

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, November 12, 2025
Regular Board Meeting -2:00 pm
237 West Kellogg Road, Bellingham
Laidlaw Room 143

MEMBERS:

- **Jeff Fairchild,**
Chair
- **Rebecca Johnson,**
Vice Chair
- **Wendy Bohlke**
- **John Pedlow**
- **Teresa Taylor**

If you are a person with a disability and require an accommodation while attending the meeting, please contact the President's Office at rkloke@whatcom.edu two days prior to the meeting to allow sufficient time to make arrangements.

**NEXT MEETING
REMINDER**

December 10 , 2025

Call to Order & Approval of Agenda, and Notice of Public Comment Time

- I. Call to Order
- II. Consent Agenda Tab 1
 - a. Minutes of October 8, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting (Attachment A)
- III. Public Comment
 - [Protocols for Public Comment](#)
- IV. Accreditation Year Seven – Anne Marie Karlberg, Director for Assessment and Institutional Research and Steven Thomas, Vice President for Instruction
- V. Action Items Tab 2
 - Proposed revision to Policy 405
 - Proposed number change to Policy 4030 to 430
- VI. Report from the President
- VII. Reports Tab 3
 - ASWCC – Coco Lavelle, President
 - WCCFT – Barry Maxwell, President
 - WFSE – Dan Andreason, President
 - WCC AFT Staff – Petra McDonnell-Ingoglia, Representative
 - Administrative Services –Vice President Nate Langstraat
 - Student Services – Interim Vice President Kerri Holferty
 - Instruction –Vice President Steven Thomas
- VIII. Discussion Items for the Board Tab 4
 - Proposed 2026 Board Meeting Schedule
- IX. Executive Session
 - ...as provided in RCW 42.30.110 and 42.30.140 (4)(a), to discuss collective bargaining...
 - ...to review performance of an employee...
 - ...to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency enforcement actions or potential litigation
- X. Adjournment

***The Board of Trustees may adjourn to an Executive Session to discuss items provided for in RCW 42.30.110 (1):**

- (b) to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase...;
- (c) to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease...;
- (d) to review negotiations on the performance of a publicly bid contract...;
- (f) to receive and evaluate complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee...;
- (g) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee...; or as provided in RCW 42.30.140 (4)(a), to discuss collective bargaining
- (h) to evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office...;
- (i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions... or... litigation or potential litigation...



CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of October 8, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting (Attachment A)

SUGGESTED RESPONSE

The chair reads out the letters of the consent items. Then the chair states: "If there are no objections, these items will be adopted". After pausing for any objections, the chair states, "As there are no objections, these items are adopted."

Whatcom
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
237 W. Kellogg Road, Bellingham
Phyllis & Charles Learning Commons 160
Wednesday, October 8, 2025
2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Jeff Fairchild officially called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Present in addition to the chair were trustees Wendy Bohlke and Rebecca Johnson, constituting a quorum. Trustees John Pedlow and Teresa Taylor were absent. Others present included President Justin Guillory; Nate Langstraat, Executive Vice President for Business & College Operations, Kerri Holferty, Interim Vice President for Student Services; Steven Thomas, Vice President for Instruction, Kerena Higgins, Assistant Attorney General; and Rafeeka Kloke, Executive Director for the Office of the President.

Chair Fairchild began with a land acknowledgment to recognize and pay respect to the Coast Salish Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories.

ACTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

- Trustee Bohlke moved to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Trustee Johnson and the motion was approved.
- Chair Fairchild announced that there is a designated time for public comment on the agenda.

WORK SESSION

- **New Allocation Model – Choi Halliday, SBCTC Deputy Executive Director of Business Operations and Nate Langstraat, Executive Vice President for Business & College Operations**

Halliday provided historical context for the new allocation model, explaining its development over the past two years. The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) has statutory authority to allocate state funding to the 34 colleges in the system.

Langstraat outlined the four key components of the new allocation model:

- Minimum Operating Allocation (MOA): An increase to account for inflation.
- District Enrollment Allocation Base (DEAB): A shift to a 4-year rolling average, with funding split 50/50 between FTE and headcount, excluding international and corporate enrollments.

- Performance Funding (SAI): A fixed 5% of state appropriations for performance funding, with current metrics preserved.
- Priority Enrollments: 5% of appropriations for Basic Education for Adults (BEaA) and Skills Gap enrollments, with a revised Skills Gap list based on workforce demand and job growth projections.

Langstraat highlighted the potential impacts on Whatcom Community College (WCC), noting that depending on WCC's enrollment numbers relative to other colleges in the system, its allocation could either increase or decrease. The final recommendations to the State Board also include various earmarks and maintaining the four-year safe harbor provision.

Halliday shared that the State Board requested additional input from college presidents on the implementation timeline, as extending it to six years presents some risks. A proposal for a six-year, evenly distributed implementation was submitted and will be revisited by the State Board for final approval.

Langstraat concluded by thanking Halliday and his team for their support during WCC's business office staff transitions.

CONSENT AGENDA

➔ Consent Agenda

- ➔ Minutes of August 19-20 Board of Trustees Retreat.
- ➔ Spring and Summer 2025 Graduates

Chair Fairchild stated: "If there are no objections, the items in the consent agenda will be adopted." As there was no objection, these items were adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

➔ Chair Fairchild called for public comment. The following individuals provided public comments:

- There is no public comment.

➔ **Accreditation Year Seven – Anne Marie Karlberg, Director for Assessment and Institutional Research and Steven Thomas, Vice President for Instruction**

Karlberg and Thomas presented a PowerPoint providing an overview of our current stage in the accreditation cycle.

Highlights included:

- The Year 6 Report on Policies, Procedures, and Financial Resources was submitted in March 2025 and received no findings. Although no findings were issued, the College identified several areas for

improvement and developed a plan to address them—demonstrating our ongoing commitment to continuous improvement.

- The Year 7 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Report is due on February 14, 2026 with the NWCCU evaluators visit scheduled on April 15-17, 2026.
- In preparation for the visit, an accreditation webpage created on the public web – whatcom.edu/accreditation for campus to access information, and Karlberg and Thomas will conduct 10–20-minute accreditation sessions at each Board of Trustees meeting leading up to the visit.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- President Justin shared that the WCC Foundation hosted the President's Circle event on September 10, which was a successful gathering and provided an opportunity for him to meet with donors and community supporters.
- President Justin thanked Board Chair Jeff Fairchild for sharing brief remarks on All College Day. The day included kickoff sessions, including *Whatcom 101* for new employees and introductions to college committees. During the morning session, institutional priorities for the 2025–26 academic year were announced: Year 7 Accreditation, the Institutional Sustainability Review (ISR) process, Title II accessibility compliance, and progress on the TEC Building project
- Fall quarter classes began on September 23. The Fall Welcome Back BBQ drew 414 students, staff, and faculty—an increase from 311 participants the previous year. Enrollment remains flat compared to fall 2024.
- On September 26, 2025, President Justin met with representatives from Western Washington University to finalize a guaranteed transfer agreement, followed by a joint press release.
- On September 30, President Justin met with Bellingham Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Greg Baker to strengthen the partnership between the college and the school district.
- President Justin attended the Washington Association of Community and Technical Colleges (WACTC) meeting at Clark College on October 2–3. During the meeting, participants met the new State Board Executive Director, Nate Humphreys, who began his role in August, and received several system-wide updates.
- President Justin shared that the Institutional Sustainability Review officially began on October 1. The purpose of this process is to ensure the long-term financial health of the college. While budget considerations are a factor, the primary goal is to strategically position Whatcom Community College for ongoing financial sustainability and institutional success.
- WCC has been awarded a \$1.9 million National Science Foundation (NSF) S-STEM grant to support low-income students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

REPORTS

➔ **ASWCC** – Coco Lavelle, President

Lavelle shared the ASWCC 2025-26 work plan with the board. Student leaders held several events including info. session, Wayfinder tabling, and Welcome Back BBQ.

➔ **WCCFT** – Barry Maxwell, President

Maxwell shared that faculty were glad to be back on campus teaching. The ISR process has understandably brought up a range of emotions and concerns, but it has also shown deep engagement and commitment across our community. He shared that it is important to reflect on how we arrived here so that hindsight can guide our foresight allowing us to learn from the past and move forward together.

The Board Chair has asked the President to address these concerns directly.

➔ **Student Services** – Kerri Holferty, Interim Vice President

Holferty shared that the college has implemented mandatory advising for all students, noting that new students are now required to meet with an advisor. This change has significantly reduced fraudulent applications. She thanked Tawny Townsend, Director of Academic Advising and Career Services, for her leadership. She also shared that she is excited to work with ASWCC student leaders.

DISCUSSION ITEMS OF THE BOARD

➔ **Proposed 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule**

Chair Fairchild asked board members to review the schedule. Members noted that the February date may need be adjusted due to a national conference.

➔ Trustee Bohlke shared that she is serving as president of the Association of College Trustees (ACT), noting that trustees across the system devote significant time to developing their leadership skills and pursuing ongoing professional education. She announced that the ACT Conference in November will feature Danny Heck as the guest speaker and that the Spring 2026 ACT Conference will be held in Whatcom County.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 2:50 p.m. the meeting was adjourned for an executive session of the Board for approximately twenty minutes, as provided in RCW 42.30.110 and 42.30.140 (4) (a), to discuss collective bargaining, to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to the agency enforcement action or potential litigation...

Chair Fairchild announced that action was not anticipated. Guests included President Justin Guillory, Executive Vice President for Business & College Operations Nate Langstraat, Interim Vice President for

Student Services, Kerri Holferty; Executive Director for Office of the President, Rafeeka Kloke and Assistant Attorney General Kerena Higgins.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.



MEMORANDUM
Human Resources

TO: Whatcom Community College Board of Trustees

FROM: KayCee Johnson, Executive Director of Human Resources

DATE: November 4, 2025

RE: Policy 405 – Contract Conditions for Civil Service Exempt Personnel in Positions Not Represented by a Union

Policy 4030 – Attendance Incentive Program (policy numbering change only)

Overview

Policy 405 has not been updated since November 2009. With the recent implementation of the AFT Professional Staff Union and its collective bargaining agreement, the scope of this policy now applies to a smaller group of employees. Additionally, several updates are necessary to align leave benefits with current legislative requirements, peer institutions, and institutional practices.

Section I. Application Due to the formation of the AFT Staff Union, employees covered by that agreement are now excluded from this policy. The policy now applies only to Civil Service Exempt employees who are not represented by WFSE, AFT Faculty, or AFT Staff unions. This group now primarily consists of professional staff.

Section II. Vacation Leave

- Vacation accrual will increase from 14.67 to 16 hours per month to align with the AFT Staff Union contract and peer institutions.
- Accruals are now calculated in hours rather than days, consistent with the ctcLink payroll system.
- The maximum accrual limit is updated from 240 to 320 hours, reflecting past practice.
- New language has been added regarding the transferability of vacation leave between institutions, in accordance with RCW and other labor agreements.

Section III. Sick Leave

- Sick leave accrual is now expressed in hours instead of days.
- Outdated language regarding sick leave for new employees has been removed to comply with current law.

- Provisions for the transferability of sick leave have been added, consistent with state law.
- A reference to [Board Policy 4030](#) (policy number to be updated to 430), which allows for sick leave cash-out, has been included.

Section IV. Shared Leave

- A new section has been added to outline the availability of Shared Leave for eligible employees.

Section V. Bereavement Leave

- Leave entitlement has been increased from four to five days, aligning with other labor agreements.
- The definition of “family” has been broadened to reflect more inclusive language, consistent with the AFT Staff Union contract.

Section VI. Personal Holiday

- The number of personal holidays has been increased from one to four, aligning with the AFT Staff Union contract and the WFSE agreement (which provides two personal holidays and two personal days).

Section VII. Prior Accumulation

- This section is recommended for deletion, as it is no longer necessary. Employees will retain existing accruals in accordance with the updated policy.

Section VIII. Civic Duty Leave

- A new section has been added to provide paid leave for civic duties, consistent with all other collective bargaining agreements. This provision was previously absent for this employee group.

Next Steps

The proposed revisions will be presented to the Board for a first reading on November 12, 2025 with possible action. A second reading will be provided as needed at the Board meeting on December 10, 2025. If approved, the college recommends the revised policy take effect on January 1, 2026.

Recommendation

The college recommends adoption of the proposed revisions to Policy 405 to ensure consistency with current labor agreements, legal requirements, and institutional practices.

The college also recommends a policy numbering change of 4030 to 430 to align with current numbering convention. One minor typographical error has been corrected and no other changes to policy 4030 are needed or recommended.

TITLE: Contract Conditions for Civil Service Exempt Personnel In Positions Not Represented by a Union
NUMBER: 405050
APPROVED BY: Board of Trustees
DATE: 11/19/09
AMENDED: XX/XX/XX

I. Application.

A. This policy applies to contracts issued to personnel who are Civil Service Exempt and who are not in a position represented by a labor union. in the following exempt categories:

- ~~1. Exempt Executive Positions~~
- ~~2. Exempt Managerial Positions~~
- ~~3. Exempt Professional/Technical Positions~~
- ~~4. Exempt Support Staff Positions~~

B. Contract conditions under this policy shall apply in addition to applicable state personnel laws, rules and regulations, including those regarding retirement, health and life insurance benefits.

~~C. Contract conditions will include by reference the applicable job description for the position for which the employee is being contracted.~~

II. Vacation Leave

A. ~~Exempt-Eligible~~ Positions ~~of 50 Percent or More of Full Time~~ (Other Than the President's Position)

~~Exempt-Eligible~~ positions ~~of 50 percent or more of full time~~ (other than the President's position) shall accrue vacation days at the rate of ~~1.83 two (2) 16~~ working ~~days~~ hours per contracted month (prorated if contracted at least 50 percent time but less than full time), not to exceed a total accrual of ~~thirty (30) 320~~ working ~~hours~~ days. However, the President may, in his/her discretion, provide ~~the exempt-an eligible~~ employee(s) a greater accrual rate or maximum accumulation amount -not to exceed the rate or maximum amount set forth in the President's contract. Vacation days will be requested in advance and be taken only with prior supervisor the approval ~~of the President or designee~~.

B. President

The President shall accrue vacation leave at the rate and to the maximum accumulation amount specified in the President's contract. The President's vacation requests are subject to Board approval. leave shall be taken at the sole discretion of the Board. If the President's request for vacation leave is deferred by the Board of Trustees, the maximum accumulation amount may be extended by mutual written amendment of the President's contract only if necessary to avoid a loss of accumulated vacation leave.

C. Vacation Leave earned while working for a Washington State agency or institution of higher education may be transferred to WCC, up to a maximum of two hundred eighty (280) hours, per RCW 43.01.040.

TITLE: Contract Conditions for Civil Service Exempt Personnel In Positions Not Represented by a Union
NUMBER: 405050
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D. Likewise, an Employee transferring from WCC to another Washington State agency or institution of higher education may have their Vacation Leave balance transferred to their new employer, up to a maximum of two hundred eighty (280) hours, per RCW 43.01.040.

~~C. Exempt Positions of Less Than 50 Percent~~

~~Exempt positions of less than 50 percent shall accrue vacation leave at the sole discretion of the President on an individual basis as specified at the time of contracting with an individual for a position. When provided, vacation times will be taken only with the approval of the President or designee.~~

~~D.E.~~ Terminal Vacation Pay

Upon termination, resignation or retirement of an exempt-eligible employee, all unused accrued and/or deferred vacation leave shall be paid for as terminal pay. In the event of the death of an exempt-eligible employee, unused accrued and/or deferred vacation leave shall be paid to the estate of the deceased.

~~E.F.~~ Procedures

The President will adopt procedures as necessary to ensure that vacation schedules will not disrupt the essential work of the College.

III. Sick Leave

A. For all eligible exempt positions covered by this policy, sick leave for illness, injury and emergencies shall accrue at the rate of one (1) working day eight (8) hours per month (prorated if contracted less than full-time), ~~except that new employees under initial contract for at least three quarters shall be granted nine (9) working days for the initial three quarters period of employment, commencing with the first day on which work is to be performed. Annually and/or upon retirement unused sick leave may be compensated for as provided in applicable state laws or regulations and Board Policy 4030.~~

B. Accumulated Sick Leave has no cash value upon separation. Employees who return to eligible service within five (5) years of separation will have their Sick Leave balance restored or transferred to another eligible employer.

C. Sick Leave earned while working for a Washington State agency or institution of higher education may be transferred to WCC in accordance with Washington statute. Upon request by the employee, the Payroll Office will request a transfer of the Sick Leave balance from the previous employer. Likewise, an Employee transferring from WCC to another Washington State agency or institution of higher education may have their leave balances

TITLE:	Contract Conditions for <u>Civil Service Exempt Personnel In Positions Not Represented</u> by a Union
NUMBER	<u>405050</u>
APPROVED BY	Board of Trustees
DATE	11/19/09
AMENDED:	<u>XX/XX/XX</u>

transferred to their new employer consistent with statute and that employer's policies and practices.

D. Annually and/or upon retirement unused sick leave may be compensated for as provided in applicable state laws or regulations and Board Policy 4030.

IV. Shared Leave

Employees who meet eligibility requirements may be entitled to apply for Shared Leave as provided in applicable state laws or regulations for government employees.

V. Bereavement Leave

Bereavement leave not to exceed ~~four (4)~~ five (5) working days per instance may be granted in the event of the death of a family member, relative upon approval by the College President.

- a. "Family member" is defined as: spouse or domestic partner; parent, stepparent, parent-in-law, or parent of spouse or domestic partner; sibling or stepsibling; child, stepchild, or child in the custody of and residing in the home of the employee; grandparent; great grandparent; grandchild; great grandchild; or person with a significant kinship relationship to the employee, whether or not that person would fall under a strict definition of immediate family.

VI. Personal Holiday

Each ~~exempt~~ eligible employee shall be granted ~~four (4)~~ one (1) personal holidays in each calendar year of employment (prorated if contracted less than full time), provided the employee has been continuously employed by the College for more than four months.

~~VII. Prior Accumulation~~

~~Leave for vacation, illness, injury, bereavement and emergencies heretofore accumulated pursuant to law, rule, regulation or policy by persons presently employed by community college districts and community colleges shall be added to such leave accumulated under this policy, subject to the accrual limitations of this policy.~~

VII. Civic Duty Leave

Leave of absence with pay shall be granted to an Employee to serve on Jury Duty, to serve as a Trial Witness, or to exercise other subpoenaed civil duties. An employee will be allowed to retain any compensation paid to them for their jury duty service. If the employee is a plaintiff or defendant in a case not related to their employment, there shall be no compensation. An Employee shall inform the Employer as soon as possible when notified of a jury summons or subpoenaed civil duties and shall cooperate in requesting a postponement of Jury Duty Service if warranted by business demands.

TITLE:	Contract Conditions for <u>Civil Service</u> Exempt Personnel <u>In Positions Not Represented</u> by a Union
NUMBER	<u>405050</u>
APPROVED BY	Board of Trustees
DATE	11/19/09
AMENDED: _____	<u>XX/XX/XX</u>

TITLE:	Attendance Incentive Program
NUMBER	4030
APPROVED BY	Board of Trustees
DATE	6/18/1986
REVISED	1/10/1989

In January of the year following any year in which a minimum of sixty days of sick leave is accrued, an eligible employee may receive remuneration for unused sick leave accumulated in the previous year at a rate equal to one day's monetary compensation of the employee for each four days of accrued sick leave in-excess of sixty days. Sick leave accumulated at a rate of in-excess of one day per month is not subject to remuneration under this policy. Sick leave for which compensation has been received shall be deducted from accrued sick leave at the rate of four days for every one day's monetary compensation.

At the time of retirement from the state service*, or death, an eligible employee shall receive remuneration at a rate equal to one day's current monetary compensation of the employee for each four full days of accrued sick leave.

*For the purpose of this definition, retirement due to age may occur at age fifty-five (55) or older.

Whatcom

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Reports to the Board of Trustees November 12, 2025

◆ ASWCC – Coco Lavelle, President

- **ASWCC Executive Board**
 - All the positions on the ASWCC Executive Board are filled
 - The ASWCC Work Plan was approved at the ASWCC Executive Board Meeting on 10/6/24.
 - The S&A Fee Budget Committee had its first meeting on 10/20 with 6 members in attendance.
- **Civic Engagement**
 - On September 29th, VP of Civic Engagement had a one-on-one meeting with Rafeeka Kloke about hosting a candidate forum.
 - VP of Civic Engagement hosted a Voter Friendly Campus info session on October 1st; discussed what it means to be a Voter Friendly Campus. Additionally, Paula Rotondi – a representative from the League of Women Voters spoke on how to register to vote/change addresses in the state of Washington.
- **ASWCC Clubs and Unions**
 - The ASWCC Senate has approved the charter of 5 Associations.
 - ASWCC VP for Clubs and Unions has been hosting ASWCC Club Training, Every Thursday and Tuesdays.
 - A Club and Organization Fair was held on 10/15 with attendance of clubs that have been chartered or are in the process of being chartered.
- **Advocacy and Health & Wellness**
 - The ASWCC Health and Wellness Committee regularly meets every Monday from 12-1PM.
 - The ACWCC Social Justice Committee has been regularly meeting on Wednesday from 1-2PM to discuss promotion for the committee and plans on leading a food drive event.
- **ASWCC Engagement Activities**
 - Coffee with a Student Leader has been taking place every Thursday from 1:30-3:30PM
 - VP of Student Engagement sent their first Orca Volunteer email opportunity for upcoming events including upcoming movie nights.
 - Orca Volunteer Program currently has 12 participants
 - The ASWCC Student Engagement Advisory committee has been meeting regularly on Monday afternoons, from 1-2PM, to discuss plans for the End of Quarter Celebration, as well as beginning the first steps of planning towards Orca Day.
- **ASWCC Senate:**
 - There are currently 5 ASWCC Senators.
 - The ASWCC Senate approved funding for Heidi Farani (Director of Student Life and Development) to take 3 students to attend NACA Conference in Riverside California

- ASWCC Representatives were appointed to Faculty Tenure Committees and College Governance Committees.
- The ASWCC Senate approved a request of \$1,000 for the Native Indigenous Student Union

WCCFT—Barry Maxwell, presidents

The academic review task force is halfway through its main work on the Institutional Sustainability Review. They are reviewing the approximately 50 program and discipline reports, and working to arrive at recommendations for the Core Team by 15 November. This is important work, but the faculty union is concerned about the significantly increased work load on the nine faculty department chairs. Their workload for teaching and department chair duties was already full with no obvious places to cut back. The Instructional Council (The bulk of the academic task force) would normally meet some five times per quarter. This fall the number of meetings has tripled. Also, there is a significant amount of additional online and off-line coordination and review outside of those meetings. We look forward to working with the administration regarding how to address the overload of work this quarter.

WSFE – Dan Andreason, President

No report.

WCC AFT Staff Union – Petra McDonnell-Ingoglia , Representative

AFT Pro-Staff Union would like to thank our colleagues Nate Langstraat, KayCee Johnson, Ward Naf, Kerri Holferty, and Tawny Townsend for working with us over the past year to negotiate this first contract.

The items reported by each division contribute to the following strategic goals:

- Renew and Expand Impactful community connections within and beyond the college.
- Encourage Innovation focused on delivering high-value education.
- Sustain a diverse and inclusive campus community to support success and belonging.
- Deliver educational experiences that foster improved student success.

Administrative Services—Nate Langstraat, Vice President

The services provided through the Administrative Services division directly and indirectly support the four goal areas of the strategic plan.

Athletics & Recreation

Fall sports regular season is coming to an end soon. Women’s soccer finished the regular season 9-4-3 and Men’s soccer finished the regular season 11-2-4. Both teams are in position for a playoff berth. Volleyball sophomore night is November 5 at 7pm prior to the match versus Skagit Valley. Men’s and women’s basketball teams have started preseason games. Official competition starts on November 14.

The Student Recreation Center (SRC) had 4,090 entrances for October 2025 (10.1-10.27). This is slightly less than the same period in 2024; however, operational hours for fall 2025 versus fall 2024 were slightly reduced. Thus, usage year-to-year is flat, which aligns with overall enrollment

figures. Daily drop-in sports attendance has been strong, with over a dozen students participating regularly. The SRC team looks forward to hosting two intramural tournaments this quarter: dodgeball and basketball. These engagement opportunities strengthen student connection to WCC.

Business and Finance

The FY20 financial statements have been completed with the assistance of CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen) CPAs and work on the FY21 financials statements are underway. The FY20 financials statements are currently under audit with Davis Farr LLP CPAs. Efforts to transition to ACH and reduce paper waste are beginning to show positive results. The Grants Team is working closely with grant managers to navigate the current government shutdown. Specific grant meetings and regular communications have occurred to size potential impacts and to plan for the remainder of fall quarter.

Campus Store

During September, 63 new Whatcom students converted their Orca Pod Perk coupons into over \$1,500 savings on WCC logo sportswear. Fourteen new WCC employees also converted their New Employee perks coupons into savings on logo sportswear. This provides a great visible expression of WCC orca spirit and pride, throughout the county and region, leading into the fall season.

A total of 461 WCC students participated in the College's fall Inclusive Access (IA) course materials program. These students saved approximately \$11,000 versus the publishers own list prices for comparable digital products. Participating instructors appreciate the Canvas-integrated nature of these course materials as well as enhanced instructional efficiencies and capabilities.

Conference and Event Services

External agreements are confirmed for Pure Fitness/SparWarz 17 Mixed Martial Arts event, Mountain Film Festival, Opportunity Council Mental Health First Aid Training, Andreason Birthday Party, Rangers (youth soccer), WCASA (adult soccer), Ultimate Frisbee, Whatcom Select (youth soccer) and Bellingham Warriors (youth lacrosse). Department staff will also provide support for the following internal events: Dia De Los Muertos Celebration, ASWCC Open Public Meetings, First Generation Student Recognition Celebration, State HR Commission Meeting, Athletics Card Show Fundraiser, and the ASWCC Movie Night.

Information Technology

Title II work continues in coordination with Title II Task Force to ensure WCC meets the Federal Title II deadline of April 2026. The taskforce identified priority areas needed to ensure WCC compliance. Priority areas included: electronic material remediation, employee training, public website, and policy/procedure review. In response to the work, the College has purchased software to assist faculty and staff to remediate electronic documents. The College is in process of purchasing software to address website accessibility issues. The task force hosted trainings during opening week, and will continue to provide additional trainings throughout the quarter and Professional Development day.

Safety & Security

On October 1, 2025, Whatcom Community College released the 2025 Annual Safety & Security and Fire Report (commonly referred to as the Clery Report). This report includes detailed crime statistics for the 2024 calendar year, along with an overview of policies, programs, and resources that support crime prevention and promote safety awareness for student, faculty,

staff. The report is available for viewing on the Whatcom Community College website or through Compass.

On October 16, 2025, WCC once again participated in the National Great ShakeOut earthquake drill. This exercise successfully tested the college's mass emergency notification system, Whatcom Alert. All students, faculty, staff and community members enrolled in emergency alerts were able to practice the drop, cover and hold-on earthquake response procedures while confirming their connection to WCC's emergency notification system.

Student Services—Kerri Holferty, Interim Vice President

The services provided through the Student Services division directly and indirectly support the four goal areas of the strategic plan.

Academic Advising & Career Services:

Advisors logged 872 advising sessions during October, compared to 523 sessions during October 2024. Additionally, hosted professional development for 24 advisors and staff at the Fall 2025 All-Comers meetings. On 10/22/25, engaged 51 students, faculty, staff, and administrators representing 24 departments across campus in discussions about supporting student retention and completion through the EmpowerEd grant site visit. Qualitative data and findings from the site visit will (a) inform advising reform and Navigate360 implementation in real time, and (b) bolster advising assessment in support of Year 7 accreditation reporting.

Access & Disability Services:

ADS has sent 525 Faculty Notification Letters to instructors, and is currently serving 273 students registered with ADS, a 5% increase over October 2024. Increasing collaboration between Counseling Services and ADS through monthly meetings to strengthen coordinated student support. Director, Lisa Forsythe, and Program Specialist, Melissa Anderson, attended the Fall Washington Association on Postsecondary Education and Disability remote conference where they attended sessions related to addressing federal policy shifts, and building resilient and collaborative teams.

Enrollment Services:

- 2749 students enrolled for Fall 2025 compared to 2621 students enrolled for Fall 2024
- 650 applications for Winter 2026 admissions compared to 831 applications for Winter 2025. While this is a decrease year to year, it should be noted that WCC has yielded fewer fake/fraudulent applications due to newly implemented processes, including Mandatory Entry Advising, which makes comparisons to last year difficult.
- WCC has rolled out the re-introduction of The Student Financial Responsibility Agreement (SFRA), to which all students (with few exceptions) must agree to access course registration. The agreement holds students accountable for paying their tuition and student fees, and is required across the CTC system. So far, 714 students have completed the agreement with no reported issues.

Financial Aid:

The Unit Record for the 2024-25 academic year has now been completed. In 2024-25 WCC awarded and disbursed \$7,145,970 in federal aid, \$5,766,555 in state aid, \$763,487 in institutional aid, and \$277,108 in other aid. This is a total of \$13,953,120 in aid awarded and disbursed by the Financial Aid office.

For the 2025-26 academic year, Financial Aid has reviewed and awarded all students that have completed a FAFSA/WASFA through mid-October.

Office of Student Life & Development:

The Office of Student Life & Development has been busy hosting student events for Fall Quarter, including movie nights, Vote Early Day in collaboration with the League of Women Voters of Bellingham and Whatcom County, and the ASWCC Club & Union Fair which garnered more than 200 participants.

Despite limited hours, the Orca Food Pantry has seen an increase in usage with 502 visits in October 2025 compared to 492 visits in October 2024. SNAP benefits are expected to end on November 1st 2025 due to the federal government shutdown and this will further exacerbate food insecurity for students.

Orca Central Operations:

Orca Central hosted/scheduled 800 appointments for services in Advising, Running Start, and Financial Aid during Fall Quarter so far. Additionally, entered 50 English placements and 52 math placements from our online tools. As part of an ongoing partnership with Western Washington University, Orca Central hosted WWU Transfer Advising on campus in collaboration with Advising. Nineteen students who are interested in transferring to WWU attended.

Outreach:

Outreach continues to engage with prospective students in Whatcom County and beyond, through 11 individual Campus Tours, 12 College Fairs, reaching a total of 1,778 high school students, and various community events, reaching approximately 420 prospective students.

Residence Life:

Cedar Hall is currently housing 183 students compared to 217 in Fall 2024, although Residence Life is currently processing “late” applications. Currently collaborating with BTC, WWU, and NWIC for creative recruitment strategies, including housing WCC alumni transferring to WWU. Residence Life team is supporting Cedar Hall Residents by creating short video tutorials on cleaning, cooking, laundry, etc.

Student Success Technology:

Navigate 360 platform for students has been rolled out and students are now engaging with it across campus. For Fall 2025 1,298 unique students have visited the desktop or mobile application since launch, with 530 mobile app users, and 987 desktop users.

TRIO Student Support Services:

TRIO team is currently serving 120 students in the 2025-26 cohort. There are students in the intake process, and TRIO is well on the way to meeting grant objective of serving 140 students by August 31, 2026. All SSS staff attended the Northwest Association of Educational Opportunity Programs (NAEOP) Annual Conference in Spokane, WA. Staff participated in high-quality trainings and workshops, networked with TRIO professionals from across Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska, and brought back best practices to strengthen program delivery. Additionally, TRIO staff took 8 students on a campus visit to the University of Washington in Seattle. Students toured the campus, explored transfer pathways, and met with the UW TRIO program to learn about continuing support opportunities after transfer.

TRIO Upward Bound:

Currently serving 45 students in this 2025-26 cohort (with other applications pending), working toward meeting grant objective of serving 60 students by August 31, 2026. Upward Bound students participated in the Financial Aid “Train the Trainer” workshop hosted at WCC by the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC). Through this instructor-led training, students became Financial Aid Peer Navigators, gaining knowledge of FAFSA completion, financial aid basics, and college affordability resources. Twelve of eighteen seniors have already completed their FAFSA applications, and all seniors qualify for some level of state or federal financial aid, a strong indicator of early college readiness and engagement.

Veteran Services:

VA student population has increased by 22% over the last three years, with 107 VA students for Fall 2025, compared to 102 for Fall 2024. Proud to share that Whatcom’s Veteran Services Office will be listed as a WA state veteran education resource with Representative Rick Larson’s office. Due to the government shutdown multiple VA students have not received VA education payments or lost contact with their VA case managers. Veteran Services has provided emergency financial guidance, FAFSA application help, and connecting students with aid outside of VA.

Instruction— Steven Thomas, Vice President

BASSW Program

- The BASSW program at WCC is the first ever program housed at a community college in the history of American social work education to enter the accreditation level titled “Candidacy” by passing Benchmark I in June 2025. This means that our program is now officially entering a 2-to-3-year accreditation process which will allow graduates from our program to pursue an accelerated MSW.
- Our second site visit from the Council of Social Work Education will be in February 2026 and in June 2026 we are hopeful to pass Benchmark II standards.
- Currently, we have two concurrent cohorts: 24 students in their first year of study, and 15 in their practice year. This is only the second year of the program. Our maximum capacity is 25 students per cohort, which we are hopeful to reach by next Fall.
- The Council of Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting occurred this year in Denver. WCC Social Work Professor, Aisha Chapra, supported the development of the panel presentation creating connections with fellow social work colleagues. The theme was, “It’s Time to Act: Championing Disability Justice and Disability Joy in Social Work”, how to address disability justice in social work education plus accreditation requirements. The CSWE accreditation staff delivered a valuable presentation on the top 10 accreditations standards that are cited by the Board of Accreditation for both BSW and MSW programs, which will help us navigate our next accreditation site visit in April 2026.

Innovating Justice Award – Legal Interpreter Certificate Program

Whatcom Community College has received the Innovating Justice Award from the Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) for its groundbreaking work in legal interpreter education. Key highlights include:

- Award Recognition: Presented at the *Access to Justice Conference* in September 2025.
- Program Innovation: WCC is the first college in Washington State, and possibly the first in the nation, to offer a Legal Interpreter Certificate.
- Purpose: Addresses the unmet need for qualified legal interpreters and promotes language justice in the legal system.
- Collaborative Effort: Developed in partnership with Skagit Legal Aid and the Administrative Office of the Courts.
- Leadership Acknowledgment: WCC’s Andy Dugan and Amy Riedel were nominated for their leadership and dedication to the program.
- Award Ceremony: Scheduled for Friday, November 14, 2025, at the upcoming BJA meeting.
- Impact: The program helps build a pipeline of interpreters with the specialized skills needed to serve diverse language communities in legal settings.

Health Professions

- Advancing Health Equity Through Cultural Humility
 - On July 3, 2025, AHECWW launched a self-paced online course: *Advancing Health Equity Through Cultural Humility* that is free for learners. This course provides health professionals with continuing education units in accordance with Washington State Substitute Senate Bill 5229.
 - As of October 29, 2025, 781 individuals have enrolled in the course.
 - WA Department of Health added this course on its Health Equity Continuing Education website as a free resource for health professionals.

- Nursing Program
 - WCC's Nursing School is the #3 Ranked Nursing School in Washington!
 - The simulation program has been awarded the INACSL Simulation Standards Endorsement for Excellence.
 - At the time of endorsement (January 2025) WCC was one of only four colleges in Washington State to have received this endorsement.
 - The nursing program continues to seek a permanent nursing program director after two failed searches over 10 months.
- Massage Therapy Program
 - Provided approximately 600 massages in the 2024-2025 academic year to the public through local wellness fairs, sporting events, and on-campus student clinics.
 - Accreditation recently renewed through 2029.
 - Enrollment is full. The program runs at a profit consistently.

Cybersecurity Center

- National Cybersecurity Center Grant Activities
 - The National Cybersecurity Center Grant Activities map to ALL activities in WCC Mission & Strategic Plan Goals 1, 2 & 4. They also map directly to the National Cybersecurity Strategy and National Cybersecurity Workforce and Education Strategy.
- National Cybersecurity Training & Education Center (NCyTE)
 - *Conference*: AISES National Conference, October 2, In-person, Minneapolis, MN. The AISES organization Advances Indigenous People in STEM. Michele Robinson, Anna Ritchey, and Stephen Miller attended the annual conference that hosted 3,000+ attendees. NCyTE was a Bronze Sponsor.
 - *Community Connector Event*: Cyber, AI, & Data Science Student Career Connection, September 10, In-Person, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. The event brought students, educators, and industry together for a career fair and awareness about Cybersecurity career opportunities. 116 students attended.
- Workshops
 - Advanced AI Azure Infrastructure, September 2-5, Virtual, 18 attendees (1 from WA state).
 - Implications of AI for Community College Educators, September 17, In-Person, City University of Seattle, 38 attended (35 from WA).
 - NCyTE Monthly Meeting: Education, Certifications, and Experience: How Does the Modern Workforce Survive? September 19, Virtual, 54 attended (9 from WA, and 2 from Whatcom Community College).
 - 2026 National Cybersecurity Career Fair, September 26, Virtual, 1,143 students attended (20 from WA), and 30 employers had booths.
- CAE Candidates National Center (CCNC)
 - CAE Mentor and Peer Review Workshops, September 24, 26, and 29, Virtual, 119 attended (7 from WA).
- Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (CCoE)

- o On October 24, the CCoE hosted a Town Hall with Bugcrowd's "Hacker Success Manager," Link Clark. Twenty participants from seven Washington colleges attended this meeting, where Bugcrowd introduced a new bug bounty program pilot. This initiative offers a powerful opportunity for cybersecurity students to gain real-world experience by ethically probing their own college's systems with formalized guardrails.

Community & Continuing Education (CCE)

- Awarded SBCTC Job Skills Program (JSP) grant of \$126,704 to provide leadership, customer service, and communications training for WECU employees during FY26.
- CCE's Kids' College had 145 individual participants (ages 7-14) for summer 2025, with a duplicated headcount of 182.
- CCE's open enrollment registrations for fall 2025, to date, are up 26 percent compared to fall 2024.

Visual Communications Program

- Visual Communication students designed Spring Showcase posters as a collaboration effort with the WCC Marketing Department. Student-created work was used for printed posters, social media, and screen broadcasts, broadening the reach of their designs beyond the WCC halls and into the greater community.
- Additional student designs were selected for use as cover art on various 2025-26 WCC Student Planner publications.
- Community internship opportunities have grown to include new partners such as Lydia Place, Point Roberts Press, Accent45 web design, Wildbird Charity, and Lithtex Printing.
- Guest speakers included a Creative Director from Barnes & Noble Publishing and the VP of Visual Design and UX at QBS Learning.
- VisComm program has been updated to include UX/UI Design coursework using software program Figma.

Arts, Humanities, and Languages Department

- Students from the Associate in Music degree program presented a student-designed and led Community Engagement Project for preschoolers at the Whatcom Family Coop Preschool's WCC and Wade King Elementary locations. October 29 (WCC), and November 12 (Wade King), 12:30 pm.
- A list of current music and art events at WCC as listed below. All events are Free and open to the public
 Wednesday, November 5 through Tuesday, November 25
By the Books: WCC Student Art
 8:00 am- 5:00 pm
 Learning Commons Library

 Thursday, December 4 through Friday, December 12
 Visual Communications Student Show
 8:00 am-5:00 pm
 Cascade Hall Gallery

 Wednesday, November 5
 Music Faculty Recital and Q&A
 Robert T. McDonald, guitar

12:30-1:20 pm
Heiner Theater

Wednesday, November 19
Music Faculty Duo Recital and Q&A
Dr. Gabriel Mañalac, piano and Heather Ray, violin
12:30-1:20 pm
Heiner Theater

African American music and art in the early 20th century, featuring William Grant Still's "Suite for Violin and Piano" and its connections to art by Richmond Barthé, Sargent Johnson and Augusta Savage. Program will be followed by a Q&A with the performers.

Thursday, November 20
Lunchtime Open Mic!
12:00-1:00 pm
Heiner Theater
Sign up in advance by contacting glarge@whatcom.edu

Thursday, December 4
Drama Lunchtime Showcase
12:00-1:00 pm
Heiner Theater

Tuesday, December 9
Chamber Music Ensemble Preview Concert
2:00-3:00 pm
Heiner Theater

Wednesday, December 10
Soloists Recital
7:30 pm
Heiner Theater

Thursday, December 11
Chamber Music Ensemble Concert
7:30 pm
Heiner Theater

Institutional Management – Rafeeka Kloke, Executive Director for the Office of the President

Marketing and Communications

Communications, Marketing and Publications Campaigns/Events/Projects/Publications completed or in development - for a variety of events and programs (includes social media, campus screens, online marketing, print, streaming ads, tv spots, print):

- **New and Significant Website Updates:**

- [University & College Transfer](#) & [Guaranteed Transfer Admission to Western Washington University](#)
 - [Accreditation at WCC](#)
 - [Accreditation Resources](#)
 - [Key Performance Indicators](#)
 - [Peer College Data](#)
 - [Assessment & Institutional Research](#)
 - [Data Resources](#)
 - [Student Achievement Data Packet](#)
 - College Catalog: Revision and replacement, updated broken link
 - Enrollment and Registration: Enrollment dates update
 - Compass: Updated PowerPoint templates to meet accessibility standards
 - Veteran Services Webpage: updates
 - Foundation: Donate 2025 page
 - Financial Aid Form updates
- **Social Media Activity:**
 - The top three posts/reels on Instagram and Facebook that received the most engagement in September and October are:

The Instagram post about WCC receiving a \$1.9 million NSF S-STEM grant to support talented, low-income STEM students



The Instagram post for the Writing Center promoting transfer and scholarship essay workshops

Whatcom Community College

WRITING CENTER WORKSHOPS

Writing College Transfer Essays & Writing Scholarship Essays



PHYLIS AND CHARLES SELF LEARNING COMMONS

Whatcom.edu/writing-center

Whatcom
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

whatcomcc 2w

Fall 2025 WRITING CENTER WORKSHOPS

WRITING COLLEGE TRANSFER ESSAYS
DATE: Friday, November 7
TIME: 3-4:30 p.m.
LOCATION: WCC Writing Center, Learning Commons (LRN) 130
HOSTED BY: Desirée Holter, Writing Center Faculty Coordinator
TAKEAWAYS: Participants will review characteristics of effective college transfer essays and will start the transfer essay drafting process.

WRITING SCHOLARSHIP ESSAYS

[View insights](#) [Boost post](#)

4 likes
October 17

Add a comment...

Overview

Views 📄	Reach 👤	Interactions 👍
1,684	408	6

The Instagram reel highlighting the WCC Welcome Back BBQ



Overview

Views ⓘ

2,324

Reach ⓘ

1,378

Interactions ⓘ

154

Watch time ⓘ

5h 56m

Follows ⓘ

3

- Department Campaigns and Promotions include outdoor advertising, online/print and social media marketing, posters, FIN slides, website, signage etc.
 - **Support for events, marketing assets and initiatives:**
 - Donor Appreciation Lunch: Invitation, email banner, program, large format student posters
 - Foundation Appeal letters and email assets
 - Accreditation report chapter dividers
 - Preschool program
 - Athletics group fitness class
 - Visitor walking tour lanyard pass
 - IDEA watch party assets – sandwich board, email banner, FIN slide, and social media
 - First Generation Student Celebration: Poster, sandwich board
 - Outreach: Orca Sticker
 - Orca Central: 6 Steps handout

- Media Center: Sound Studio Classes: social media, FIN, Flyer, handout
 - **Instruction/Professional Technical Information Sessions: social media, campus Screens and print**
 - Physical Therapist Assistant
 - Medical Assistant
 - BAS Social Work
 - Substance Use Disorder Professional
 - Visual Communications Info Sessions
 - **Campus and Department Social Media & Campus Screen (FIN) General Posts and other assets (posters, invitations, brochures etc.):**
 - Enrollment reminder for Winter 2026
 - High school counselor breakfast e-vite
 - Learning Contracts
 - Mental Illness Awareness Week
 - Simpson’s Intercultural Center Fall Hours
 - Beautiful Spots to study on Campus: in progress
 - 2025 Indigenous Peoples’ Day Celebration
 - Engineering in Context
 - Download the Nav360 App
 - Writing Center: Drop-in Tutoring
 - Writing Center: Workshops, Writing College Transfer Essays
 - Canvas: Temporarily Down
 - Halloween Week
 - Trick or Treat participant
 - 3 prize winners, certificates
 - Campus Store: Do Orcas wear socks? Sale: Social media, email header, FIN
 - Navigate360 temporary issues
 - The Cove Cafe: November Drink Specials
 - Created new Campus Screen display layouts to incorporate the building room schedules for: Baker, Heiner, HPEC, Laidlaw, Learning Commons, Pavilion, and Syre
- **Video or Photo shoots:**
 - WCC Foundation Donor Appreciation Event Student Stories photo shoot
 - Campus Halloween cross division social media photo shoots
 - Quarterly Schedule Student Spotlight Winter 2025
- **Press and Media:**
 - [Community Día de los Muertos celebration set for Nov. 1](#), WWU News, October 30, 2025

[Whatcom Community College undergoing sustainability review after cuts, furloughs](#), Cascadia [Daily News](#), October 26, 2025
[WCC, WWU launch guaranteed admission partnership](#), Lynden Tribune, October 15, 2025
[WWU partners with Whatcom Community College to boost university enrollment](#), My Bellingham Now, October 6, 2025
[Funding roundup](#), Community College Daily October 4, 2025 (scroll to bottom)
[Western Washington University to guarantee admission to EvCC grads](#), Everett Herald, October 2, 2025 (WCC mention at bottom)

➤ **Foundation**

Fiscal year-to-date (October 29, 2025): \$1,069,309 has been raised including:

- Recent Gifts of Note
 - \$10,000 for Area of Greatest Need
 - \$2,000 for the Whatcom County School Retirees Association Annual Scholarship
 - \$1,500 for the Hiyane-Brown Annual Scholarship
 - \$1,500 for the Lynne Masland Family Annual Scholarship
 - \$1,000 for the Fran Hudson Classified Staff Excellence Endowment
 - \$1,000 for the Orca Food Pantry

Program Updates

- 2025 Fall Appeal
 - The Foundation’s Fall Appeal fundraising campaign launched October 27th with the mailing of 3,551 letters asking for support from past donors, current donors and prospective donors.
 - An email drip campaign scheduled for November through December will encourage giving from the 3,551-donor/prospect list. A final postcard will be mailed mid-December asking those who have not yet contributed, to make a gift.
- Scholarship Program:
 - The 2026–2027 Scholarship Award Cycle dates have been set. The scholarship application will open earlier than in previous years — from December 15 to March 31.
 - The decision to Open the application process earlier was strategic in that it allows:
 - Students additional time to work on their scholarship applications over Winter Break.
 - Allows the Foundation staff to award scholarships sooner, which may positively influence a student’s decision to attend WCC.
 - Allows the Foundation staff to report awards earlier to local high schools for their award nights.

Foundation Board of Directors

- Former Foundation Board of Directors member Bob MacIsaac and Jennifer Slattery have joined Board committees as community members.

IDEA

Intercultural Services:

- For the month of October (as of 10/28), 116 students have utilized the Simpson Intercultural Center for a total of 686 visits.
- On October 1, the Simpson Intercultural Center and Orca Athletics collaborated with the ASWCC Pride Student Union to host a Pride Volleyball Night. This event celebrated our LGBTQIA+ community and provided food for at least 50 WCC students. A total of 55 students connected with our staff at this event.
- On October 2 & October 9, the Simpson Intercultural Center tabled for a “Chat with an ICPN” in the Syre courtyard. IC Peer Navigators asked students open-ended questions about their experiences at WCC while also promoting our Center and upcoming programming. We had 60 students stop by to chat at our table.
- On October 6, the Intercultural Center Peer Navigators attended a training local Indigenous history and the importance and purpose of Land Acknowledgements. Yusuke Okazaki, Associate Director for Intercultural Services, facilitated the training.
- On October 8, the Simpson Intercultural Center hosted a Talkin’ History event titled: “80 Years Past: Hiroshima & Nagasaki.” Yusuke Okazaki, Associate Director for Intercultural Services, led the event. We had 49 participants attend the event.
- On October 13, the Simpson Intercultural Services partnered with ASWCC Office of Student Life and Development and Community Consortium for Cultural Recognition (CCCR) host Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration at Lummi Nation School. We had 1300 participants attend the Celebration, and a total 20 students attended the event.
- On October 14, the Simpson Intercultural Center and ASWCC Black Student Union hosted a Game Night event. We had a total of 17 participants attend the event.
- On October 15 Intercultural Center Peer Navigators tabled during the ASWCC Unions and Association events to share programming and the ICPN Program and ASWCC Unions upcoming events.
- On October 15, the Simpson Intercultural Center and Orca Athletics collaborated with the ASWCC Latine Student Union (LSU) to host a Latine Heritage Soccer Night. A total of 53 students connected with our staff at this event.
- On October 20, the Intercultural Center Peer Navigators attended a training on understanding and supporting our undocumented community. Yusuke Okazaki, Associate Director for Intercultural Services, facilitated the presentation.

Office of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility (IDEA)

- On October 15, the Office of IDEA sponsored a one-hour Community Care Workshop with Crystal Holtzheimer (Math faculty; also with a professional certification in trauma-informed practice). Event designed to help employees use real-life self-care, learning strategies for nervous system regulation and expanding their capacity (thus enhancing long-term abilities to continue serving students and communities from a place of compassion and care).



PROPOSED
2026 Meeting Schedule of
The Board of Trustees

Second Wednesday of the Month (per WAC 132U-104)
2:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted with an *)

Whatcom Community College
Laidlaw Building (LDC 143), 237 W Kellogg Road
Bellingham, WA 98226

Wednesday, January 14

Wednesday, February 18*

Wednesday, March 11

Tuesday, March 24* (Board Retreat)

Wednesday, April 8

Wednesday, May 13

Wednesday, June 10

Tuesday and Wednesday, August 11-12* (Board Retreat)

Wednesday, October 14

Wednesday, November 18*

Wednesday, December 9