that time.

Trustee Holober said each of the three scenarios appears to achieve the important goal of creating a majority/minority area. He said that in considering other factors mentioned by Trustee Mandelkern, he would be comfortable moving forward with Scenario 2.

President Mohr said the Board is scheduled to select one of the scenarios and set the sequence of elections for each trustee area at their meeting of October 11. He said he appreciates Trustee Goodman’s comments and agrees that the goal in shaping the map should be to bring as much diversity into the electoral process as possible.

**DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN STUDENT SUCCESS METRICS, TRENDS AND TARGETS (17-9-3C)**

Chancellor Galatolo said that approximately three months ago, the Board received a report on institutional effectiveness goals. He said it was clear that the Board felt the goals brought to them at that time fell short of what was expected, especially with regard to the failure to include targets for strategic plan goals 1 through 3. He said the presentation for this meeting includes the targets. He said this is just the beginning and the information will be subject to interpretation and subsequent analysis to determine if movement is being made toward achieving the goals.

Chancellor Galatolo said the presentation will begin with Aaron McVean, Interim Vice President of Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness, discussing the metrics, followed by reports from the college presidents about their targets and programs and a hands-on demonstration of the District Dashboard.

Vice President McVean said the metrics being presented are a culmination of a great deal of work, led in the past year by Kimberlee Messina, Interim Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Planning. He also acknowledged the work of
John Sewart, Dean in College of San Mateo’s Office of Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness. He said the result of the work is a set of metrics that are focused on student success.

Vice President McVean said the metrics are arranged in three main areas related to strategic plan goals. The first section, related to Goal #1-Improve Student Success, focuses on cohorts of full-time, first-time students. The second section, related to Goal #2-Promote Academic Excellence, focuses on completion outcomes and high school capture rate for non-cohort students. The third section, related to Goal #3-Increase Program Delivery Options, focuses on distance education vs. face-to-face instruction.

Vice President McVean discussed the key metrics of student success shown for cohorts of full-time, first-time students. These include the percentage of students completing a Student Education Plan (SEP); fall-to-spring persistence; percentage of students initially enrolled in basic skills in math and English; percentage of students initially enrolled in transfer level math and English; percentage of those enrolled in basic skills math and English who complete transfer level math and English within two years; percentage of students completing a degree within 150% of normal time; and average time to completion of associate degree.

President Mohr noted that 26 percent of students are enrolled in basic skills math and 44 percent are enrolled in transfer level math. He asked where the remainder of students in the cohort are enrolled. Vice President McVean said the other students are enrolled in degree applicable coursework, which counts toward a certificate but is not transferable to a UC or CSU.

Trustee Goodman asked if there is a metric showing the number of students who drop out and leave the District. Vice President McVean said this is not reflected in the Dashboard currently.

Trustee Mandelkern said the District is moving in the right direction in terms of metrics. However, he is concerned about whether they are the right metrics, with variations that might not be statistically significant and will not show how there is growth or improvement as a District. He said it might be more meaningful to look at metrics that have more significant variance over time, such as the dropout rate mentioned by Trustee Goodman. Vice President McVean agreed that some metrics are more meaningful than others. He said part of the evolution will be to remove some metrics and add others that are more meaningful.

Regarding the number of students completing a degree within 150% of normal time (three years), President Mohr said he believes the metrics showing 15 percent in fall of 2012 and 2013 and 16% in fall of 2014 are average statewide. Vice President McVean said these metrics are also not unusual nationwide.

President Mohr said the targets appear to represent a fairly small change from the current metrics. He asked if the target setters look at what is relatively feasible or at something that is bold and brings forward a greater challenge. Chancellor Galatolo said the target of 24 percent in 2020 is bolder. He said that when President Stanback Stroud visited the City University of New York (CUNY), she observed that they started with a lower completion rate than the District’s but their rate is now considerably higher. He said they have put services and programs in place that have allowed them to realize this increase. Chancellor Galatolo said he believes the District’s goal of 24 percent in 2020 is achievable and might be surpassed.

Trustee Mandelkern said he believes having benchmark criteria would be helpful in understanding how targets are set. He said these could include statewide averages and programs in other districts that have produced positive results. He said it is also more meaningful to show normalized averages rather than absolute numbers because the student population varies substantially due to the economy and other factors.

Trustee Goodman said he believes there should be some justification for the targets, e.g. tying them to strategies such as multiple measures, guided pathways, etc. in order to make sure we are holding ourselves accountable for the gains we want to see.

Student Trustee Olguin said it would be helpful to know how many students change their SEPs and how many see multiple counselors. Vice Chancellor Messina said this is information that could be provided by the Student Services Departments at the Colleges. Chancellor Galatolo said the District is looking at software that will make SEPs more dynamic, interactive and self-driven. He said this will help students get to completion in a more efficient way.
Trustee Mandelkern said that much of what is discussed regarding SEPs and metrics are geared toward traditional students who come to the colleges on a transfer track or for certificate completion. He said it does not capture the large number of students who come to complete one or two classes or to obtain specific job training. He said he would like to see metrics that would measure the success of all of the District’s students. Chancellor Galatolo said he believes the Dashboard will help provide this information.

Trustee Mandelkern said it would be helpful to ultimately tie the dollars spent on programs to particular metrics and outcomes. Chancellor Galatolo said this would be difficult because of the way the budget is developed. Trustee Mandelkern said the Board approves a certain amount of money for specific programs and the return on investment for these programs could be tracked. President Mohr said he believes tracking investment to outcomes could be done if the right people are brought together and he would like to see it done program by program. He said it could begin with math because it is a gateway subject that controls many other outcomes. Executive Vice Chancellor Blackwood said the Board is provided information on outcomes for programs that are funded by innovation funds. She said to track every program would be difficult because there are many reasons that students succeed besides being enrolled in a particular program, such as a connection with a counselor, teacher or mentor, a peer group, etc. Trustee Mandelkern agreed that tracking is difficult if dealing with a small data set; however, with enough data points it is possible to determine whether it is the program or other factors that affect the outcome. President Mohr said the innovation funds are considerable and activities are funded with the presumption that the impact on outcomes will be considerable. He said it is important to find a way to determine if this is the case. President Stanback Stroud said it is possible to provide evaluations of specific programs to show that they produce the anticipated results.

Vice President McVean asked the college presidents to discuss their colleges’ targets and program that are intended to impact those targets.

President Stanback Stroud said the strategy at Skyline College was to focus the CUNY Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) model. CUNY started with a 12 percent graduation rate over three to six years. After the first implementation of ASAP, the graduation rate increased to 30 percent and is now up to 56 percent. A team from Skyline College went to CUNY and described the strategies they wanted to focus on, including financial incentives and support, increased and enhanced student services, and structured programming. The team was told that these strategies described the ASAP model. As a result of that information, Skyline College had the opportunity to work with the Laura and John Arnold Foundation which funded close to $1 million to provide technical assistance for the implementation of ASAP. The College used innovation funds to support the implementation and it is part of the overall Skyline College Promise Scholars program. It is anticipated that the percentage of students completing an SEP will increase, the fall-to-spring persistence will increase, the percentage of students enrolled in basic skills math and English will decrease, and the percentage of student completing a degree with 150 percent of normal time will increase.

President Claire said College of San Mateo has been using detailed metrics for nine years and they drive decisions about programs. He highlighted the Year One program through which the College works closely with its high school partners to make connections with high school students, provide direction and give them momentum; this could be through early college high school, dual enrollment, afternoon college and use of multiple measures. Every student who comes to the College gets a touch, which might be through EOPS, a learning community or becoming a student athlete. President Claire said there is a ten percent success rate differential between students who have gone through the Year One program and those who have not. He said all students need to move beyond a couple of visits with a counselor per year or an SEP with no monitoring to make sure it is being followed. President Claire said the College has made progress in placing students into transfer level math but all of the colleges need to do more. He said that when international students, who often do not take English during their first year, are removed from the metric on the percentage of initial enrollments in transfer level English, the number increases from 63 percent to approximately 75 percent. Regarding Goal #3, President Claire said that College of San Mateo online students are succeeding at a higher rate than those in a face-to-face setting.

President Moore said Cañada College used innovation funds to put together Math Jam, Word Jam and Physics Jam, all of which help students prepare for placement. The Jams are one-week programs that are offered once in January, June and August. From July 2016 to August 2017, 579 students have been served by Math Jam, 227 by Word Jam and 38 by Physics Jam. They have been found to be effective in helping students place into transfer level courses. From 2015 forward, there has been a decrease in the number of students going into basic skills math and an increase in the number of students going into transfer level math. Approximately 40 percent of Math Jam students enrolled in transfer level math within two subsequent semesters and 75 percent successfully completed the course. Twenty-five percent of Word Jam students enrolled in transfer level English or ESL within two subsequent semesters and 90 percent successfully
completed the course. In addition to the Jams, the use of multiple measures has helped students place into transfer level courses. President Moore said all of the colleges are moving toward 100 percent of students completing an SEP. She said the high touch and consistent touch early in students’ careers can help them stay on track. She said assistance in areas such as open educational resources and transportation can also impact students’ success.

Trustee Mandelkern suggested that the metrics associated with strategic goals not be presented in the same order each time. He said the tendency is to concentrate more on items that are presented first, resulting in less or no information being provided on the other goals and metrics. He also suggested that a process be developed to determine whether a metric is useful and how to replace it if it is not useful.

Vice President McVean described the functionality of the District Dashboard and demonstrated its layout and features. Board members were provided laptops and given time to explore the Dashboard. Trustee Mandelkern suggested that users be able to look at a combination of colleges rather than being able to check only one college at a time.

District Academic Senate President Shaw asked if ESL is included in the Dashboard. Vice President McVean said it is not currently included but is being discussed.

Trustee Goodman said there are numerous strategies that address the achievement gap, one of which is understanding that confidence and competence together breed success. He said one way this can be met is through the instructor. He asked if it is possible to extract data to see the effectiveness of certain instructors. President Stanback Stroud said there is the ability to look at overall success of students in relation to faculty. She said that at Skyline College, trends were studied and deans worked with individual faculty members, who were happy to receive information. Faculty members themselves also implemented strategies and faculty were given resources needed to make changes.

President Mohr asked if there is the capacity to show a high school superintendent how their students did during their first year at one of the colleges. Vice President McVean said this is not included in the Dashboard currently. President Claire said College of San Mateo has data by high school that he is discussing with San Mateo Union High School District Superintendent Kevin Skelly. He said there is a need to develop a common dashboard for the high schools. President Stanback Stroud said the District Dashboard is one tool but is not the limit of data capacity. She said Skyline College runs individual reports for the high schools to let them know how their students are doing.

Trustee Holober said he viewed data on the Dashboard regarding UC and CSU transfers. He asked if there is data on all four-year transfers. Vice President McVean said he is currently working on the process to capture data on transfers to all institutions.

Trustee Schwarz asked when the work culminating in the Dashboard began. Vice Chancellor Messina said it began a year ago. Trustee Schwarz said a great deal was accomplished in one year.

President Mohr said this is the beginning of a vision the Board, Chancellor and staff were hoping to bring to fruition. He said it has been brought a long way and on behalf of the Board, he thanked all those who have worked on it.

INTRODUCTION OF TRUSTEE GRANT (17-9-4C)
Chancellor Galatolo said that at the Board Retreat in February, he asked the Board for approval to begin exploring options for trustee grants. He said the Board of Governors (BOG) fee waiver program largely redirects state apportionment dollars. As a locally funded institution, the District does not receive these dollars and instead grants local funds to students who are eligible for the BOG fee waiver. The District would like to have a local trustee grant that does not follow the rules and guidelines of the BOG fee waiver with its limiting factors. Chancellor Galatolo said the District needs to look beyond simply waiving fees and address the broader needs of marginalized students. He said students’ needs are not being met if they have a fee waiver but cannot afford textbooks, do not have transportation, or are hungry. He said the Board will eventually be asked to walk away from the BOG fee waiver program and agree to something more powerful that would address the needs of local students.

Executive Vice Chancellor Blackwood provided a summary of the eligibility requirements for BOG A, B, C and D. She said that for 2016-17, 10,577 District students qualified for the waiver. A total of $8.9 million, or 45 percent of total fees, was waived. She said all three colleges now have Promise Program grants which take into account how much money is needed by students beyond any other financial aid they receive. In 2016-17, Skyline College was the only college in the District with a Promise Program and 146 students received grants. This year all of the colleges have Promise Programs
and a total of 530 students received grants. It is anticipated that well over 1,000 students could receive grants next year. The Promise Program grants include the enrollment fee waiver; other fee waivers (health fee, student body fee, materials fees); textbook support (lending library, bookstore vouchers, textbook rental subsidies); transportation (Skyline shuttle, potential for Clipper cards and SamTrans discounts); and the food pantries which are supported by United Way and/or Second Harvest Food Bank.

Chancellor Galatolo said the concept of trustee grants is defined as being much more than a fee waiver, but is not defined in its totality and will likely change over time depending on available resources. He said resources that could be used for trustee grants include funds derived from the change in Assessed Valuation, funds that are freed up because the liability for post-retirement medical benefits is almost fully funded, and grants that the District has applied for and receives.

President Mohr asked what is envisioned in terms of the outcome of providing trustee grants, e.g. more students going to school full-time, more students taking the right courses at the right time according to their SEPs, etc. He said it was discovered with the KASP scholarships that giving students $6,000 was not having as great an impact as was anticipated in terms of keeping students in school full-time. Trustee Schwarz said she was an interviewer for the KASP scholarships. She said a goal of the scholarship was to have students concentrate on their studies by not having to work; however, with high rents and family situations, this was not realistic. She said each applicant had a unique story and it is important to be flexible and sensitive to students’ various situations. Chancellor Galatolo said that while the KASP scholarships are not impacting students as much as was hoped, they are making a difference between students being able to stay in school and having to drop out. He said that with trustee grants, the District will need to have other partners, such as the Foundation, to help address living costs.

Trustee Holober said he supports the idea of the trustee grants and said the District is fortunate to have funds available. He said he believes the important questions are (1) how to make sure the grants are changing people’s lives and making it possible for them to successfully complete their education and (2) how to determine what is most impactful in terms of food, textbooks, transportation, etc. Chancellor Galatolo said that as the program moves forward, it will be possible to get a better idea of what has the greatest impact in terms of access, retention and completion. Executive Vice Chancellor Blackwood said it is critical to make sure the high touch, wraparound services are also funded.

Student Trustee Olguin said he believes it is essential to have the student voice on this issue. He said he is willing to organize forums on each campus to solicit student input.

Trustee Mandelkern said it is troubling that the KASP scholarship program does not appear to be helping students as much as anticipated. He said more in-depth discussion is needed to determine if the hypothesis that funding a student to be in school full-time will result in a better outcome is correct. He said that if the hypothesis is correct, then further discussion is needed about how to fund it. He said he believes more work needs to be done and he would like to continue pursuing the discussion. Trustee Mandelkern said the name of the grant is less important. He said it might be advantageous to use the Promise concept because it has recognition.

President Stanback Stroud said it would make sense to have the grants directly connected to the colleges so that they can manage the grants and intervene when necessary.

Trustee Mandelkern said there was previous discussion about attempting to get the subsidized school lunch program expanded to cover K-14. He asked if there was an update on this attempt. Chief of Staff Mitchell Bailey said there is interest from our local Congresswoman, but due to the political processes in Washington, D.C. at the moment, no movement has occurred on the issue at this point. He said he would continue to work with local Congressional staff on this issue. Trustee Goodman suggested that the District might conduct its own pilot program in the interim.

President Mohr said the college presidents and the Academic Senate have great insight on this matter and encouraged staff to work with them to gather insight. He said Student Trustee Olguin’s point about soliciting student input is also an excellent idea.

STATEMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Trustee Schwarz said she attended the all-college meeting on diversity and equity at Cañada College. She said there was discussion about the Board’s “Affirmation of the San Mateo County Community College District’s Commitment to Educational Social Justice through Access, Affordability, Individuality, Diversity and Inclusion” and about what the Board intends to do with it. She said she believes it is important that the Board continue to talk with people at all of the
campuses. Trustee Schwarz said there was a good conversation about housing at the Success Summit at Skyline College and the District’s housing program continues to be used as an example for other cities and school districts. Transportation and jobs were also topics at the Summit. Trustee Schwarz congratulated Jennifer Hughes, Vice President at College of San Mateo, on her upcoming retirement. She thanked Vice President Hughes for being a wonderful employee and friend of the District.

Vice President Holober extended best wishes to Vice President Hughes.

Trustee Mandelkern thanked Vice President Hughes for everything she has done for the District. He said Vice President Hughes has always delivered on anything requested by the Board. Trustee Mandelkern said he was unable to attend recent events because of his travel schedule. He said he observed an interesting political rally in Brazil focused on religious freedom.

Trustee Goodman said it is important to remember that behind all of the data are students. He said Victor Rios spoke at a Skyline College Lecture Series and talked about shifting the verbiage from at-risk to at-promise; he said this is a powerful message. Trustee Goodman said suicide is the second leading of death of ten to twenty-four year olds. He said everyone should remember to look into students’ eyes and embrace those who need help.

Student Trustee Olguin said that while it was painful to observe the natural disasters that have occurred recently, it was encouraging to witness people’s selflessness, empathy and dedication as they stepped up to help. He asked everyone to keep the victims of the disasters in their thoughts.

President Mohr wished Vice President Hughes well in her retirement. He said she has done everything in her career beautifully and leaves greatly admired by everyone with whom she has worked. President Mohr said the Board has discussed items at this meeting that will affect young people in the County for years to come and will help empower them to become everything they can be. President Mohr said the Success Summit at Skyline College was outstanding. He said a multitude of cities and districts are struggling with what to do about housing. He said he believes there is a great need for one entity to bring these agencies together and help them understand what steps should be taken, how funding can be created, etc. President Mohr said the all-college meeting at Cañada College was excellent. He said Dr. Jeremiah Sims, Director of Equity at College of San Mateo, is gifted in the way he conducts meetings, makes everyone feel comfortable, and evokes ideas. He said Dr. Sims is serving the College and District well.

**ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:25 p.m.

Submitted by

Ron Galatolo, Secretary

Approved and entered into the proceedings of the October 11, 2017 meeting.

Richard Holober
President President-Clerk